

GATEWAY

PERFORMANCE PRODUCTIONS

HISTORY

ABOUT GATEWAY

page 1

THE ARTISTIC TEAM

page 2

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

page 3

ARTISTIC EVOLUTION

page 5

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

www.gatewayperformanceproductions.org

gatewaypp@masktheatre.org

404 222 9262

Copyright © 2021

ABOUT GATEWAY

Gateway Performance Production seeks to engage, inspire and educate through providing relevant engagement with the performing arts and related fine and applied arts. The company produces original work that transcends cultural and socio-economic boundaries in content and/or form through the cultivation of public performance venues - local to international and traditional to non-traditional.

Projects are identified by Gateway's Producing Artistic Director Sandra Hughes and brought to fruition by Gateway's artists, associate artists and guest artists. The emphasis is on the creation of new works of art. This body of work is created for the live stage and virtual platforms using the stage, video, film and radio. The company also offers related classes, courses, workshops, residences and exhibits.

The Company contributes and has contributed to the field by creating and presenting performances, workshops, classes, residencies and exhibits at venues throughout metro Atlanta, in 36 states in the USA, on Native American reservations and in Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Slovenia and Spain.

Performances, classes, workshops, residences and exhibits take place at theatres, colleges, universities, arts centers, museums and festivals and on virtual platforms for

film, television and radio. Gateway provides programming community centers, historical societies, senior centers, art galleries, libraries and pre-k through 12th grade schools.

THE ARTISTIC TEAM

Gateway's Producing Artistic Director and Project Director, Sandra Hughes is award-winning writer, director, choreographer, flutist, actor, storyteller, mime, mask performer, theatrical clown and teaching artist.

Company Coordinator and Mask Center Manager, Michael Hickey, is an award-winning mask maker, theatrical designer, costume designer, visual artist, percussionist, actor, mime, mask performer, theatrical clown and teaching artist.

Associate Artistic Director, Jerilynn Bedingfield, is also a choreographer, dancer, mask performer, actor, theatrical clown and teaching artist.

These three core artists have collaborated with hundreds of Gateway Artistic Associates and guest artists in the areas of drama, dance, song, clowning, mime, puppetry, instrumental music, musical composition, playwriting, spoken word, storytelling, poetry and directing.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

by

Michael Hickey

In an International House of Pancakes in Buckhead in Atlanta, Georgia on a rare snowy January day in 1974, the Great American Mime Experiment/GAME was born. Sandra Hughes had conceived and named our new performing arts company. Drawing on our shared training with Israeli artist mime artist Juki Arkin and Valentina Litvinoff (the last living dancer from Isadora Duncan's Russian school) whose process included combining modern dance with Stanislavski's acting methods, Sandra and I would with guitarist/keyboard player Greg Ornas combine our talents to create an art form designed to explore the relationships that can exist between mime and music.

We'd completed our college courses. Sandra had also completed a professional acting/directing apprenticeship at the Cleveland Play House and attended Stella Adler Acting Studio in New York City. I had completed a professional acting/theatrical design apprenticeship at Kenley Players in Ohio.

We rehearsed our first production for six months, with Sandra writing, directing, choreographing, performing mime and playing flute, myself performing mime and Greg Ornas providing guitar music.

We were scheduled to open at a theatre in the Toco Hills Shopping Center. This was during the gasoline crisis and everything in Atlanta was in turmoil. The three of us arrived at the theatre to set up for the evening's performance and found the doors padlocked with a hand written sign saying "out of business".

I shared my disappointment with my father on the phone, a rare occurrence, and was told he as city manager of my small hometown outside Cleveland, Ohio, had just finished overseeing the construction of a new civic theatre complex and was looking for a production to inaugurate the new playhouse. We traveled north. During that performance run, two things happened that are significant to the whole arc of the company's existence.

First, we were asked to perform at a middle school while we were in the Cleveland area. This began a career-long dedication to outreach programming that has taken us to thousands of schools, inner city community centers, Native American reservations from North Carolina to New Mexico and performances in zones in conflict both in the USA and abroad.

Second, Wayne Reichle, one of two agents who introduced Marcel Marceau to the USA and the world and now retired and living in another suburb of Cleveland, heard about our mime show, a rare thing in those days, and came to see us. Wayne came backstage, complimented us on our work and asked if we'd like him to mentor us.

This began the process that resulted in our first theatre, the Second Story Theatre and in time led to the company's touring career.

From the very beginning, our journey has been one of ups and downs, hard work building our reputation, hard work, honing our art, surprising opportunities and unexpected rewards.

We have always been both a company that toured colleges, universities, festivals - large and small - and community arts councils throughout the US, Canada, Mexico and thirteen European countries - and a company that provided grassroots outreach programming.

Both aspects of our work in the world are equally important - and a company that strives endlessly (thanks to Sandra) to improve, innovate and stretch our own artistic boundaries.

