

Lauren R. Beck

Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

- 2017 PhD in Interdisciplinary Theatre and Drama, Northwestern University (advisor: Tracy C. Davis)
- 2010 MA in Theatre Arts, San Diego State University
- 2001 BA in Theatre, University of California, San Diego

DISSERTATION

Ototheatre: Learning to Listen and Perform in Sonically Augmented Spaces

My dissertation explores new modes of audience experience that are made possible through portable audio devices such as iPods and smartphones. These devices allow artists to combine mobility, user agency, and portable technology to produce individual and intimate theatrical experiences. This genre, that I call “ototheatre,” is an emergent artistic form that sits at a convergence of contemporary technologies and social consumption habits. I have identified a collection of case studies, ranging from smartphone applications to new theatrical works incorporating novel uses of sound technology, that reveal the characteristics and antecedents of this form of theatre, and I explore the mechanisms by which these works create interactive theatrical experiences that extend modes of audience experience. My research connects the fields of sounds studies to theatre studies, and outlines ways that theatre can engage audiences in individual, embodied, and interactive ways through sound-based technologies.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

INTERIM COORDINATOR AND ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAVEN

- 2020- The Common Course: Academic Research and Project Management (Remote Synchronous Instruction)

LECTURER, UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAVEN

- 2018-2020 Seminar in Academic Inquiry and Writing (First-Year Composition)
- 2018-2020 The Common Course: Academic Research and Project Management (Team-Taught Interdisciplinary First-Year Seminar), **Assistant Director of the Common Course**

PRACTITIONER IN RESIDENCE, UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAVEN

- 2018 Seminar in Academic Inquiry and Writing, **Johnson Award Winner for Excellence in the Teaching of Writing**
- 2018 The Common Course: Life on Earth, **Team Leader**

ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAVEN

- 2017 Seminar in Academic Inquiry and Writing
- 2017 The Common Course: Life on Earth

PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 “First year students’ experience in a Cyber World course – an evaluation.” *Education and Information Technologies* 25, no. 4 (July 2020). (Co-authored with Breiting, Frank; Przyborski, Kristen; Tully-Doyle, Ryan, and Harichandran, Ronald S.).
- 2019 “Ototheatre: Summoning Theatricality.” *Performance Research* 24, no. 4 (2019): 80-87.
- 2015 “Since I Suppose (review).” *Theatre Journal* 67, no. 2 (2015): 338-40.
- 2010 “Thinking About Theatre Photography.” *Review: The Journal of Dramaturgy* 20 (2010): 14-24.
- 2009 “Review: Toward a Dramaturgical Sensibility: Landscape and Journey - a Conversation About Geoff Proehl’s New Book” (with D.J. Hopkins). *Review: The Journal of Dramaturgy* 19, no. 2 (2009): 7-9.
- 2009 “Dancing in the City: Spatial, Literal, and Thematic Interpretations of Urban Space in Jean Isaacs’s Trolley Dances.” Conference Proceedings, *Significations*, California State University, Los Angeles, 2009.

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 “If I Could Have your Time and Attention: Immersive Elements in Telephone Performance.” American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR).
- 2020 “Student-Written: Building Community through Performance and Performance Reviews.” Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE).

- 2019 “Dramaturging the Mystic Mathematical.” American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR).
- 2019 “‘Cyber World’ as a theme for a university-wide first-year common course.” American Society for Engineering Education Conference.
- 2018 “Embody a Scholar: Entering Academic Research Through Performance.” Bucknell Conference on Effective Teaching.
- 2017 “Online Performances of Monstrous and Extraordinary Infertile Bodies.” American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR).
- 2016 “Serial Performances and their Fans.” **Working Group Convener.** American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR).
- 2015 “Mapping with Sound.” Summer Institute Cologne.
- 2014 “Listening to London: Online and Onsite Explorations of the Sounds of the City.” ASTR.
- 2014 “Enacting and Experiencing Ototheatre.” Summer Institute Cologne.
- 2014 “Audio Drama in the Transmedia Age.” Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA).
- 2013 “A Narrative Jog: Augmented Spaces of Play in *Zombies, Run!* ” Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE).
- 2013 “Exercising the Imagination: The Theatre of *Zombies, Run!* ” Performance in/and the Street, York University.
- 2012 “Parallel Cities: Duncan Speakman’s Subtle mobs.” **Session Organizer.** ATHE.
- 2009 “Dancing the City: Spatial, Literal, and Thematic Interpretations of Urban Space in Jean Issacs’s *Trolley Dances*.” Significations, California State University, Los Angeles.
- 2009 “Bringing Back Dionysus: Creating Nietzschean Unity by Joining Performers and Spectators in Modern Retellings of Euripides’ Tragedies.” Student Research Symposium, San Diego State University. **Dean’s Award Winner**

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2018 The Johnson Family Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Writing, University of New Haven
- 2015-2016 Competitive Graduate Assistantship, Northwestern University
- 2013-2015 Summer Institute Cologne Grant, Northwestern University
- 2014 Ignition Grant, School of Communication, Northwestern University
- 2014 Graduate Research Grant, The Graduate School, Northwestern University
- 2010 KCACTF Meritorious Achievement Award, Dramaturgy
- 2010 Outstanding Graduating MA Student, San Diego State University
- 2009 Outstanding Dramaturgy, San Diego State University
- 2009 Dean’s Award, SDSU Student Research Symposium
- 2009 KCACTF Dramaturgy Award

