

Jess Hutchinson

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CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin – Austin, TX

MFA. Theatre Directing 2012 – 2015

Coursework: directing, collaboration, theatrical canon and criticism, theatrical design, semiotics, new play dramaturgy and development, drama-based pedagogy and practice, narrative strategies of time & story

Instructors: Steven Dietz, Liz Engelman, Pirronne Yousefzadeh, Kirk Lynn, Andrew Carlson, Sarah Rasmussen, Richard Isackes, Kathryn Dawson

University of Nebraska – Lincoln, NE

BA with High Distinction. Theatre Performance. 1999 - 2003

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Northern Illinois

Adjunct Professor Spring 2017

- Designing and teaching Theatre History, the second semester in a year-long course for theatre majors

University of Texas at Austin

Instructor of Record 2014 – 2015

- Designed and taught Fundamentals of Directing for theater majors Spring 2014
- Refined syllabus for Fundamentals of Directing, and taught majors Spring 2015
- Designed and taught Fundamentals of Acting for non-major freshman students (2 sections) Fall 2014

Guest Lecturer Fall 2013

- Created and delivered guest lecture on the director's role as part of Playwriting Fundamentals course

Teaching Assistant 2012 – 2013

- Provided support for undergraduate courses taught by Kirk Lynn (Devising Theater), Sarah Rasmussen (Directing II), and Rusty Cloyes (Technical Theater)

Teaching Artist Fall 2013

- Collaborated with Travis High School 9th grade Pre-AP English Language Arts teacher to create and deliver two arts-based lessons around their study of *A Christmas Carol*

University of Chicago Theatre and Performance Studies Department

Instructor of Record 2010 – 2011

- Both in collaboration with a co-instructor (2010) and alone (2011), designed and implemented a course designed to introduce students to the fundamental principles of arts in education

Teaching Artist, Sexton Elementary School Spring 2011

- As part of the Teaching Lab Collaborations program, designed and implemented 8-week residency in collaboration with UChicago undergrad teaching artist

Chicago Theatre (anti-) Conference

"Measure of Success: or the ways in which we've failed" July 2011

- Workshop on establishing organizational measures of success co-created and facilitated with Eleanor Hyde, New Leaf Theatre's Managing Director

Two Birds Casting

Workshop Instructor January 2011

- Designed and taught a workshop on creating a personal mission statement and audition techniques with apprentices from the Actors Theater of Louisville

National High School Institute “Cherubs” Program at Northwestern University

Faculty

2008

- Designed and taught courses in performance studies, music as text, devising from non-fiction text
- Director: *The Permanent Way* by David Hare with company of 16 actors

Lookingglass Theatre Company

Assistant Teaching Artist

2005

- Assisted teachers in classes and rehearsals for fall Teen Ensemble, and summer Zoo Camp (4-year old campers)

Very Special Arts Nebraska

Teaching Artist

2003 - 2005

- Designed and taught a variety of programs from one-off workshops to multi-week residencies in partnership with organizations like the Omaha Public Schools and Boys & Girls Clubs of America

