

LUKE HERZOG

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EDUCATION

AMHERST COLLEGE, Amherst, MA **B.A.** English, **GPA:** 4.0 (*summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa*) Class of '24
OXFORD UNIVERSITY, Oxford, UK Prose Fiction & Art Summer '23

AWARDS AND HONORS

- ♦ John Cauble Award for Outstanding Short Play, Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (2023).
- ♦ Honegger Prize Winner for Best One-Act, Firehouse Center for the Arts (2023).
- ♦ Amherst: Harry Richmond Hunter Jr. Prize (2022, best sophomore essay), 19th-Century English Novel Prize (2022), Bancroft Prize (2024, public speaking), Ralph Waldo Rice Prize (2024, best English thesis), Senior Class Speaker '24.
- ♦ Denis Johnston Prize for Scriptwriting (2020). Awarded by Smith College through the Five College Consortium.
- ♦ Presidential Scholar in the Arts (2019). One of 20 student artists in the country, honored at the White House.

COMEDY

- ♦ IMPROV: Director of Mr. Gad's House of Improv at Amherst College, performed weekly for 4 years.
- ♦ SATIRE: Editor-in-Chief, *The Muck-Rake*, Amherst College satirical newspaper.
- ♦ RADIO: Co-host of both a student radio show ("Take It as You Will") and an improvised sci-fi podcast.
- ♦ PERFORMANCE: Director of *Voices*, annual Amherst Orientation show lampooning first-year application essays.

STAGE PLAYS

Wrote original plays produced at festivals across the country, including...

- ♦ National Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (Washington, D.C.); Storefront Theatre (Waxhaw, NC); Arc Stages New Play Festival (Pleasantville, NY); Central PA Theatre & Dance Festival (State College, PA); Center for the Arts (Bonita Springs, FL); New Works Festival (Newburyport, MA).

FULL-LENGTH

- ♦ *From the Top* – The Ford's Theatre cast is forced to re-stage their play only ten days after Lincoln is shot.
- ♦ *We Open on a Red Desert* – NASA secretly hires six Hollywood writers to brainstorm the first words on Mars.
- ♦ *Human Beings (& Parts Thereof)* – Courtroom drama based on a real case pitting Marvel Comics against the X-Men.
- ♦ *Going Up* – Strangers trapped in an elevator realize they have died. Going up or down? A musical tragicomedy.

ONE-ACTS

- ♦ *Pulling the Switch* – Two prison cooks debate whether to prepare a death row inmate's disturbing last meal request.
- ♦ *Meteoric* – Between a set and an encore at a comedy club, stand-up comics learn of an impending apocalypse.
- ♦ *The Nonsense Club* – Five classmates, each missing one of the five senses, use magic to steal them from a bully.

TEN-MINUTE PLAYS

- ♦ *The 7th Inversion* – A ride on a legendary new rollercoaster, Masochist Mountain, is not what it seems.
- ♦ *Last Laugh* – How Shakespeare's Yorick met his untimely end.

DIRECTING & ACTING

- ♦ Directed seven original plays at Amherst College and performed in lead roles in seven others.

SCREENPLAYS

- ♦ *Fishbowl* (full-length feature) – A whodunit on a space station while a horrific nuclear apocalypse plays out below.
- ♦ *Penny for Your Thoughts* – In a dystopian future, memory is currency. A lovers' quarrel leads to stolen remembrances.
- ♦ *Unsound* – A 1950s thriller follows a deaf woman's blind date with a bad boy. One of them is a serial killer.
- ♦ *Greenies* – After a 21st-century clerical error sends draft notices to WWI soldiers, the undead arrive to register.
- ♦ *Rescue Anne* – The story of the 19th-century drowning victim whose face lives on as CPR doll Rescue Anne.

NOVELS

- ♦ *Klopps: Private Eye* (2020); *Continuum* (2018); *Griffin Blade and the Bronze Finger* (2014); *Dragon Valley* (2012).

WORK & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- ♦ Amherst College Visitor Relations Intern. Campus tours & virtual presentations for prospective students (2021-2023).
- ♦ Co-founder, *Cerealization*, online short story collective (2020-2022).
- ♦ Camp Counselor & Orienteering Project Director, Camp Nebagam, Lake Nebagam, WI (2019).
- ♦ Community Volunteer, "Accidental Social Skills." Led improv games in class for special-needs students (2018-2020).
- ♦ Intern, U.S. Rep. Jimmy Panetta (CA). Wrote for Congressional Record, screened calls, worked town halls (2017).