

ED VALENTINE

WRITER

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MEMBER: WGA, Animation Guild; ASCAP; Dramatists Guild; New Circle Theatre

ED VALENTINE is a 4-time Daytime Emmy winner for “Outstanding Writing in a Pre-School Children’s Series” for *Sesame Street*. He has been a staff writer on *Sesame Street*, Nickelodeon’s *The Fairly OddParents* (2010 Daytime Emmy nomination, “Outstanding Writing in Animation”), Disney Jr.’s *Doc McStuffins* and *Goldie and Bear*. Ed also has written episodes of *Ultimate Spiderman*, *Avengers Assemble*, *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic*, and *Astroblast*, among many other shows. He was named a 2007-08 Nickelodeon Writing Fellowship, and has been a story editor and writing workshop leader for Sesame Workshop’s International co-productions in Bangladesh and India.

Before starting his TV career, Ed was named one of “50 Playwrights to Watch” in the July ’07 issue of *The Dramatist* magazine; his plays have been performed in New York and across the United States. Ed is the two-time winner of the “Best Full-Length Play in the Northeast” award from the Kennedy Center / American College Theater Festival for *LIZZIE, OR: HATCHET HOUR* (2005) and *BETSY ROSS LIES!* (2007). Ed was also awarded Hunter College’s Zarkower Award for promising playwrights in three consecutive years: 2001 (for *BUNYAN’S BODY*), 2002 (*ARIZONA ILIAD*) and 2003 (*LIZZIE*). A proud member of the Dramatists Guild, Ed held a 2003-2004 Dramatists Guild Fellowship.

Ed is a founding member of En Avant Playwrights and its experimental object-and puppet-theater offshoot, Cardium Mechanicum. In May of 2007, Ed received his MFA in Dramatic Writing from the Tisch School of the Arts, NYU, where he wrote *27 PIGS*, *THE TURK* and *AMERICANLAND*. Some of his many other titles include *DANGEROUS BABY*, *THEATER IS THE THING WITH TENTACLES*, and *SCOUT’S HONOR: SNIPE HUNT AND BECKY’S BEAVER* (which premiered at the NY Fringe Festival).

After his undergraduate studies at Boston College, Ed was a page at NBC (assignments on the *Today Show* and *Late Night with Conan O’Brien*) - and then afterwards a fourth-grade homeroom teacher. His life changed when he began to study playwriting with his mentor Tina Howe at Hunter College. Enrolling as an MFA student at NYU’s Goldberg Department of Dramatic Writing, Ed studied TV writing with Charlie Rubin (*Seinfeld*; *CSI: Criminal Intent*) and Joe Kelly (*Deadpool*, *I Kill Giants*, *Ben 10*), and playwriting with Oskar Eustis, Len Jenkin, Marsha Norman, Rachel Sheinkin, and Janet Neipris. Through a Dramatists Guild Fellowship, he worked under mentor David Grimm.

Puppetry is also a big part of Ed’s life, both in performance and in writing. Ed performs his puppet plays regularly in slams all across the country; puppets and masks feature prominently in Ed’s plays; and he has been developing puppet series for TV, both for children and for adults. Ed’s piece *AMERICANLAND* (a cycle of 50 short puppet plays, with one play set in each of the 50 states) was developed as an Emerging Artist program at the O’Neill Theater Center’s National Puppetry Conference in 2013, and continues to workshop regionally. Ed also wrote the script for *THE HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL*, an annual attraction in Woodland Hills, CA, which draws thousands of visitors each Halloween. Ed created and wrote a role in this high-tech home haunt for Neil Patrick Harris, who appears in a holographic performance.

Ed coaches writers and runs writing workshops on the East and West coasts. He teaches an Animation Writing Masterclass at NYU’s Tisch School Department of Dramatic Writing and has been a Thesis professor / advisor in the online MFA program in Visual Narrative at the School of Visual Arts. Ed is completing a book of advice and encouragement for writers called *How to Be a Writing SuperHero*, designed to unlock the superpowers in anyone who longs to write. You can contact Ed via email at ed@edvalentine.com, or see more of his work on the website www.edvalentine.com.