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

Professional

<i>TENDER ROUGH ROUGH TENDER</i> by Sarah Saltwick	groundswell theatre	Summer 2015
<i>100 Heartbreaks</i> by Joanna Garner	self-produced	Winter 2015
<i>Salt and Pepper</i> by José Cruz Gonzalez	ZACH Theatre	Fall 2013 – bilingual PREMIERE
<i>Arcadia</i> by Tom Stoppard	New Leaf Theatre	Spring 2012
<i>Burying Miss America</i> by Brian Golden	New Leaf Theatre	Fall 2011 – PREMIERE
<i>Jazz Hands & Gypsy Heart</i> by Joe Janes	50 Plays/50 Days	Summer 2011 – <i>short play</i>
<i>Lighthousekeeping</i> by Georgette Kelly	New Leaf Theatre	Spring 2011 – PREMIERE
<i>And Little Bites of the Beast</i> by Bilal Dardai	Victory Gardens	Winter 2011 – <i>short play</i>
<i>Hideous Progeny</i> by Emily Dendinger	LiveWire Chicago	Summer 2010 – PREMIERE
<i>The Barber Shop</i> by Jenny Seidleman	WNEP Theatre	Winter 2010 – <i>short play</i>
<i>Redeemers</i> by Bilal Dardai	New Leaf Theatre	Winter 2010 – PREMIERE
<i>Orange Flower Water</i> by Craig Wright	BackStage Theatre Co.	Winter 2009
<i>The Man Who Way Thursday</i> by Bilal Dardai	New Leaf Theatre	Fall 2009 – PREMIERE
<i>The Mailman Knows Who Shovels</i> by Jon Steinhagen	LPCRI 10th Anniversary	Fall 2009 – <i>short play</i>
<i>The Final Night of the First Intention</i> by Bilal Dardai	Mary Arrchie Theatre	Summer 2009 – <i>short play</i>
<i>Heads</i> by EM Lewis	Halcyon Theater	Summer 2009
<i>Touch</i> by Toni Press-Coffman	New Leaf Theatre	Winter 2009
<i>Six Years</i> by Sharr White	New Leaf Theatre	Fall 2008 – Chicago Premiere
<i>Vow</i> by Dan Rubin	Mary Arrchie Theatre	Summer 2008 – <i>short play</i>
<i>Household God</i> by Elizabeth Cobbe	Caffeine Theatre	Summer 2008 – <i>short play</i>
<i>Identification</i> by Kerry Shawn Keys	Caffeine Theatre	Summer 2008 – <i>short play</i>
<i>The Dining Room</i> by A.R. Gurney	New Leaf Theatre	Fall 2007
<i>Vox Pandora</i> by Bilal Dardai	New Leaf Theatre	Spring 2007 – PREMIERE
<i>The Legend of Sleepy Hollow</i> – original adaptation	Rascal Children’s Theatre	Fall 2006 – PREMIERE
<i>Tree</i> by Suzan-Lori Parks	Bailiwick Theatre	Fall 2006 – <i>short play</i>
<i>The Pink Bedroom</i> by Tennessee Williams	Support Structure Chicago	Fall 2005 – <i>short play</i>

Academic

<i>As You Like It</i> by William Shakespeare / Gavin Witt	North Park University	Fall 2016
<i>381 Bleecker</i> by Gia Marotta	University of Texas at Austin	Spring 2016
<i>Enter A Woman, Pretty Enough</i> by Diana Lynn Small	University of Texas at Austin	Spring 2015
<i>Lyla School</i> by Brian Kettler	University of Texas at Austin	Fall 2014
<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> by Tennessee Williams	University of Texas at Austin	Fall 2014
<i>’ratio</i> by David Turkel and William Anderson	University of Texas at Austin	Spring 2014
<i>Dead Man’s Cell Phone</i> by Sarah Ruhl	University of Texas at Austin	Spring 2014
<i>70 Secrets of Marmalade Kittens</i> by Gabrielle Riesman	University of Texas at Austin	Spring 2013
<i>We Are StarStuff</i> – co-created with Sarah Saltwick	University of Texas at Austin	Spring 2013
<i>Hideous Progeny</i> by Emily Dendinger	North Park University	Fall 2011

NEW PLAY DEVELOPMENT (READINGS & WORKSHOPS)

<i>The Pleasure Trials</i> by Sarah Saltwick	Amphibian Theatre Company	Winter 2016
<i>Knotted</i> by Joanna Garner	Kitchen Dog New Works Festival	Spring 2016
<i>Knotted</i> by Joanna Garner	groundswell playwrights conference	Winter 2016
<i>381 Bleecker</i> by Gia Marotta	New Harmony Project (UT guest project)	Summer 2015
<i>Girls in Cars Underwater</i> by Tegan MacLeod	University of Texas at Austin	Spring 2015
<i>Enter a Woman, Pretty Enough</i> by Diana Small	TLC at Norm's Fish Camp	Summer 2014
<i>Enter a Woman, Pretty Enough</i> by Diana Small	University of Texas at Austin	Spring 2014
<i>'ratio</i> by David Turkel and Bill Anderson	University of Texas at Austin	Fall 2013
<i>No Home for Bees</i> by Emily Dendinger	University of Texas at Austin	Fall 2013
<i>She Gets Naked in the End</i> by Briandaniel Oglesby	University of Texas at Austin	Spring 2013
<i>Deb and Debra</i> by Jon Steinhagen	Chicago Dramatists	Fall 2011
<i>Champagne Gods</i> by Emily Dendinger	New Leaf Theatre – Treehouse Series	Fall 2011
<i>Dandelion Momma</i> by Greg Romero	New Leaf Theatre – Treehouse Series	Spring 2011
<i>Champagne Gods</i> by Emily Dendinger	Inchworm Play Reading Series	Winter 2011
<i>Burying Miss America</i> by Brian Golden	New Leaf Theatre – Treehouse Series	Winter 2011
<i>Lighthousekeeping</i> by Georgette Kelly	New Leaf Theatre – Treehouse Series	Winter 2010