ARTISTIC EVOLUTION
by
Sandra Hughes

Gateway Performance Productions (formerly the Great American Mime Experiment until 1991) was established in Atlanta and created its first production to premiere at a dinner theatre in Toco Hills Shopping Center. When Mike Hickey, Greg Ornas and I showed up to perform the theatre was locked and out of business.

We accepted an offer to perform for the opening of the newly built Greenbriar Theatre in Ohio, left Atlanta, established a new theatre venue, performed with the Cleveland Orchestra and created our first program for Public Television, which won a regional Emmy and was distributed nationally. We also began to tour in Europe.

The winter of '78 stopped all programming in Cleveland and the head of the local arts council told us not to apply for funding because "We don't need another arts organization" in Cleveland.

In the spring 1978 Michael and I accepted an offer from the Academy Theatre's Founding Artistic Director Frank Wittow and returned the company to Atlanta, Georgia. We were contracted as artists in residence to train Frank's professional theatre company in the art of transformational theatre. Frank's offer was timely, needed and appreciated.

Until 2000 Gateway was "homeless" - except for the first four years of its history (1974-78) when it successfully established and maintained the Second Story Theatre in Cleveland Heights, Ohio - (the only theatre in the USA dedicated exclusively to the art of mime), an office rented for a couple of months at The Center for Puppetry Arts and the 3 months we rented Levi Eddie Lee's (of the Southern Theatre Conspiracy) flooded theatre in Little 5 Points in Atlanta.

Between 1978 and 2000 the company was in residence at various spaces in the Atlanta area for significant amounts of time (1 to 6 years each) at the Academy Theatre, the Atlanta Jewish Community Center, Soapstone Center for the Arts, Emory University, J. Arc and Co., and other arts and educational organizations that provided rehearsal studios, performance spaces, marketing and financial support

During this same time period the company's core artists myself, Michael Hickey and Jerilynn Bedingfield emerged as sought after regional, national and international performing artists and master teachers. We remained based in Atlanta and dedicated a significant portion of their careers to accepting low local fees or sometimes no fees for their performances, classes and residencies as a service to the greater Atlanta community. At that time Gateway's budget was 99% earned income, engendered by programming outside the Atlanta area. This income made it possible to self-finance programming for the greater Atlanta community. Gateway performed at many of Atlanta's major performance venues while focusing on serving Atlanta's under-resourced, under-served and traumatized populations.

In 1993 I became an artist in residence at the New Mexico Repertory Theatre - specifically to collaborate on the creation of a new production to be presented during the internationally renowned annual Santa Fe Indian Art Market, a two day event which draws 150,000 people to Santa Fe annually. Michael created masks for this production - Sacred Woman, Sacred Earth - which was a great success.

We found a second home in Santa Fe and throughout New Mexico while maintaining our primary base in Atlanta and continuing to tour original work written and directed by me and performed by myself, Mike and Jerilynn nationally and internationally. We maintained our artistic relationship with Atlanta as ongoing roster artists for Young Audiences, which later became a division of the Woodruff Arts Center as Arts for Learning (1984-2015). We also toured for Young Audience chapters in New York City, New Orleans and Cleveland.

The company's reputation for the excellence of its original productions written, directed and choreographed by me with masks created by Mike remained well established - locally, statewide, regionally, nationally and internationally.

In 1999 Gateway was offered assistance from the Atlanta Business Association to identify a space to establish a physical venue in Atlanta. The vision was The Mask Center - an international center that would bring the world together through the shared culture of worldwide masks and mask performers. Mike and I would utilize our connections and relationships with other global mask performers and our relationship with the owner of the largest private collection of masks in the United States who lived in Smyrna, Georgia to make the vision a reality. Achieving this goal would substantially curtail our touring availability.

Jeff Adler - the Co-Artistic Director of Horizon Theatre - told us there was a space available at the Little 5 Points Community Center. Gateway rented it and created a mini-version of The Mask Center we envisioned. At that time buildings owned by the City of Atlanta were available to non-profit arts organizations at a \$1 per year rental rate.

This reality and the vision for The Mask Center were both swallowed up by a wave of gentrification. Gateway and our consultant from the Atlanta Business Association tried to work with developers who were obligated to offer spaces to non-profits. Nothing but boiler rooms and cramped space without ventilation were offered.

Gateway's performance, rehearsal, exhibit, class, video studio venue and office/storage space - The Mask Center - was established in July 2000 in Atlanta, Georgia. Gateway continues to maintain this mini-version of The Mask Center with exhibits, performances and classes. Remembering the days when Gateway sometimes had to rent or we were doublebooked by mistake in shared residency spaces, we provides affordable rental to individual artists and small arts groups.

