

Robi Polgar Theatre Bio

Robi Polgar is a writer, director and musician living in Austin, Texas with his wife and kids.

As a playwright, he has written (and directed) *The Tree Play* (Austin Critics' Table Award nomination for the David Mark Cohen New Play Award), *The Road to Wigan Pier: a (Socialist) Tea-Time Travelogue & Historical Musical Revue* (ACTA nominations for original script and original score), *Burnt* (co-written with Catherine Rogers and produced on the 50th anniversary of Yom HaShoah) and adaptations of *The Wars of the Roses* (Shakespeare) and *Mephisto* (Klaus Mann); all were produced in Austin, Texas except *Mephisto*, which was produced in Somerville, Massachusetts. He also wrote the baseball biography, *The Willie Wells Story* (commissioned by the Bob Bullock Texas History Museum).

Robi was the co-founding artistic director of The Public Domain Theatre Company in Austin, where he directed or produced more than 40 plays. Directing highlights include *King Lear*, *The Possibilities* (Howard Barker), *Ashes to Ashes* and *Betrayal* (Harold Pinter), *The Life of Galileo*, *Dracula* (Steven Dietz), *The Duchess of Malfi*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *The Beggar's Opera*, *Scenes from an Execution* (Barker), *H.I.D. (Hess Is Dead)* (Howard Brenton), *The Mysteries of Film* (Michael Camenisch) and *The Beaux' Stratagem*. Additional directing projects include Joan Littlewood's *Oh, What A Lovely War!*, *Cabaret*, *Flesh and the Desert* (Carson Kreitzer), *The Gifts of the Magi* (Courts, St. Germain) and *The Tempest*.

Robi earned his BA in drama at Tufts University and his MFA in directing from The University of Texas at Austin.