

## Artist Manifesto of W. Riley Braem

I am a Director, Performer, Designer, Choreographer, Digital Storyteller, Access and Inclusion Consultant, Independent Researcher, and Teaching Artist, but above all, I am an Artist. An Artist with a capitol A. I believe that the creative arts are part of each of us and they, like so many things, are part of our cultural history which is the right of every person. I believe that every child, adolescent, and adult, regardless of (dis)ability should have access to this cultural treasure. I believe that it is my obligation as an Artist to provide opportunities for all those who wish to participate in the arts of Theatre and Drama.

In my practice as an Artist I strive to create innovative and unique theatrical experiences that allow participants to explore and stretch their imaginations further than they have before. I strive to open up and make available all possible channels of creative expression and provide young people opportunities to explore, create, and grow as Artists.

I believe that the art I create should mean something to the people who experience it. I strive to create work that is about the Art and not about the money. To bring the stories of those who do not communicate in traditional ways to life. Above all, I strive to never forget that at the end of the day no matter what happens I am a Human Being and that my ART matters.

### Ethical Statement

As a professional, my core values revolve around my passion as an Artist, educator, and activist, and citizen. I believe that my artistic practice is vital and effectual. I strive to create new opportunities for those who have not been able to participate in the art of theatre. At all times and in all aspects of my work I believe:

- In integrity.
- In equality.
- That the arts are part of a cultural heritage that belongs to all individuals.
- In the power of the arts and its ability to inspire action.