For decades we have performed and taught for traumatized communities in areas of global crisis - in Amsterdam during a terrorist attack that killed civilians and held school children hostage, in Belfast's the Murder Mile and behind the Iron Curtain on behalf of Atlanta's Mayor Andy Young to promote friendship and economic cooperation. In the United States we have performed at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City and with major orchestras and also for the families of sugarcane workers in Florida and miners in Kentucky.

The world in its opulence and poverty is known to us. We've watched poverty and trauma grow exponentially.

During 2005 while we performed in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland I was able to visit the world-famous Findhorn Foundation in Scotland to connect with foundation member Franco Santoro. Findhorn is a United Nations recognized training center for planetary sustainability. The foundation offers courses to international participants to learn skills they can take back to their communities to better serve them.

In 2006 a grant from the Ford Foundation through Alternate ROOTS made it possible for me to return to the Findhorn Foundation to attend Franco's workshop - Manifesting Honorable Intentions - Healing the Planet from the Inside Out. Franco and I presented a performance and workshop for ongoing residents of Findhorn's award-winning Eco-Village. As part of the workshop all the members of Franco's workshop worked together to save the dying honeybees.

When I returned to the Atlanta area from Scotland the human suffering I observed and experienced was excruciating - and largely unaddressed. Mike recognized the need as well. We agreed that what was happening in our own country and our communities was in need of the deepest service and attention we are capable of offering as artists. At Findhorn I learned we need not worry about the bees, they will survive. It's the human race that is now poised to meet challenges that if not addressed have the potential to drive our species into near extinction. Working with nature again is one of the keys to the survival of human-kind.

The company began to create performances, workshops and residencies about the honeybees. For 6 years Gateway focused on creating programs about the honeybees with support from a Classic Initiative Grant from Young Audiences in New York City and the Woodruff Arts Center. We performed, taught for families and communities throughout the Greater Atlanta area at the Fernbank Museum, the Chattahoochee Nature Center, the Woodruff Arts Center, Atlanta area schools and others to encourage them to connect with nature.

In 2007 Atlanta's Alice Lovelace asked Gateway to help host the first World Social Forum in the United States. Atlanta was chosen as the location because it is at the center of the

most oppressed area in the country. Gateway provided space and programming. The need to provide enlightened arts engagement in Atlanta was highlighted during the forum.

In 2009 following performances in Denmark, I returned to the Findhorn Foundation in Scotland for training with Franco. Franco told me I was a perfect fit for the Findhorn Foundation. I realized it was important to consistently offer my expertise and abilities to the residents of greater Atlanta.

Gateway began to seek partnerships with Atlanta organizations and facilities that serve communities in need of support and attention. Fulton County - especially its visionary senior facilities and neighborhood senior centers - became a focus for the company's programming.

In 2017 I was awarded a scholarship to attend a national training in San Francisco's Bay Area for teaching artists who work with traumatized populations. The artistic programs and facilities that exist in the Bay Area are astounding. I received training at the award-winning Youth Radio

with expert youth instructors who had arrived in need and continued to receive food, shelter, psychological and educational assistance from ages 14 to 24 while acquiring world-class expertise and training. The upshot of the national training was: Everyone in our country is experiencing trauma. This was further supported by a training at Emory University for those in recovery: Everyone in our country is in recovery.

In 1991 a one year consulting process was awarded to Gateway by the board of the Atlanta Theatre Coalition, when I was the director. A positioning paper was created in consultation with George Thorne and Nello McDaniel - non profit arts experts from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and University. I wrote the paper. Mike reviewed and approved it. These futuristic words were written in 1991, but their reality has been part of Gateway's DNA since the company's inception:

"We live in a time of enormous transition locally, nationally and internationally. Out of this chaos will emerge new forms of government, cultural-economic structures and art. Part of this process includes the manifestation of new cultural themes or the re-emergence of old themes of current significance. Theme in this context means cultural images that contain meaning and teachings for our time. Such imagistic themes breathe life into the essential human story: the story between the known and unknown - both around and within us - the story of the search for identity in the context of a global struggle between order and chaos."

Mike and I didn't think we'd live to experience these times, which we imagined were one hundred or possibly one thousand years in the future. What we strive to do is assist humanity to prepare for this challenge. We've watched, waited and done our best to serve others through their art - from European royalty to elders from the civil rights era

who are currently being financially and culturally traumatized by the rampant gentrification in their Atlanta neighborhoods.

Medical Doctors in Canada and Great Britain have begun issuing prescriptions for arts experiences provided by arts organizations. In a recent webinar Mary Anne Carter, Chairperson of the National Endowment of the Arts said that a primary goal for the NEA is "Healing, Uniting and Lifting up Communities through the Arts" . Art saves lives and art heals. This reality is being recognized during the time of Covid when saving and healing lives on all levels are so needed. Gateway has chosen to focus on serving the Atlanta area during this time of global challenges and transition and to increase our global reach through the use of virtual programming while we do so.