- 2009 Outstanding New MA Student, San Diego State University
- 2009 Outstanding Dramaturgy, San Diego State University

SERVICE

- 2020- Member of the Electronic Technology Committee, Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)
- 2019-2020 Head of development committee for Emergent Studies (a program for self-designed majors), University of New Haven
- 2019-2020 Founding member of the Digital Humanities Lab, University of New Haven
- 2019-2020 Provost's appointee to the Provost's Committee on High Impact Practices, University of New Haven
- 2019-2020 President's Strategic Planning Committee: Faculty Efficiencies, University of New Haven
- 2019-2020 Faculty Committee for Student Accessibility Resources, University of New Haven
- 2016 Peabody Awards Screening Committee, Radio and Podcasts Category
- 2012-2016 Head of Electronic Initiatives, American Theatre and Drama Society
- 2012-2013 Department Representative, Graduate Student Association, Northwestern University
- 2014 Peer Reviewer, *Theatre Topics*
- 2008-2010 Associate Editor, Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas, *Review: Journal of Dramaturgy*

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2020 Publication Development Forum, University of California, San Diego and San Diego State University
- 2019 Digital Pedagogy Lab, University of Mary Washington
- 2018 Bucknall Conference for Effective Teaching Strategies, University of New Haven
- 2013-2015 Summer Institute Cologne, University of Cologne and Northwestern University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

INSTRUCTOR, NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

- 2015 Theatre in Context - Dramatic Places and Spaces (First-Year Composition)
- 2014 History of Western Theatre - Reenactment (Upper Division Theatre History and Theory)
- 2013 Development of Contemporary Theatre - Intimate Performance (Theatre Theory)

and Practice)

2012-2013 Theatre in Context - Metatheatrical Texts and Performance (Freshman Composition)

CO-INSTRUCTOR, SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

2008 Script Analysis

2009 Production Synthesis

TEACHING ASSISTANT, NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

2011 Theatre in Context - an introduction to theatre studies

GRADUATE ASSISTANT, SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

2009 History of Storytelling

2009 Theatre of Diversity

HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH TEACHER, SERRA HIGH SCHOOL, SAN DIEGO, CA

2007-2008 Co-Department Chair

2006-2007 Head Curriculum Writer for the Humanities

2004-2008 Taught all levels of English courses, including AP Language and Composition

TEACHING FIELDS

Academic Writing

Project-Based Learning

Interdisciplinary Humanities

Research Methodologies

Dramatic Literature and Text Analysis

Performance Theory and Analysis

Theatre Histories

Dramaturgy

Transmedial, Intermedial, and Multimedial Performance

Sound Studies

Fan Culture Studies

PERFORMANCE PRACTICE

2015-2016

- Consultant, Living Room Playmakers
- 2015-2016 Dramaturg, *Big Love*, by Charles Mee, Northwestern University
- 2014-2015 Dramaturg *In the Next Room (or the Vibrator Play)*, by Sarah Ruhl, Northwestern University
- 2009-2010 Resident Dramaturg and Literary Manager, San Diego Asian American Repertory Theatre
- 2010 Dramaturg and Literary Manager, *Inner Views: New Play Festival*, SDAART
- 2010 Dramaturg *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, directed by Peter Larlham, San Diego State University
- 2009 Dramaturg *Kim-Bap*, by Elise Prosser, SDAART
- 2009 Dramaturg *Dear Harvey*, by Patricia Loughrey, directed by Peter Cirino, San Diego State University
- 2008-2009 Dramaturg, *Hotel Cassiopeia*, by Charles Mee, directed by Peter Cirino, San Diego State University

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2015-2016 Research Assistant, Huey Copeland (Art History)
- 2015 Research Assistant, Tracy C. Davis (Theatre)
- 2011 Research Assistant, Scott Curtis (Radio, Television, and Film)

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

- 2018-20 Assistant Director, Common Course, University of New Haven
- 2016 Program Facilitator, Kaplan Center for Humanities - Humanities Plunge Program
- 2015 Co-Coordinator, Summer Institute in Cologne

MENTORING EXPERIENCE

- 2018-2021 Common Course Team Leader, University of New Haven
- 2018-2021 Head of Common Course Peer Leader Program, University of New Haven
- 2015-2016 Graduate Teaching Mentor, Searle Center for Advanced Learning and Teaching, Northwestern University
- 2012-2016 Assistant Chair, Ayers Residential College of Commerce and Industry, Northwestern University

AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- 2014- American Society for Theatre Research
- 2013- Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association

2012- American Theatre and Drama Society
2011- Association for Theatre in Higher Education
2009- Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas
2008- National Board of Professional Teaching Standards

REFERENCES

Tracy C. Davis (Dissertation Advisor)
Barber Professor of Performing Arts; Professor of English and Theatre
Northwestern University
70 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston, IL 60208
tcdavis@northwestern.edu
847-491-3138

Jacob Smith (Dissertation Committee Member)
Associate Professor of Radio, Television, and Film
Northwestern University
1920 Campus Drive, Evanston, IL 60208
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D. J. Hopkins (Dissertation Committee Member)
Professor, Director of the School of Theatre, Television, and Film
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Drive, San Diego, CA 92182
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Kristen Przyborski (Teaching Reference)
Director of Common Course
University of New Haven
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Mary Isbell (Teaching Reference)
Director of First Year Writing Program
University of New Haven
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