STAGED READINGS

<i>The House on the Hill</i> by Amy E. Witting	NNPN Showcase of New Plays	Winter 2016
Stories of Survival – four storytellers	Second Story Chicago	Summer 2012
March Madness – four storytellers	Second Story Chicago	March 2011
<i>Red and Green</i> by Astrid Saalbach	Akvavit Theatre	Fall 2010
<i>The Winter's Tale</i> by William Shakespeare	New Leaf Theatre – Treehouse Series	Fall 2010
<i>Smashing</i> by Brooke Berman	Theatre Seven of Chicago	Spring 2010
<i>Arcadia</i> by Tom Stoppard	New Leaf Theatre – Treehouse Series	Summer 2010
<i>Pure as Water</i> by Arell Swoop	Goodman Theatre – Latino Theatre Fest	Summer 2008
<i>There Are No Revolutions Here</i> by Gweneth Lozano	Goodman Theatre – Latino Theatre Fest	Summer 2008
<i>The Hubble Constant</i> by David Alex	Around the Coyote	Spring 2008

ASSISTANT DIRECTING

<i>District Merchants</i> by Aaron Posner	New Harmony Project	Summer 2014 / Aaron Posner
<i>All the Roads Home</i> by Jen Silverman	O'Neill National Playwrights Conference	Summer 2013 / Adam Greenfield
<i>Bureau of Missing Persons</i> by Lila Rose Kaplan	Neighborhood Productions NYC	Summer 2013 / Sarah Rasmussen
<i>Mad, Beat, Hip, and Gone</i> by Steven Dietz	ZACH Theatre	Spring 2013 / Steven Dietz
<i>The Crowd You're In With</i> by Rebecca Gilman	Goodman Theatre	Fall 2009 / Wendy C. Goldberg

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (ADMINISTRATION & THEATRE EDUCATION)

National New Play Network, Washington, D.C.

Communications Consultant 2016 – present

- Responsible for content and strategy for the NNPN Twitter account
- Creating content and format for the bi-monthly New Play News e-newsletter

Kitchen Dog Theater, Dallas, TX

NNPN Producer in Residence 2015 – 2016

- Led the solicitation, submission, reading, and selection process for the 2016 New Works Festival, including first-ever submissions through the New Play Exchange: over 1,000 total plays submitted
- Evaluated KDT goals and creating action plan for community engagement
- Supported activities related to capital campaign, board governance review, and 25th Anniversary Season

groundswell theater, Austin, TX

Founding Artistic Producer 2015 – present

- Solicited funds, space, and support from local stakeholders to create groundswell playwrights conference
- Produced and directed company's inaugural production, *TENDER ROUGH ROUGH TENDER*

New Leaf Theatre, Chicago, IL

Artistic Director

2007 – 2012

- Directed productions consistent with New Leaf's collaborative aesthetic and high production value
- Led season selection process: coordinating readings, selecting directors, creating initial marketing copy
- Created and produced the Treehouse Reading series, including script submission & selection, hiring of directors, logistical coordination and execution
- Wrote narrative for and coordinated submission of funding proposal and grant reports

University of Chicago, Theatre & Performance Studies Department, Chicago, IL

Director of Outreach

2009 - 2012

- Developed and implemented outreach program for University Theater within the TAPS department
- Recruited, interviewed, trained, and supervised a cohort of 12 to 14 undergraduate student teaching artists
- Created and maintained mutually beneficial relationships with community partners including classroom teachers, program coordinators, principals, and administrators at a variety of community-based sites
- Served as a member of strategic committees charged with planning future arts-based outreach programming and collaboration in anticipation of the new facility, the Logan Arts Center