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

1974 - 2023

1974

The Great American Mime Experiment (later Gateway Performance Productions) is founded in January of 1974 at the IHOP in Buckhead, Atlanta, GA. Company founders Sandra Hughes, Michael Hickey and Gregory Ornas begin a developmental and rehearsal period from January to September. A first performance is booked at the dinner theatre in the Toco Hills Shopping Center for late September. Upon arrival at the theater site the company finds the doors padlocked. The theater had gone out of business due to the panick surrounding the gas crisis going on at the time. Gateway was offered an opportunity to open a new theatre in Parma Heights, Ohio in October. This is their first performance.

1975

Parma Hts., OH
Greenbriar Theatre
You Don't Say
First original production

Cleveland Hts., OH
Established the Second Story Theatre
Produced a season of mime drama
Four days a week - 52 weeks a year
Establish Mime Classes

Greater Cleveland, OH
Established Educational and Outreach
Programming

1976

Cleveland, OH
The Cleveland Orchestra
Blossom Music Center
Performances
Composer: Matthias Bamert
Choreographer: Sandra Hughes,
Costume Designer: Michael Hickey
12 member mime ensemble
Audience: 7,000

Cleveland, OH
Community Centers
Programs for severely distressed inner city
communities

1977

Painesville, OH
Lake Erie College
Theatre Department
Sandra Hughes: Adjunct Professor
Michael Hickey: Guest Artist

Touring
Ohio
Miami University

Europe
Netherlands
Belgium

Cleveland, OH
Young Audiences
Programs for community centers in severely
distressed inner city communities in Cleveland.

Cleveland, OH
Television
Regional Emmy
"Outstanding Entertainment Program of the Year"
WVIZ Public Television

1978

Painesville, OH

Lake Erie College
Original Productions
Mime Drama
The Keeper - Mime Drama
Kirkos - Mime Drama

Touring
Europe
 Netherlands
 Belgium,
 West Germany

Milwaukee, WI
First American Mime Festival
Production: The Keeper
Featured Performers:
Sandra Hughes and Michel Hickey

1979

NOTE: Upon Sandra and Mike's arrival in Atlanta, Frank Wittow revealed the Academy Theatre had financial setbacks and there was no money to pay the agreed upon fee. Sandra and Mike provide the training to the Academy Theatre actors at no charge. They are saved by Vincent Anthony - who has just opened the brand new Center for Puppetry Arts. The puppet heads Michael creates for the production of The Reluctant Dragon becomes part of a national tour of puppetry art that includes the Howdy Doody puppets, Kookla, Fran and Ollie puppets and others Michael Hickey's puppet creations are now part of the permanent collection of the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, DC.

Atlanta, GA
Academy Theatre
Master Classes: Transformational Theatre
Instructors; Sandra Hughes, Michael Hickey

Atlanta, GA
Center for Puppetry Arts
Actors: Sandra Hughes and Michael Hickey
Puppet Play Script: Sandra Hughes
Set Design: Michael Hickey
Puppet Design and Carving: Michael Hickey

Yellow Springs, OH
Antioch College
Artists in Residence
Acting Instructor: Sandra Hughes

Mime Instructor: Michael Hickey

Cleveland. OH

Young Audiences

Programs for community centers in severely distressed inner city communities

1980

Touring

Waterloo, Belgium

Conference of International Schools

Performances and Workshops

Southeastern USA

1st Regional Tour

Southern Arts Federation

Georgia

Alabama

Florida

Milledgeville, GA

Allied Arts

Artist in Residence - Michael Hickey (18 weeks)

1st Masks are created

Atlanta, GA

Theatrical Outfit

First Mask Theatre Production

Writer, Director, Choreographer, Performer: Sandra

Hughes, Performer: Mary Ann Smith,

Masks: Michael Hickey

1981

GA

Touring

Young Audiences

Georgia Schools

GA

South and Central GA

Performances and Workshops

Atlanta, GA

Television

WABE, Channel 30, PBS
Productions (3)
Writer, Director, Choreographer: Sandra Hughes

Atlanta, GA
Illusions and You Don't Say
Writer, Director, Choreographer: Sandra Hughes
Creation of Gateway's most toured productions

1982

NOTE:

Sandra and Michael performed at the Sky Valley Resort. Two Trees (aka Ken Cannon), a traditional Cherokee Healer, asked them to create a production with him "to remind the general public that Native people have not disappeared".

Touring
USA
 Eastern States
 Atlanta, GA
 Young Audiences
 Northern OH
 Young Audiences
 Southeastern States

Europe
 Italy
 Spain

Jekyll Island, GA
Hilton Hotel
Fool's Paradise
Summer Theatre - 1st Season

Atlanta, GA
WABE Channel 30, PBS
Original Productions (2)

1983

NOTE:

Company members (5) visit Native American communities in Oklahoma in preparation for the creation of The Image Makers with Muscogee-Seminole elder Woodrow and Choctaw-Uchi elder Pauline Haney.

