

Bilal Dardai

bilald@gmail.com

Dramatist / Performer

Ensemble Member, Lifeline Theatre

Ensemble and Artistic Director Emeritus, The Neo-Futurists

Stage Plays, Film, & Audio Drama

Jamming On The Job

- 2024: PBS Kids, RTP, NC; executive produced by Isaac Klein
 - Episode writer, children's audio programming

Marvel Move: Terminal Degree

- 2023: Six to Start, London, UK; executive produced by Marvel Comics/Six to Start
 - Series writer, audio-format narrative game

Spellcast II: The Deviled Ham

- 2022: Six to Start, London, UK; executive produced by Six to Start
 - Series writer, audio-format narrative game

The Widow's Will

- 2021: Chicago Fringe Opera, Chicago, IL; dir. George Cederquist
 - Librettist; music composed by Elizabeth Rudolph; short film

46 Plays for America's First Ladies

- 2023: NextStop Theatre, Herndon, VA; dir. Megan Behm
- 2022: Theatre Pro Rata, Minneapolis/St.Paul, MN; dir. Carin Wethern
- 2021: Forward Theatre Company, Madison, WI; dir. Jennifer Uphoff Gray
- 2020: The Neo-Futurists, Chicago, IL; dir. Denise Yvette Serna (virtual production)
- 2018: Ground Floor at Berkeley Rep, Berkeley, CA; dir. Khanisha Foster (staged reading)
 - Contributing writer; created by Genevra Gallo-Bayiates, Sharon Greene, Chloe Johnston, Andy Bayiates, and Bilal Dardai

The Mandala of Sherlock Holmes (*adapted from the novel by Jamyang Norbu*)

- 2021: Book-It Repertory Theatre, Seattle WA; dir. Gus Menary
 - Series writer, audio drama

Unwell

- 2017 – 2023: Hartlife NFP, Chicago, IL; dir. Jeffrey Gardner
 - Episode writer, audio drama

Spellcast

- 2021: Six to Start, London, UK; executive produced by Six to Start
 - Series writer, audio-format narrative game

The Imagine Neighborhood

- 2020 – 2023: Committee for Children, Seattle, WA; created by Scotty Iseri
 - Series writer/producer, children's audio programming

Alba Salix, Royal Physician

- 2021: Fable & Folly, Toronto, Canada; executive produced by Eli Hamada McIlveen and Sean Howard

- Episode writer, audio drama

The Infinite Wrench Goes Viral

- 2020 – 2021: The Neo-Futurists, Chicago, IL; dir. Bilal Dardai
 - Contributing writer/performer/filmmaker; created by The Neo-Futurists

Tales of Poe (*adapted from the works of Edgar Allan Poe*)

- 2020: Lifeline Theatre On The Air, Chicago, IL; dir. Dorothy Milne, Christopher Hainsworth, and Bilal Dardai
 - Adapter and director, audio storytelling

The Man Who Was Thursday (*adapted from the novel by G.K. Chesterton*)

- 2019: Lifeline Theatre, Chicago, IL; dir. Jess Hutchinson
- 2010: New Leaf Theatre, Chicago, IL; dir. Jess Hutchinson (staged reading)
- 2009: New Leaf Theatre, Chicago, IL; dir. Jess Hutchinson

Alice

- 2019: Upended Productions, Evanston, IL; dir. Bilal Dardai
- 2014: Upended Productions, Evanston, IL; dir. Bilal Dardai
- 2004: The Neo-Futurists, Chicago, IL; dir. Bilal Dardai and Dana Januszyk
 - Contributing writer/performer/director; created by Noelle Krimm

Redeemers

- 2018: HartLife NFP, Chicago, IL; dir. Jess Hutchinson (audio production)
- 2017: Life After Hate, Chicago, IL; dir. Jess Hutchinson (benefit staged reading)
- 2010: New Leaf Theatre, Chicago, IL; dir. Jess Hutchinson

The Infinite Wrench

- 2017 – present: The Neo-Futurists, Chicago, IL; dir. The Neo-Futurists
 - Contributing writer/performer; created by The Neo-Futurists

The Food Show

- 2017: The Neo-Futurists, Chicago, IL; dir. Dan Kerr-Hobert
 - Contributing writer/performer; created by Dan Kerr-Hobert and Caitlin Stainken

PleasureTown

- 2017 – 2018: WBEZ, Chicago, IL; dir. Erin Kahoa and Keith Ecker
 - Episode writer, audio drama

Redletter

- 2015: The Neo-Futurists, Chicago, IL; dir. Jen Ellison
 - Contributing writer/performer; created by Lisa Buscani

Vox Pandora

- 2014: Hardin-Simmons University; Abilene, TX; dir. Victoria Spangler
- 2007: New Leaf Theatre, Chicago, IL; dir. Jess Hutchinson
- 2005: Women's Theatre Alliance, Chicago, IL; dir. Sara Keely McGuire (staged reading)

The Sovereign Statement

- 2013: The Neo-Futurists, Chicago, IL; dir. Brandon Ray
 - Writer/ensemble

Crisis: A Musical Game Show

- 2010: The Neo-Futurists, Chicago, IL; dir. John Pierson, Dan Kerr-Hobert, and Clifton Frei
 - Contributing writer, created by John Pierson, Dan Kerr-Hobert, and Clifton Frei

A Very Neo-Futurist Christmas Carol

- 2008: The Neo-Futurists, Chicago, IL; dir. Chloe Johnston
 - Contributing writer/performer, created by Kristie Koehler Vuocolo

Contraption

- 2007: The Neo-Futurists, Chicago, IL; dir. Bilal Dardai

Too Much Light Makes The Baby Go Blind

- 2004 – 2016: The Neo-Futurists, Chicago, IL; dir. The Neo-Futurists
 - Contributing writer/performer; created by Greg Allen

Awards and Nominations

- BBC Audio Drama Awards – Best Podcast or Online Drama: *Unwell* (2021)
- Audio Verse Awards – Writing for an Existing Production: *Unwell* (2021)
- Audio Verse Awards – Writing of an Audio Play Production: *Unwell* (2021)
- Joseph Jefferson Award Nominee – Performer in a Principal Role, Play: *Language Rooms* (Broken Nose Theatre, 2020)
- Joseph Jefferson Award Nominee – Best New Work: *The Sovereign Statement* (2014)
- Joseph Jefferson Award Nominee – Best New Work (Adaptation): *The Man Who Was Thursday* (2010)
- Winner, “Best Play,” Hurricane Season Festival (2010)
- Joseph Jefferson Award Nominee – Ensemble, Play: *The Permanent Way* (New Leaf Theatre, 2007)
- Recipient, Illinois Arts Council Fellowship in Scriptworks (2004)