

Carla Neuss

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CURRENT APPOINTMENT

2023 **Assistant Professor of Theatre History, Literature & Theory**
Theatre Department
Baylor University

PRIOR APPOINTMENTS

2021-2023 **Postdoctoral Associate, Institute of Sacred Music, Yale University**
Affiliated Faculty, Dept. of Medieval Studies, Yale University
Affiliated Faculty, Theatre & Performance Studies, Yale University

EDUCATION

2021 **PhD in Theatre & Performance Studies, UCLA**
Dissertation title: "Staging Mysteries: Transnational Medievalist
Performance in the Twentieth Century"

2011 **MPhil in English Literature (650-1550), University of Oxford**

2008 **BA in English Literature - *magna cum laude*, U.C. Berkeley**

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Contemporary Drama & Dramatic Literature; Directing; Global Anglophone
Theatre; Medieval Drama; Performance Studies; Playwriting; South African
literature & performance; Science & Theatre; World Theatre

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- *Staging Mysteries: Transnational Medievalist Performance in the 20th Century and Beyond* – in progress

Peer Reviewed Articles

- "Black Skin, White Eyes: Spiritual Efficacy and Racial Animatedness in *Yimimangaliso: The Mysteries*", PMLA – *conditionally accepted*
- "Learning to Learn: Didactic Efficacy and Cognitive Dissonance in the Chester Cycle," *Exemplaria* 33.1 (2021): 44-65.
- "The Apocalypse Will Be Staged: Transformational Efficacy and Affective Atmosphere in Scriabin's *Mysterium*," *Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism* 35, No. 2 (Fall 2020): 133-151.

Book Chapters

- "Negotiating Key Terms" in *The Methuen Drama Handbook of Gender and Theatre*, ed. Roberta Mock and Sean Metzger, (London: Methuen & Co.) – forthcoming 2024

Book and Performance Reviews

- "The Wife of Willesden by Zadie Smith (review), *Theatre Journal* – in progress
- "Review: Matthew Sergi, *Practical Cues and Social Spectacle in the Chester Plays*", *Studies in the Age of Chaucer*, Vol 44 – in press
- "Performing Psychologies: Imagination, Creativity, and Dramas of the Mind. Edited by Nicola Shaughnessy and Philip Barnard (review)" *Theatre Journal* 71, No. 3, (Dec. 2019): 530-531.
- "Dry Land by Ruby Rae Spiegel (review)", *Theatre Journal* 70, No. 3, (Sept 2018): 399-401.
- "Review: David Scott Kastan's *A Will to Believe: Shakespeare and Religion*", *Performance, Religion, and Spirituality* 1, No. 2, (Spring 2018): 192-194.

Interviews and Notes on the Field

- "Going 'Live' Again: Reflections on Zoom, Co-Presence, & Liveness in a (Post) Pandemic World," *Theatre Survey* 62.3 (2021): 336-339
- "Interview with South African director, Mark Dornford-May", *Theatre Journal* 72, No. 4 (Dec. 2020): E-11 – E-18.

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Invited Speaker

2023 "Emergent Mysteries: Transnational Recurrences of the Mystery Cycle during Rupture", Through Glass Darkly Symposium: Medieval Apocalypticism, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs

Conferences Organized

2021 Contact: Performing Proximities, TAPS Graduate Student Conference, UCLA

2018 K Pop's Other Symposium, Center for Performance Studies, UCLA

Panel Organizer/Working Group Convenor

- "Repetitions of the Medieval in Contemporary Performance"(ASTR, 2020-21)
- "Cognitive and Affective Intersections in the Arousal of Performance" (ASTR 2018)

Panel Presenter

- "Transformation and Efficacy" (ATHE 2023)
- "Yiimimangaliso & Kanye: Black Contemporary Performance of Medieval