Touring

USA

Southeast

Mid Atlantic States

Georgia Schools

South & West Atlanta, GA

Unserved Communities Libraries, rec.centers, arts centers,
senior assisted living centers.

Georgia Council for the Arts

Artist Residencies (2)

Jekyll Island, GA

Hilton Hotel

Fool's Paradise

Summer Theatre - 2nd Season

1984

Atlanta, GA

Production - The Image Makers

Written, Directed Choreographed by Sandra Huhes

Masks by Michael Hickey

Live Stage and Television

Alliance Theatre, Hertz Stage, Woodruff Arts Center

WABE, Channel 30, PBS

Touring

Southeast USA

Midwest USA

Fulton County, Dekalb County, Metro Atlanta, GA

Libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers

Jekyll Island, GA

Hilton Hotel

Fool's Paradise

3rd Summer Season

Atlanta, GA

Atlanta Jew Community Center

Artists in Residence

1985

Atlanta. GA

Horizon Theatre
Season #1
Original Productions
Written by Sandra Hughes (2)
Directed by Sandra Hughes (3)
Masks by Michael Hickey

Touring
USA

Eastern States
Missouri
Louisiana
Georgia
New York

GA

South and West Atlanta,
Workshops and performances for underserved
communities
South Fulton County
DeKalb County
Libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted
living centers

St. Simons Island, GA.
Hilton Hotel
Fool's Paradise
4th Summer Season

Ann Arbor, MI.
University of Michigan
Marcel Marceau
Advanced Mime Seminar
For Professional Mime Artists
Scholarship Awarded: Sandra Hughes

New York City
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts
Meet the Artist Series
2 Performance Runs
Artists: Sandra Hughes, Michael Hickey
New York City, continued
92nd Street Y
2 Performances

Artists: Sandra Hughes, Michael Hickey

1986

Atlanta, GA
Horizon Theatre
2nd Season
New Plays (3)

Dekalb County, GA
Soapstone Center for the Arts
Artists in Residence: Sandra Hughe, Michael Hickey

Touring
USA

Eastern

Midwest

Yellow Hill NC

Cherokee High School

The Uktena - The Central Myth of the Cherokee
People

A play by Gary Cardin from the Cherokee Tribal
Museum

Performed for Cherokee People

GA

South and West Atlanta, GA

Performances and workshops at community venues

South Fulton County, GA

Dekalb County, GA

Libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted
living centers.Performances and workshops in
schools.

Ann Arbor, MI

University of Michigan

Marcel Marceau

Advanced Mime Seminar

For Professional Mime Artists

Scholarships: Sandra Hughes, Michael Hickey

Oaxaca, Mexico

IdriArt Festival,

Performances, Workshops

Performers/Teaching Artists: Sandra Hughes, Michael
Hickey, Mary Ann Smith

1987

Atlanta, GA
Horizon Theatre
New Plays
3rd Season

USA

Eastern USA
Midwest USA
Georgia

Perform and teach in schools throughout Georgia,

Atlanta, GA

South and West Atlanta,
South Fulton County and
DeKalb County, GA

Libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living
centers

Performances and workshops at underserved community
venues in performances and workshops at underserved
community venues

Ann Arbor, MI

University of Michigan
Advanced Mime Seminar
For Professional Mimes
Marcel Marceau's

Eastern Europe

IdriArt Festivals

Bled and Ljubljana, Slovenia
Budapest, Hungary

One of the only American companies to tour behind the Iron
Curtain in Communist Eastern Europe.

1988

Touring

USA

California
Eastern USA
Southern USA
Midwestern USA
Georgia

Perform and teach in schools, libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers throughout Georgia

GA

South and West Atlanta,
South Fulton County
DeKalb County

Present performances and workshops at
underserved community venues

Mexico

Mexico City

Universidad Metropolitana de Iztapalapa
Performances, Workshops

NOTE:

While in Mexico, Sandra and Michael are urged by their entourage of Mexican college students, journalists and writers to create a performance that celebrates the life of Mexican visual artist Frida Kahlo. Merce Cunningham Studios research on both Frida Kahlo and Dias de los Muertos in preparation for the development of a new mask theatre work - Bring Me Yellow Flowers - written, choreographed and directed by Sandra with masks by and set by Michael.

