

## Frank Gagliano

*Nominated by Fellow Jerry L. Crawford, ATF Dean Emeritus  
Seconded by Fellows Marshall W. Mason and John Cauble*



Frank Gagliano is a native of Brooklyn, New York. He earned a B.A. at the University of Iowa and M.F.A. at Columbia University. He held the Benedum Professor of Playwriting position at West Virginia University from 1976 until his retirement in 2010. He was a sterling teacher there and developed a dramaturgical/directorial concept titled "Holographing the Play Text." He was guest artist at The O'Neill Center, Cherry Lane Theatre, Kirovograd, Ukraine, Amsterdam, Netherlands, Bamberg, Germany, and Beijing, China.

In his seconding letter, Fellow Marshall Mason states: "Frank Gagliano was a pioneer in the surge of Off-Broadway writers articulating a new theatre dynamic in the 1960s." Fellow John Cauble adds: "He is an audacious writer whose work touches the human essence." Mr. Gagliano's work has been successfully produced at such theatres as Cherry Lane, Alley, American Place, O'Neill Center, Phoenix, Milwaukee Rep, New Dramatists, Pittsburgh Playwrights, and abroad at Hoffman in Germany and Beijing Institute in China. Representative play titles include *Conerico Was Here to Stay*, *Night of the Dunces*, *Father Uxbridge Wants to Marry*, *Big Sur*, *The Songs of Johnny Mercer*, *The Voodoo Trilogy*, and many more, several with music.

Frank Gagliano is a member of The Dramatists Guild, The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, and New Dramatists. He was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, a National Council for the Arts Fellowship, two Rockefeller Foundation grants, a Pennsylvania Arts Council Fellowship, and won the grand prize of the 1999 Ernest Hemingway Playwriting Competition. His working associates in theatre include Edward Albee, Sam Shepard, Lanford Wilson, Nina Vance, Roy Scheider, Raúl Julia, Olympia Dukakis, Lloyd Richards, John Glover, Billy Dee Williams, James Coco, Arthur Miller and yours truly more times than he should admit. Together, we drink only Italian wine.

In 2012, Mr. Gagliano gave the keynote lecture on Chekhov at The International Chekhov Conference in Yalta, where his work, *My Chekhov Light*, was performed. Frank Gagliano is married to singer Sandra Gagliano. Their son Rico is a producer in the public and professional radio world. Please welcome as a new American Theatre Fellow: the distinguished professor, author, composer, and playwright Frank Gagliano.

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