

Michael Rohd
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<http://www.sojourntheatre.org/who-we-are>

<https://www.thecpcp.org/who-we-are>

Michael Rohd is a theater artist and community dialogue designer with a national record of collaborative, publicly engaged work and thought leadership within and outside the arts ecosystem. For 30 years Rohd's professional focus has been on civic imagination, defined as the capacity among residents, community leaders and decision-makers to collectively and creatively envision just, healthy and equitable futures for everyone. He is an Artist for Civic Imagination at Center for Performance and Civic Practice and a founding ensemble member at 23 year-old Sojourn Theatre (where he has led the creation of 26 full-length devised, often site-based, often participatory works). In Washington, DC in 1992, he founded Hope Is Vital, a theatre/health initiative through which he spent six years on the road helping build nearly 100 youth participatory theatre ensembles across the US and Europe focused on issues of homelessness, HIV/AIDS and social justice. He is author of the frequently translated book *Theatre for Community, Conflict, and Dialogue* and is founder/director of the new Co-Lab for Civic Imagination (CCI) at the University of Montana where, in addition to building campus, regional and national cross-sector collaborations, he is developing a statewide touring play about mental health that will travel with a health pavillion and capacity-building workshops in rural and tribal spaces. Prior to his new post at the University of Montana, Rohd was Institute Professor at Arizona State University on a leadership team alongside Liz Lerman, Daniel Bernard Roumain and Dr Maria Rosario Jackson with a mission of disrupting and innovating the ways arts and design are perceived and deployed in community settings beyond the arts sector. He has created new theater work as a director/deviser for companies including Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Steppenwolf Theater, Goodman Theater, Woolly Mammoth, Boise Contemporary Theater, The House Theater, Flint Youth Theater and House of World Culture in Berlin. He is a Jew who was raised in Baltimore, he is the grandchild of Russian immigrants, and he is the father of Elias and Nina.