Ann Arbor, Michigan
University of Michigan
Advances Mime Seminar
For Professional Mime Artists
Marcel Marceau
Sandra and Michael attend

North Carolina
Statewide Tour of 40 High Schools
Edwin Gill Foundation Funded

New York City
Merce Cunningham Studios
Performance
Bring Me Yellow Flowers
A tribute to the life and art of Frida Kahlo

1989

Touring

USA

East

Mid Atlantic
Midwest

GA

South and West Atlanta,
South Fulton County
DeKalb County

Performances and workshops in schools throughout Georgia. Performances and workshops for underserved community venues County - libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers

Ann Arbor, Michigan
University of Michigan
Advanced Mime Semina
For Professional Mime Artists
Marcel Marceau

Sandra and Michael attend
Sandra teaches a mask performing workshop for Marceau's students, assisted by Michael.

1990

Touring

USA

Northeast
Eastern
Mid Atlantic
Midwest

GA

South and West Atlanta,
South Fulton County
DeKalb County,

Performances and workshops at underserved community venues. Libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers.Perform and teach in schools throughout Georgia

Canada

Victoria Fringe Festival
Victoria, British Columbia
Performances Workshops

NOTE:

Recognizing the Company's work has grown beyond the public perception of mime the company is renamed Gateway Performance Productions.

1991

We tour to Northeastern, Eastern, Mid Atlantic and Midwestern states and perform and teach in schools throughout Georgia, present performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers), establish a second base in Santa Fe, NM and becomes artists in residence at the New Mexico Repertory Theatre - the LORT theatre in New Mexico.

1992

Sandra choreographs and Michael carves masks for Day Star Native American Dance Company. We perform and teach for the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Isleta Pueblo and Santa Clara Pueblo, tour New Mexico, Northeastern, Eastern, Mid Atlantic, Southeastern and Midwestern states and perform and teach in schools throughout Georgia. We present performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers). Sandra creates and directs and Gateway produces Living As the Last of My Tribe - dealing with the immigrant experience using the Irish immigrant experience of our own families as source material - this production becomes the seed production for a five year series of productions, The Famine Project, commemorating An Gorta Mor, the Irish Famine, and its 150th anniversary - 1995 to 1999. We join up with Atlanta's Crawford Post Production Video company to participate in the first computer video "motion capture" experiment, with Sandra creating and directing and Michael and Jerilynn Bedingfield performing - the resulting video is shown at the national computer animation conference in Las Vegas, NV, continue in residence at the New Mexico Repertory Theatre and participate in the Montreal Fringe Festival.

1993

The Company performs and teaches for the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Isleta Pueblo, continues in residence at the New Mexico Repertory Theatre, tours New Mexico, Northeastern, Eastern, Mid Atlantic, Southeastern and Midwestern states, performs and teaches in schools throughout Georgia and presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers).

1994

The Company performs and teaches for the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Isleta Pueblo, tours New Mexico, Northeastern, Eastern, Mid Atlantic, Southeastern and Midwestern states, performs and teaches in schools throughout Georgia and in New Mexico, presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts

centers, senior assisted living centers) and works with the Galleria de Guadalupe in Chimayo, NM in support of a theatre production about the Virgin of Guadalupe and her impact on Mexican and New Mexican people. Sandra creates and directs and the Company produces and performs Illuminations - with performances in Santa Fe.

1995

The Company performs and teaches for the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Isleta Pueblo, tours New Mexico, Arizona, Northeastern, Eastern, Mid Atlantic, Southeastern and Midwestern states, performs and teaches in schools throughout Georgia and present performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers). Sandra creates and directs Kokopeli, an evocation of the god Kokopeli as Rain Priest, Trader and Insect. The production, with Sandra and company member and Islets Pueblo member John Jaramillo performing, is first presented to the assembled elders of the 19 northern pueblos, having their approval the production is presented in Santa Fe and Albuquerque, NM, Atlanta, GA, the first New York City Fringe Festival and the first Philadelphia Fringe Festival.

1996

The Company performs and teaches for the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Isleta Pueblo, tours New Mexico, Northeastern, Eastern, Mid Atlantic, Southeastern and Midwestern states, performs and teaches in schools throughout Georgia, presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers) nad performs for the families of the officials from the various countries participating in the 1996 Olympic Games.Sandra co-hosts a radio program for KSFR Public Radio, Santa Fe, NM.

1997

The Company performs and teaches for the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Isleta Pueblo, tours New Mexico, Northeastern, Eastern, Mid Atlantic, Southeastern and Midwestern states, performs and teaches in schools throughout Georgia, presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers) and is a featured (sponsored performing company) at both the First New York Fringe Festival and the First Philadelphia Fringe Festival.

1998

The Company leaves New Mexico and all company members relocating to Atlanta. We tour Northeastern, Eastern, Mid Atlantic, Southeastern and Midwestern states, perform and teach in schools throughout Georgia and present performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers). Sandra Hughes creates and directs Coyote Tails, taken from early New Mexican spanish

stories, performed by Michael Hickey and Isleta Pueblo company member, John Jaramillo. The Company is a featured performing company at the First North American Mask Theatre Festival.

