

Ruthellen Cheney

240 Seabreeze ct,
North Wildwood, NJ 08260
(609)-280-7651
RuthellenCheney@gmail.com

EXPERIENCE

The Mechanicals Theater Company, Brooklyn, NY *Writer in Residence / Founding Member / Curator of New Works / Actor*

June 2015 - Current

- Conduct extensive investigations and background research on multiple subjects for assorted plays
- Handle development and writing of multiple projects simultaneously.
- Produced and starred in a full production of *The Gothic Hour*, a feature length horror play.

FishSlapped Productions, Treasure Island, FL *Head Writer*

October 2016 - March 2020

- Conduct extensive investigations and background research on multiple subjects for assorted screenplays.
- Collaborate creatively with the President of the company to formulate and develop our screenplays.
- Handle development and writing of multiple projects simultaneously.

YouTube Channel: EvaDivaSuperstar / The Matt Tucker Page, New York, NY *Contributing Writer*

July 2015 - June 2016

- Contributed comedic material in the form of sketches, jokes, and scenarios to be developed into online video content.

EDUCATION

Gotham Writers Workshop

January 2011 - March 2012

- Writing Scripts 101
- Screenwriting
- Character Development

SKILLS

Stage Combat-Fencing;
Dialects-Upon Request;
Instruments: Clarinet (6 yrs),
Trombone (3 yrs), Recorder (2
yrs), Cello (beginner); Yoga;
Cyclist; Terrible Dancer;
Singer (Soprano,
Mezzo-Soprano, and
Contralto); Licensed Driver,
NJ (nobody's perfect);
Professional Bartender;
Improv and Sketch Comedy.

AWARDS

The Players Theatre Short Play
and Musical Festival: Boo!
Winner of Best Play in 2015:
A Ghostly Recharound

The Players Theatre Short Play
and Musical Festival: NYC!
Winner of Best Play in 2016:
Strangers on an E Train

The New York New Works
Theatre Festival
Semi-Finalist 2017:
Sammy and Esther are Breaking Up

Barrow Group

September 2013 - June 2014

- Script Analysis, Monologues, Business of Acting, Scene Study, Film & TV On Camera, Shakespeare.

American Academy of Dramatic Arts - Graduate

October 2005 - February 2008

- Acting, Theatre History, Movement I & II, Voice & Speech I & II, Vocal Production I & II, On-Camera Technique: Fundamentals, Script Analysis, Alexander Technique I & II, Theatre Dance, Advanced Acting, On-Camera Technique: Scene Study, Voice & Speech III: Dialects, Rehearsal & Performance, Career Preparation, Audition Technique, Movement III, Stage Combat, Shakespeare, Styles, On-Camera Technique: Auditions, Vocal & Physical Practicum, Musical Theatre Audition Technique, and Stage Management.

WRITING PROJECTS

The Gothic Hour — *Full Length Play*

- The Gothic Hour is a horror play set in 1999 in the recording studio of the fictional radio show of the same name. Hosts Francis Mallory Cade and her husband Vincent Cade interview death row inmates, sometimes mere hours before their scheduled executions, to give their audience an inside look into the mind of the criminally insane. During one of those interviews, a figure from Francis' past comes back to haunt her and threatens to upend her entire existence.

Carsick — *Full Length Screenplay*

- Two social media personalities on their last gasp of fame kidnap a man to become insta-famous.

No Code of Silence — *Full Length Screenplay*

- No Code of Silence is the harrowing story of Lisa Wheeler-Bowman whose son was brutally murdered by senseless gun violence. The film tracks her journey as she emerges from a deep suicidal depression and gains a fierce determination to find her son's killer. Through her work in the community, Lisa was inspired to run for public office and is now serving as the Vice-Chair of the St. Petersburg City Council, where she continues her mission to end the scourge of gun violence.

Carousel — *Full Length Screenplay*

- Carousel spans nearly 80 years of the adventure-filled life of Mili Lerner Bonsignori, exploring the tumultuous relationship between Mili and her surrogate granddaughter Cindy. After Mili's husband passes away, Cindy's partner Dianne stumbles upon a mysterious box full of letters from a woman named Lily, alluding to an

extraordinary and empowering past that Mili has kept secret for decades.

Dearly Beloved — Short Screenplay

- Dearly Beloved is a short screenplay in the vein of David Lynch or The Twilight Zone. A young couple, on the day of their wedding, are getting their photos done before the ceremony when their photographer unexpectedly disappears without a trace.

Auf-Wiedersehen — Short Screenplay

- Auf-Wiedersehen is a short screenplay about David, a headshot photographer, who is preparing to meet up with his ex-girlfriend Olive for the first time since they broke up three months ago. He walks around his apartment speaking to an imaginary version of Olive as her appearance and mannerisms morph through the different stages of their 9-year relationship.

The Body — Short Screenplay

- The Body is a short screenplay about two Brooklyn hipsters who go for a hike in Pelham Bay Park to reconnect with nature, only to have their day ruined when they find a surly dead body.

Threesome — Dramedy Webseries

- Threesome tells the complicated story of Emma and her best friend from grad-school, Ceren, a Turkish immigrant who comes from a devout Muslim family. When school ends and Ceren can't get a visa, Emma offers up her boyfriend Jacob to marry her best friend so Ceren can stay in the country. Jacob, who is the son of Haitian immigrants and a first-generation American, forms a connection with Ceren as a result of their shared immigration stories. As the two of them get closer, they drift further and further away from Emma.

Tinder Bender — Comedic Webseries

- Tinder Bender is the story of Diane, a relationship blogger, who decides to challenge herself to find her soulmate through online dating. She can only date someone she has met on Match.com, Tinder, FarmersOnly, etc. Her two best friends, Harley and Jacks, decide to join her in her quest for digital love. Although the dates get off to a rocky start, things finally start to look up when Diane meets Charlie, a charming, devastatingly handsome painter who sweeps her off her feet. She excitedly tells her friends, only to find out they both have been dating him as well.

Annalise and the Bike Messenger — Full Length Play w/Music

- Annalise and the Bike Messenger is a modern take on the Peter and the Wolf story. Each of the four characters has an instrument (clarinet, flute, tuba, and viola) that follows them throughout the piece, playing their individual themes. Annalise and Brad both have the same musical theme, but throughout the play they continue to miss each other until the very end when they finally meet and their themes play harmoniously together.

Dark Matter — Full Length Horror Play

- Dark Matter is the story of Magda, a public school teacher, as she shuts herself into her apartment in the wake of a horrific attack. Her brother Miles attempts in vain to get her to emerge and rejoin the world, but she refuses. Throughout the piece her apartment begins to come alive, complete with puppetry furniture reminiscent of a menacing Pee Wee's Playhouse.

Additional Short Plays:

- *Sammy and Esther are Breaking Up* (in development to become a full length musical)
- *Strangers on an E Train*
- *A Ghostly Recharound*
- *How to Succeed in Porn - Without Taking Off Your Clothes!*

COMPANY AFFILIATIONS

The Mechanicals NYC, Brooklyn, NY

Writer in Residence / Founding Member / Curator of New Works / Actor

FishSlapped Productions, Treasure Island, FL

Head Writer / Founding Member

Intimation Productions, Brooklyn, NY

Writer / Actor

Broadway Theatre Studios, New York, NY

Actor

Art for Progress, New York, NY

Actor

Offline Productions, New York, NY

Actor