

# John Simpkins

Stage Director

Professor & Head of Musical Theatre - Penn State University

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## New York

**BloodSong of Love** (Joe Iconis – book/ music/ lyrics)  
Ars Nova (Three Drama Desk Nominations)

**Things to Ruin: The Songs of Joe Iconis** (co-conceiver)  
Second Stage, NYMF

**Beatsville** (Glenn Slater – book, Wendy Leigh Wilf – music/ lyrics)  
Provincetown Playhouse

**The Bus** (James Lantz)  
59E59 Theatres

**Party Come Here** (Daniel Goldfarb- book, David Kirshenbaum- music/ lyrics)  
The Players Theatre

**Next Thing You Know** (Ryan Cunningham – book/ lyrics; Josh Salzman – music)  
Ars Nova

**ReWrite: a musical comedy triple feature** (Joe Iconis- book/ music/ lyrics)  
Urban Stages

**The Legend of New York** (Ryan Cunningham – book/ lyrics; Josh Salzman – music)  
Provincetown Playhouse

**The Plant That Ate Dirty Socks** (Joe Iconis- book/ music/ lyrics)  
Theatreworks, USA – Lucille Lortel Theatre

**The Black Suits** (Joe Iconis- music/ lyrics, Joe Iconis & Robert Maddock- book)  
SPF at the Public Theater (Shiva)

**Queen Esther** (Ryan Cunningham- book, Joshua Salzman- music/lyrics)  
Merkin Hall

**Go-Go Beach** (John Wimbs - book/ lyrics; Mike Shaieb, Brent Lord - music)  
New York Musical Theatre Festival - 37 Arts Theatre

**Blood Drive** (Rachel Sheinkin- book/ lyrics; Joel Derfner- music)

**29** (Gaby Alter- music/lyrics; Tommy Newman- book/ additional lyrics)

**Like You Like It: The 1980's Musical** (Sammy Buck- book/ lyrics; Dan Acquisto- music)

## International

**Legendale** - World Premiere (Andrea Daly – music; Jeff Bienstock – words)  
Fredericia Teater, Denmark

**A Hero's Tale** - World Premiere (Arthur Bacon – music; Mads Nielsen – book/ lyrics)  
Fredericia Teater, Denmark

## Regional

Two River Theater – Red Bank, NJ (upcoming)

**Love in Hate Nation** (World Premiere) – Joe Iconis – book/music/ lyrics

Center Theatre Group (Kirk Douglas Theatre) – Los Angeles, CA

**The Black Suits** - World Premiere (starring Annie Golden, Will Roland, Veronica Dunne)

Theaterworks Hartford – Hartford, CT

**Raging Skillet** – World Premiere (starring Marilyn Sokol, George Salazar)

North Carolina Theatre – Raleigh, NC

**Hairspray** (starring Dale Hensley, Dirk Lumbard)

Human Race Theatre Company – Dayton, OH

**Legendale** - American Premiere (starring Max Crumm)

Goodspeed Opera House – East Haddam, CT

**ReWrite** (Festival of New Artists)

**Adam Lives** (Festival of New Artists)

Barrington Stage Company – Pittsfield, MA

**Hellraisers**

**The Black Suits** (starring Ben Platt)

John W. Engeman Theatre – Northport, NY

**Damn Yankees** (starring André De Shields, Felicia Finley, Austin Miller)

**A Wonderful Life** (starring Will Reynolds)

Sacramento Music Circus – Sacramento, CA

**Cabaret** (starring Jacquelyn Piro, Max Von Essen, Teri Ralston)

**Annie** (starring Mark Zimmerman, Adinah Alexander, Jim Walton)

Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma – Oklahoma City, OK

**Evita** (starring Kate Chapman, Eric Michael Gillett, Dan Cooney)

Berkshire Theatre Festival (Friday series)

**Next Thing You Know** (Ryan Cunningham – book/ lyrics; Josh Salzman – music)

Sharon Playhouse (**Artistic Director**) – Sharon, CT

**Quartet** – starring Elizabeth Franz

**Merrily We Roll Along** – starring Jason Tam, A.J. Shively

**Big River**

**Judge Jackie: Disorder in the Court** – starring Klea Blackhurst

**Nine Wives**

**True Love**

**Georgie** – written by and starring Ed Dixon

**Falsettos**

**Les Miserables**

**They're Playing Our Song** – starring Lauren Marcus, Eric William Morris

**Damn Yankees**

**A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum**

**The Wedding Singer**

**Rent**

**The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas**

**Altar Boyz**

#### New York Workshops/ Readings

OHenry Productions: **For Better, For Worse** (Reed Arnold)

Ars Nova: **When the World Ends** (Nick Blaemire)

NAMT (National Alliance for Musical Theatre – New World Stages):

**Ripper** (Duane Nelsen)

**Bloodsong Of Love** (Joe Iconis)

**Legendale** (Andrea Daly, Jeff Bienstock)

Sage Theatre: **Half Married** (a new play by Ryan Cunningham and Charles Antin)

Barrington Stage Company: **Bad Kid School** (John Gregor- book/ music/ lyrics)

York Theatre: **Plastic!** (Robert Maddock- book/ lyrics; Joe Iconis, Reza Jacobs - music)

**You Don't Know Jack** (Jay Falzone- book/ lyrics; Jason Loffredo – music)

New Triad for Collaborative Arts/ Lincoln Center: ***Lyrical Langston: His Muse for Music***  
Loewe Theatre: ***Beasts and Saints*** (Mindi Dickstein- book/ lyrics; Dan Messe- music)

Penn State University

***Be More Chill*** (Joe Iconis/ Joe Tracz); ***Love in Hate Nation*** (Joe Iconis); ***The Last Day*** (Mike Reid/ Sarah Schlesinger); ***The Lucky Boy*** (Kirsten Childs)

New York University

***The Fix, Kiss of the Spider Woman, Floyd Collins, Sweet Smell of Success, Violet, City of Angels, Urinetown, Merrily We Roll Along, Parade, A New Brain, Godspell, Fiorello!***

Concerts

Skirball Center for the Performing Arts

***Alan Menken: A Musical Tribute*** (featuring Alan Menken)

New World Stages: ***NAMT Songwriters Showcase***

Teaching/ Education

**New York University- M.A.**

**Miami University (Ohio)- B.M.**