1999

The Company tours Northeastern, Eastern, Mid Atlantic, Southeastern and Midwestern states, performs and teaches in schools throughout Georgia and presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers). Sandra and John Jaramillo present residencies for Cheyenne, Kiowa, Apache, Arapahoe and Commanche students at Anadarko, OK and at the Red Lake High School, Red Lake Ojibwe Reservation in Minnesota.

2000

The Company tours Northeastern, Eastern, Mid Atlantic, Southeastern and Midwestern states, performs and teaches in schools throughout Georgia, presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers), performs two performance runs of Coyote Tails at the Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian in NY and performs Coyote Tails at the Seneca Indian Winter Festival in Canandaigua, NY. Sandra and John Jaramillo perform in Belfast, Northern Ireland initiating a relationship that results in 6 years of residencies in Belfast. The Company establishes the Mask Center, the company's third performing venue and an arts incubator studio for the Company and other small arts groups. The Mask Center is intended to be an embryo project eventually intending to become a full scale performance, rehearsal and exhibit facility, however the real estate developer who was backing the plan never produced the facility he promised to deliver. We continue to operate the present venue and develop and present performances at the Mask Center.

2001

The Company tours Southeastern states, performs and teaches in schools throughout Georgia, presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers), engages in a performance residency at the McCracken School (Cumann Culturtha Mhic Reachtain), in the Murder Mile - North Belfast, presenting bi-lingual Irish English programs as part of the Peace and Reconciliation Project in Northern Ireland and develops and presents performances at the Mask Center.

2002

The Company tours Southeastern states, performs and teaches in schools throughout Georgia, presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers), engages in a second

performance residency at the McCracken School (Cumann Culturtha Mhic Reachtain), in the Murder Mile - North Belfast, presenting bi-lingual Irish English programs as part of the Peace and Reconciliation Project in Northern Ireland and develops and presents performances at the Mask Center.

2003

The Company performs and teaches in schools throughout Georgia, presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and DeKalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers) engages in a third performance residency at the McCracken School (Cumann Culturtha Mhic Reachtain), in the Murder Mile - North Belfast, presenting bi-lingual Irish English programs as part of the Peace and Reconciliation Project in Northern Ireland and develops and presents performances at the Mask Center.

2004

The Company performs and teaches in schools throughout Georgia, presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and DeKalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers), engages in a fourth performance residency at the McCracken School (Cumann Culturtha Mhic Reachtain), in the Murder Mile - North Belfast, presenting bi-lingual Irish English programs as part of the Peace and Reconciliation Project in Northern Ireland and develops and presents performances at the Mask Center.

2005

The Company tours Southeastern states, performs and teaches in schools throughout Georgia, presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and DeKalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers), engages in a fifth performance residency at the McCracken School (Cumann Culturtha Mhic Reachtain), in the Murder Mile - North Belfast, presenting bi-lingual Irish English programs as part of the Peace and Reconciliation Project in Northern Ireland, tours throughout the highlands and islands of Scotland and the Republic of Ireland and develops and presents performances at the Mask Center.

2006

The Company performs and teaches in schools throughout Georgia, presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and DeKalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers), engages in a sixth performance residency at the McCracken School (Cumann Culturtha Mhic Reachtain), in the Murder Mile - North Belfast, presenting bi-lingual Irish English programs as part of the Peace and

Reconciliation Project in Northern Ireland and develops and presents performances at the Mask Center.

2007

The Company presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers), develops and presents performances at the Mask Center and begins teaching classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta.

2008

The Company presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers), develops and presents performances at the Mask Center and teaches ongoing classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta.

2009

The Company presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers), develops and presents performances at the Mask Center and teaches ongoing classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta. Sandra attends workshops in community impact of the arts at Findhorn, Scotland and returns to Atlanta more committed to outreach programming than ever.

2010

The Company presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers), develops and presents performances at the Mask Center, teaches ongoing classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta, opens and closes the First International European Mask Theatre Festival, Aeroe Island, Denmark. and performs in Edinborough, Scotland.

2011

The Company presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers), develops and presents performances at the Mask Center, teaches ongoing classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta, the Auburn Ave. Neighborhood Senior Center and Atlanta - Fulton County Libraries and presents our first large scale art/sculpture installation and new performance work, Hidden Springs, for Art on the Atlanta Beltline.

2012

The Company presents performances and workshops at underserved community venues in South and West Atlanta, south Fulton County and Dekalb County, GA (libraries, rec.centers, arts centers, senior assisted living centers), develops and presents performances at the Mask Center, teaches ongoing classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta, the Auburn Ave. Neighborhood Senior Center and Atlanta - Fulton County Libraries and presents our second large scale art/sculpture installation and new performance work, Year of the Dragon, for Art on the Atlanta Beltline.

