

# *KICKIN' SAND AND TELLIN' LIES: Dramaturgical Research*

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# Abstract

- This presentation is a part of the student-faculty collaborative research project *Launching through the Surf: The Dory Fleet of Pacific City*. The team audio- and- video recorded interviews of dory fishers and their families in order to collect and preserve the history of the Dory Fleet of Pacific City, Oregon. These interviews were edited and published at [DigitalCommons@Linfield](#). The interviews also helped shape a full-length theatrical production, *Kickin' Sand and Tellin' Lies*, written by team members Jackson B. Miller and Christopher Forrer and produced by the Linfield Theatre in November 2012. This presentation focuses on the dramaturgical work of student researchers in the collaborative process, which included research at the South Tillamook County Library in Pacific City, review of interview transcripts and collected artifacts, compilation of materials to aid the production team in rehearsal, and audio mapping.

# Library Research

- Over the course of the collaborative research project our group took various trips to Pacific City as a means of collecting data. During these trips a fellow team member and I searched the South Tillamook County Library in Pacific City



<http://pacificcity.org/library/main.html>

- Here we found various community documents, newspaper articles, pictures, etc., specifically in relation to the Dory fishing community. These files were read, noted, briefly summarized, and recorded via a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet

# Review of Interview Transcripts

- Throughout the research process the dramaturgical team, as well as other members of the collaborative research project, searched the interview transcripts to find compelling stories for the playwrights
- These stories were highlighted and sent to both Jackson Miller and Christopher Forrer
- These interviews also helped create a guide of important terms and facts to aid the production team

# Production Team Aid

- My co-dramaturgical researcher and I transcribed a list of dramaturgical categories with a description following each. The categories were used as references for the production team and audience members
- *Categories included:*
  - History of Pacific City
  - History of Dory Boats/ The Dory Fleet
  - Fishing/How to Fish
  - Commercial Fishing
  - Kinds of Fish Caught
  - Sport Fishing
  - Environmental Laws and Fishing regulations
  - Geology/ Geography
  - Economics
  - Interview Headings
  - List of Terms

# Production Team Aid

Example Category: *History of Pacific City*

Pacific City was settled by pioneers in the middle of the 19th century. Some of the earliest pioneers were the Fishers and Reddikopps, among other families. The town increased in popularity and population when its baths were advertised as medicinal near the turn of the 20th century, and bath houses were constructed at what is the modern-day four-way stop. Throughout the earliest years of the century, gillnet fishing in the Nestucca River developed as an industry and the mink (rodents resembling ferrets) farms that had formed the backbone of pioneer Pacific City continued to thrive. The river closed in 1926 to commercial fishing driving the fishermen to the ocean (See HISTORY OF DORY BOATS/FLEET). A road was built to the cape from the turnaround in the mid 1950s which facilitated both development of the fleet and development of the area. In recent years, major development has resulted in an increase of tourists and businesses.

# Mapping

- As part of the dramaturgical process I created “maps” of the audio interviews
- This process included listening to the audio recordings, noting the content that was discussed, and labeling at what time it took place in the interview
- These time-stamps allowed for ease of reference for the research team, as well as the playwrights as they searched for material

# Audio Mapping Example Portion- Skip Bailey

<u>TIME</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
0:00:00	
0:01:26	Name
0:01:55	Are you actively fishing?
0:02:24	Beginning of his Dory boat Stories
0:02:29	1 <sup>st</sup> Dory- Double ender
0:03:26	Second Dory- built in Salem- by Dick Yates
0:03:56	late 60's early 70s- like gold rush in California- Salem Boats
0:04:27	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dory- Fish fry one- on Dory Wall- why it got its name- Dory Derby-
0:05:15	Dad Commercial fished when Skip was 5, 6 or 7 Ted Cross- Tipped over boat story
0:06:30	13 years- when the boat- "fish fry" came about- Dad took up fishing again
0:07:00	3 <sup>rd</sup> Dory-Another Salem boat- 1967- The Skippin' Vick Started to commercial fish in high school
0:07:32	Jack and Marline Hogeball fish company @ Pacific City Trailer Park Jack fronted him all of his gear: Sold fish to Jack until debt paid
0:08:20	Boat Upgrade
0:08:45	sophomore in college- sold gear to finish paying for school, but kept boat
0:09:17	4 <sup>th</sup> Dory 1967(?)- Another Salem dory Daughter helped work on boat Boat name: Skippin' Vick (again)
0:10:00	Fire Story Start

# Dory Fleet of Pacific City

Pacific City, Oregon



Photo by Tyrone Marshall

# Dory Fleet of Pacific City

Linfield College Production



Photo by Tyrone Marshall