

Joshua Vranas

Songwriter & Storyteller

Education

MFA, New York University, Graduate Musical Theatre Writing, Class of 2021

- Composer/Lyricist/Librettist

BFA, Savannah College of Art and Design, Production Design, Class of 2019 (Cum Laude)

- Concentration in Costume Design

Professional Honors

Awards:

Top-5 Nominee, Marvin Hamlisch International Music Awards (Emerging Musical Theater Division) – 2021*

*For Original Music and Lyrics

Frederick Loewe Award, ASCAP – 2019

Horace W. Goldsmith Fellowship – 2020

Virginia Theater Association 2020 New Musical Theater Showcase – 2020*

*For *Emma and the West*

Residences/Fellowships:

35th Parallel Productions Writers Retreat – 2022

Selected Musical Theater Works

Nearly Neighbors (Music, Lyrics, Book)

Produced by Nikita Chernin & Ash Alina

Lab: Ripley Grier Studios, dir. Genevieve Wilson (NY) – Feb 2026

Reading: Ripley Grier Studios (NY) – Dec 2025

My Pet Dragon (Music & Book; Lyrics & Book by Maggie Moe)

Produced by Blue Topaz Productions

Concert: Evan Bernardin Productions/Joe's Pub, dir. Joe Barros (NY) – July 2024

Presentations: GSV Mission Summit (TX), Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation (MN),
Acceptance Recovery Center (GA) – 2022-2023

Workshop: 35th Parallel Productions (SC) – August 2022

Industry Readings: 35th Parallel Productions (NY) - March 2022;
NYU Tisch - May 2021

Theseus and the Minotaur and the Other Six (Music; Lyrics & Book by Clare Fuyuko Bierman)

Commissioned by Youth Theatre Northwest

World Premiere: Youth Theatre Northwest, dir. Erin Murray (WA) – Nov 2022

Workshop: Youth Theatre Northwest, dir. Erin Murray (WA) – Apr 2022

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Emma and the West (Music; Lyrics & Book by Clare Fuyuko Bierman)*

Productions: Long Beach City College (CA) - Apr 2022;

Youth Theatre Northwest (WA) - Jan 2021

Cast Recording (Virtual) - Jul 2020 *Selected for VTA New Musical Showcase

Music Releases

Albums and EPs:

softer now - 2023

Lost Time - 2022

A Fly in Molasses – Songs from the Play - 2021

Emma and the West – Original Cast Recording - 2020

Selected Singles:

Slow It Down - 2026

if this doesn't work out - 2023

darling - 2023

eying - 2023

In Development

Grief Is Weird (Music, Lyrics, Book)

A lo-fi, puppetry-infused exploration of grief that follows Ellis, a tightly wound son, as he navigates a surreal journey through his childhood home while his mother processes loss in the bathtub, ultimately discovering that acceptance means sitting in the water together.

Space Invader (Music, Lyrics, Book)

A Golden-Age style subversive musical based on the 1947 Roswell Incident in which a grieving woman finds an unexpected daughter in a wounded alien she hides from the military, exploring chosen family and the many forms love can take.

Patchwork, The New Oz Family Musical (Music, Lyrics, Book)

A whimsical, pastoral Oz adventure following Ojo, the 'unluckiest boy in the world', who accidentally brings a patchwork girl to life and embarks on a quest to save his frozen guardians, only to discover that true magic and his worth comes not from external spells but from within.

Teaching

Songwriting Teaching Artist, Garden Theatre (FL), – Spring 2022

Guest Composer, MFA Playwriting Program, Columbia University (NY) – Fall 2021

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Notable Concerts and Performances

My Pet Dragon in Concert, Evan Bernadin Productions/Joe's Pub (NY) – July 2024

Broadway's Future Songbook, Lincoln Center (NY) – Spring 2021

Village Song, Rattlestick Playwrights Theatre (NY) – Winter 2021

The Dumb American Amateur Hour, Starr Bar (NY) – Spring 2022

Sounds of Arts Festival, MUSE (Virtual) – Fall 2020

Stanford University Arts Gala, The Cutting Room (NY) – Fall 2019

Finally Got It Right, Mondanaro Theater (GA) – Spring 2019

Affiliations

Dramatists Guild Member, since 2021

ASCAP, since 2022

New Play Exchange, since 2021

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