2013

The Company develops and presents performances at the Mask Center, teaches ongoing classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta, the Auburn Ave. Neighborhood Senior Center and Atlanta - Fulton County Libraries.

2014

The Company develops and presents performances at the Mask Center, teaches ongoing classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta, the Auburn Ave. Neighborhood Senior Center and Atlanta - Fulton County Libraries and our third large scale art/sculpture installation and new performance work, 24 Grievances, for Art on the Atlanta Beltline.

2015

The Company develops and presents performances at the Mask Center, teaches ongoing classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta, the Auburn Ave. Neighborhood Senior Center and Atlanta - Fulton County Libraries and presents our fourth large scale art/sculpture installation and new performance work, A Moveable Feast, for Art on the Atlanta Beltline.

2016

The Company develops and presents performances at the Mask Center, teaches ongoing classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta, the Auburn Ave. Neighborhood Senior Center and Atlanta - Fulton County Libraries.

Sandra creates and directs and the Company performs a new performance work, We Have Risen, commissioned by the Consulate General of Ireland on behalf of the Irish government to be part of the world wide commemoration of the 100 year anniversary of the Irish revolution. We present our fifth large scale art/sculpture installation and new performance work, We have Risen, for Art on the Atlanta Beltline.

Sandra, and Board Chair Tom Spach, host the Writers Space Radio Hour for WMLB 1690 AM in Atlanta, GA.

2017

The Company develops and presents performances at the Mask Center, teaches ongoing classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta, the Auburn Ave. Neighborhood Senior Center and Atlanta - Fulton County Libraries.

2018

The Company develops and presents performances at the Mask Center. Sandra, working with members of the homeless community, develops workshops on Creative Writing and Acting. With Sandra as director, four of the participants go on to write and act in an original Gateway produced theatre work, Homeless Gurus. We teach ongoing classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta, the Auburn Ave. Neighborhood Senior Center and Atlanta - Fulton County Libraries. Drawing classes are instituted at the Mask Center.

2019

The Company develops and presents performances at the Mask Center, teaches ongoing classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta, the Auburn Ave. Neighborhood Senior Center and Atlanta - Fulton County Libraries and Drawing and Mime/Clown classes are taught at the Mask Center.

2020

The Company develops and presents performances at the Mask Center, teaches ongoing classes at Fulton County's HS Mills Multipurpose Senior Facility in Atlanta and Atlanta - Fulton County Libraries and Drawing and Mime/Clown classes are taught at the Mask Center. In late March, the Mask Center was shuttered due to the Covid crisis and all in person activities stopped. In April, we began online real time classes in Creative Writing, Acting, Drawing and Mime/Clown. The Company principals and board members begin the transition to all virtual programming.

2021

The Company transitions fully to online programming during Covid. Gateway provides classes to senior citizens, many in lockdown and the general public through zoom. Provided are classes in Mime/Clown, Drawing, Creative Writing and Acting/ Scene Study. The Company creates an outdoor sculpture exhibit WE HAVE RISEN on the grounds of the Little 5 Points Community Center. Exhibit is open to all and accessible to all passerbys.

Site of outdoor exhibit creates focus for the Company's outdoor distanced performances - which begin being held during late 2021. The company begins a major project serving Fulton County senior citizens, county wide, through the Fulton Community Service Program.

Gateway begins its ongoing relationship with Art Pharmacy, offering online classes to youth - at - risk as well as senior citizens - at - risk.

2022

The Company continues to provide its online and in person classes when safe to do so. The company continues its programming of outdoor performances for the public at the site of its ongoing outdoor Sculpture exhibit. Gateway returns to in theatre performances in its studio theatre late in the year. The company begins a major project serving Fulton County military veterans, county wide, through the Fulton Veterans Service Program. Gateway begins its ongoing classes and workshops at the VA Domiciliary for homeless veterans at Ft. McPherson. The company continues to serve youth - at - risk and senior citizens - at - risk through Art Pharmacy.

2023

The Company continues to provide its online classes and in person classes when safe to do so. The company continues its programming of outdoor and indoor performances for the public at the site of its ongoing outdoor Sculpture exhibit and in its studio theatre.. The company begins a major project serving Fulton County military veterans, County wide - through the Fulton Veterans Service Program. Gateway begins its ongoing classes and workshops at the VA Domiciliary for homeless veterans at Ft. McPherson. The company continues to serve youth - at - risk and senior citizens - at - risk through Art Pharmacy. In December of 2023, the Company presented a new outdoor Sculpture exhibit FACES OF THE MOON to the public in commemoration of its 50 years as a producing Arts company.