League of Chicago Theatres, Chicago, IL

Special Programs Coordinator

2010 – 2012

- Managed the Chicago Community Database, including educating the community, recruiting member organizations, and communicating with host TRG
- Collaborated on programs and initiatives including the August Wilson Monologue Competition, Chicago Theater anti-Conference, and a comprehensive survey of arts partners working in Chicago Public Schools in partnership with the Chicago Community Trust and three other major arts education providers

Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Chicago, IL

Learning Programs Manager

2007 – 2008

- Developed ongoing, service-oriented relationships with Chicago areas classroom teachers
- Designed and wrote materials for print, email communications, and website, including teacher handbooks, workshop materials, and information packets
- Organized and executed events, including teacher workshops and student matinees

Goodman Theatre, Chicago, IL

Education & Community Programs Coordinator

2006 – 2007

- Researched, designed, and wrote teacher & student study materials for the five-play Student Subscription Series, creating activities in accordance with Illinois State Education Standards
- Coordinated teacher training opportunities, including creation and tracking of applications, communication with applicants, preparing and executing production-specific Teacher Seminars for each play
- Coordinated the hiring of interns across departments, and supervised department intern in daily tasks
- Wrote and edited articles for the OnStage magazine; assisted development staff with proposal narrative
- Corresponded with members of the Arts in Education Committee of the Board of Trustees including coordination of quarterly meetings and distribution of minutes and materials

PANELS AND SERVICE

Script Coverage

KCACTF/NNPN MFA Playwrights Workshop 2017
NNPN 2016 Showcase of New Plays
New Harmony Project 2016 conference
2016 Festival of New Jewish Theater
NNPN 2015 Showcase of New Plays
Write Now 2015 at Indiana Rep
O'Neill National Playwrights Conference 2014 & 2015

KCACTF Region III

Guest Respondent: 2017 LMDA / KCACTF Student Dramaturgy Award

Winter 2017

Evaluating and responding to work submitted by student dramaturgs from across the region

Street Corner Arts Theatre Company

Moderator: *"Post-show discussion following performance of Orphans"* Summer 2016
Discussion w/Steven Dietz, Tyler Layton, Andrea Skola Summers on representation and responsibility in theatre

Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas Annual Conference

Panelist: *"Acting local, thinking national"* Summer 2016
Panel discussion on the necessity of dual-focus of theatre companies on both local and national issues

Association for Theatre in Higher Education National Conference

Panelist: *"Ephemeral Remains: Contemporary Chicago Companies and Their Theatrical Legacies"* Summer 2011
Panel discussion moderated by Jeff Janisheski, National Theater Institute

Goodman Theatre

Panelist: *"Taking the Stage: A Celebration of Woman Making Theater"* Spring 2009
Panel discussion moderated by Julieanne Ehre, TCG Fellow at Goodman Theatre

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Critical Response Methodology 2012
Workshop led by Liz Lerman in her Critical Response methodology for artistic work

Viewpoints and Composition 2008
Workshop in the techniques and uses of Viewpoints led by Jonathan Berry

Oxford School of Drama Summer Acting Intensive 1998
Four-week actor training in Oxford, England, including voice, movement, and text analysis with a focus on Shakespeare and other language-driven plays

SPECIAL EVENTS

World Theatre Day – Chicago IL 2010 - 2012
Worked with small team of international collaborators from the US, Canada, and Australia to heighten awareness of World Theatre Day, and coordinate the Chicago events for 2010, 2011, and 2012 in partnership with the League of Chicago Theatres

Theatre Communications Group (TCG) National Conference – Chicago, IL 2008
As a staff member at the League of Chicago Theatres, worked to coordinate the national convening in Chicago in 2010, including the co-producing of the Pop-Up Performances featured throughout the conference

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Stage Directors and Choreographers Society – Associate Member since 2010

Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas – Member since 2014
Recipient of Emerging Dramaturg Travel Grant – 2014

REFERENCES

Steven Dietz – Playwright, Director, and Professor of Playwriting and Directing at the University of Texas at Austin
sjdietz@utexas.edu | 206.890.5000

Nan Barnett – Executive Director, National New Play Network
nan@nnpn.org | 202.312.5270

Brant Pope – Chair of the University of Texas at Austin Department of Theatre and Dance
brant@austin.utexas.edu | 512.471.5793

Chad Eric Bergman – Professor and Chair, North Park University Theatre Department
cebergman@northpark.edu | 312.259.1635