



circumspect press

Kergan Edwards-Stout

Biography

Kergan Edwards-Stout is an award-winning director, author and screenwriter.

Kergan recently completed his first novel, [Songs for the New Depression](#). Inspired by his years of working at AIDS Project Los Angeles, as well as the loss of a partner to the disease, [Songs for the New Depression](#) mixes the contemplative styling of Michael Cunningham with the dark humor of Augusten Burroughs, taking its readers on a compelling journey to personal awakening. The novel was short-listed for the 2011 Independent Literary Awards.

Shorter works, including essays and short stories, have appeared in such journals, websites, and magazines as *Huffington Post*, *American Short Fiction*, *Bilerico Project*, *LGBTQ Nation*, and *SexVibe*, and his screenplays have placed highly in competition. (His Huffington Post articles can be found [here](#).)

When Esther Saw the Light, a theatrical production Kergan directed, won awards at the Kennedy Center for both Best Play and Meritorious Direction. The Washington Post called it “Gaspingly funny”, while the Washington Times noted it was a “nose-thumbing comedy worth its weight in sacred cows.” While at UCLA, Kergan was honored to receive the Doris Packer Award for Graduating Senior.

At [AIDS Project Los Angeles \(APLA\)](#), Kergan headed an HIV education program, giving hundreds of educational speeches, and he was honored to be the keynote speaker for the Louisiana State Department of Health’s Annual Conference. This passion for social justice led him not only to APLA, but to the [L.A. Free Clinic](#), where he created traveling theatrical productions educating teens about high risk behaviors.

In a volunteer capacity, Kergan has organized protests, benefits, and rallies, and the Peace & Justice Speakers Series he created at [Church of the Foothills](#) (ChOTF) featured experts from the [Southern Poverty Law Center](#), [People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals \(PETA\)](#), [Children of Uganda](#), [OC Transgender Coalition](#), [Habitat for Humanity](#), [OC Equality Coalition](#), [OC Food Bank](#), and Schindler’s List/Holocaust survivor [Laura Hillman](#). Also at ChOTF, Kergan was pleased to bring the controversial and important plays [Corpus Christi](#) and [Confessions of a Mormon Boy](#) to conservative Orange County.

Furthering his commitment to progressive causes, Kergan was proud to help launch *Bright Green Kids*, an “all green”, eco-friendly fundraising initiative for schools, where he served as Director of Marketing, handling all of the writing duties, from press releases, to marketing materials, to the company catalog and website.

Currently, Kergan lives in Orange, California, with his partner [Russ Noe](#), and their two sons, Mason (12) and Marcus (9).

Kergan was honored to be chosen as one of [HRC](#)’s 2011 “[Fathers of the Year](#).”



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He is currently at work on his forthcoming memoir, [*Never Turn Your Back on the Tide*](#).

For further media elements, such as author photo, reviews, and more, please go to
<http://kerganedwards-stout.com/media>