- Drama" (NEMLA 2022)
- "Yimmimangaliso: Restaging the Mystery Cycle in Post-Apartheid South Africa" (MLA 2022)
 - "Come Look At The Baby: Co-presence and Affective Atmosphere in Live Performance" (MLA 2021)
 - "An Event That Creates Faith: Destabilizing Secularity through South African Medievalist Performance" (Working Session Presenter - ASTR 2019)
 - "Staging the Miraculous: Cognitive Dissonance and the Didactic Impetus in the Chester Mystery Cycle" (International Congress for Medieval Studies 2019)
 - "The Revolution Will Have Music: Music, Theatre, and the Sacred" (ATHE 2018)
 - "Medieval Dissonance: Didacticism & Cognitive Dissonance in the Medieval Mystery Cycle Tradition" (Cognitive Futures in the Arts and Humanities 2018)
 - "A South African Mystery Cycle: Affective Didacticism & Cognitive Dissonance in *Yimmimangaliso*" (ASTR 2017)

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

- Theatre History 1 (Fall 2023, Baylor University)
- Theatre 98T: Representing Apartheid – Cultural Production in South Africa (Spring 2018, UCLA - online)
- Theatre 9: Introduction to Dramatic Literature (Spring 2016, Riverside City College)
- Theatre 2: Introduction to Playwriting (Fall 2015, Riverside City College)
- Theatre 3: Introduction to Theatre (Fall 2015/Spring 2016, Riverside City College)

Teaching Assistant (UCLA)

- Theatre 11: Representations of Science in Theatre (Spring 2018)
- Theatre 10: Introduction to Theater (Summer 2017, 2019, 2020 - Online)
- Theatre 13: Play Reading and Analysis (Fall 2017)
- Theatre 101A: Making Tradition (Fall 2016)
- Theatre 101B: Reconstructing Historical Pasts 1500-1850 (Winter 2017/Spring 2020)
- Theatre 101C: Deconstructing Theater (Spring 2017)
- Theatre 107: Drama of Diversity (Summer 2019 - Online)
- Theatre 113: History of Russian Theatrical Practice (Winter 2019)

GRADUATE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record (Yale University)

- Religion 772/Medieval Studies 772: Medieval Christian Drama – Doctrine, Devotion, and Drama (Fall 2021)
- Religion 932/Theatre and Performance Studies (course number to be assigned): Staging Faith - Representations of Christianity in Contemporary Theatre & Film (Spring 2022)
- Religion 743/English 540/Medieval Studies 752: Staging Mysteries - the Legacy of Medieval Biblical Drama, Past and Present

Teaching Associate (UCLA)

- Theatre 210: World Drama and Theatre - Phenomenology (Spring 2019)
- Theatre 216A: The Body and Performance (Fall 2018)
- Theatre 216C: Transnational Media & Performance (Fall 2019)

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

- Dissertation Year Fellowship, UCLA (2020-2021)
- Reach for the Stars Award, UCLA (2020)
- Collegium of University Teaching Fellows, UCLA (2019)
- Helen Krich Chinoy Dissertation Fellowship, ASTR (2019)
- Georgia Frontiere Scholarship, UCLA (2019)
- Graduate Research Mentorship, UCLA (2018)
- Tim Robbins Award in Playwriting, UCLA (2018)
- Graduate Dean's Scholar Award, UCLA (2016)

SERVICE

- Online Editor, *Theatre Journal* (2021-present)
- Editorial Board, *Comitatus* 52, 2021
- Assistant Editor, *Theatre Journal*, (August 2019 – August 2020)
- Doctoral Participant, Future Storytelling Institute, UCLA (September 2019)
- Steering Committee Member, Myrifiend Institute for Cognition and the Arts (2019 - 2022)

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

2014-2016 Arts Consultant, Roxburgh Agency, Newport Beach, CA
 2014-2015 Festival Director, Laguna Beach Music Festival, Laguna Beach, CA
 2014 Dramaturg, The Chance Theatre, Anaheim, CA
 2009 Teaching Artist, Dramatic Adventure Theatre, New York/Ecuador
 2008-2009 Stage Management Intern, South Coast Repertory, Costa Mesa, CA

ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

- Graduate Certificate in Writing Pedagogy, UCLA (2021)
- Certificate in Management, Henley Business School, University of Reading, UK (2013)

- Certificate in General Management, Graduate School of Business, Stanford University (2008)

LANGUAGES

French Reading and writing: intermediate
(UCLA Festival D'Avignon Program, 2019)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

ATHE, ASTR, International Congress on Medieval Studies, MLA