

ASHLEY MALAFRONTÉ

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Education

M.A., The University of Texas at Austin, 2021: Performance as Public Practice

Graduate Certificate: Arts and Cultural Management and Entrepreneurship

Pedagogy Certificate: Inclusive Classrooms Leadership

Thesis: "How Theatre Adapts: Integrating Art, Commerce, and the Adaptation Industry"

B.A., Muhlenberg College, 2017: Theatre (Concentrations: Directing, Performance Studies) and English

Honors Thesis: "The Deirdre Complex: Past as Present on the Irish Stage," awarded Highest Honors

Teaching and Tutoring Experience

Instructor, Department Head, Waterwell Drama Program at Professional Performing Arts School

Head of Theater Studies Department (2022-Present)

Courses: Introduction to Theater (2021-2022, 2022-2023)

Theater History I (2021-2022, 2022-2023)

Theater History II (2021-2022, 2022-2023)

Teaching Assistant, The University of Texas at Austin

Courses: Performance as Public Practice (Fall 2019, Fall 2020)

Introduction to Theatre (Fall 2019, Summer 2020, Fall 2020)

Dance, Culture, and Identity (Spring 2021)

Power of Story (Spring 2020)

Classroom Assistant: The Business of Producing (Spring 2020)

Guest Lectures: Accessibility and the Arts, New Work Development, Analytical Writing

Lead Writing Tutor, Muhlenberg College Writing Center

Courses as embedded tutor:

Italian Theater in Translation (Fall 2016)

Why We Work (Fall 2014)

What is Normal? (Fall 2015)

Tutor in Drop-in Writing Center (2014-2017)

Staff Pedagogical Workshops: "Tutoring as Performance: An Embodied Approach"; "Queering the Writing Center"; "Considering the Agenda: Power Dynamics in Peer Tutoring"

Co-Curricular and Community Teaching

Education Coordinator, Shakespeare on the Sound (2015-2016)

- Led educational programming including in-school residencies and "First Folio Kids Corner," an educational programming hub focused on Shakespeare's works
- Wrote sets of mainstage study guides scaled by reading comprehension level
- Supervised 17 apprentices through masterclasses, production assignments, and mentorship pairings
- Produced "Budding Bards" festival of new play readings and "Shakespeare for Kids" school tour

Teaching Artist, Program Coordinator, Muhlenberg College Office of Community Engagement

- Founded and developed curriculum for programs in partnership with local public and elementary and high schools.

Programs: Northampton Theatre Workshops (2016-2017)

Devised Theatre at Dieruff High School (2015-2017)

Theatre Arts at Jefferson Elementary (2014-2017)

- Managed recruitment, scheduling, paperwork, and weekly transportation of more than 30 volunteers.

Theatre & Creative Writing Specialist, Audubon Arts at Neighborhood Music School (2013-2014)

- Designed curriculum and conducted daily intensives at youth summer program
- Directed groups of 15-20 participants in collectively created new musical theatre productions.

Research Positions

Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Theatre and Dance, UT Austin, October 2020 to May 2021

- Research and course development assistant to Dr. Paul Bonin-Rodriguez and Dr. Charlotte Canning on course development funded by Experiential Learning Initiative grant.
- Created syllabus, assignments, and curriculum structures for new upper level undergraduate course, Performance as a Professional Practice

Graduate Assistant, Assessment Office, School of Undergraduate Studies, UT Austin, June 2020 to January 2021

- Conducted all stages of assessment and research projects from initial conception through presentation
- Designed and implement school-wide professional development programing
- Prepared reports and presentations for stakeholders including university administration, corporate partners, and Texas state legislature

Publications

"Adaptation & Canonicity in US Theatre"

Curating series of essays, interviews, and live-streamed events for HowlRound Theatre Commons

Note: Series in process, publication anticipated Summer 2023

HowlRound Theatre Commons: Essays and Conversations From the First Ten Years 2011-2020

Proofreader for anthology published in 2022

"Internships Are Dead. Long Live Internships."

Essay co-authored with Michael DeWhatley, published on HowlRound Theatre Commons, 2021

url: <https://howlround.com/internships-are-dead-long-live-internships>

Conference Presentations

"Customizing Your Office's Professional Development: From Needs Assessment to Curriculum Planning"

Session at NASPA, Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education Conference, 2021

"A Materialist Perspective on Disney Theatrical Productions' Broadway Adaptations"

Paper accepted to Adaptation Studies Association Conference, 2020

"The Deidre Complex: Past as Present on the Irish Stage"

Paper accepted to Mid-America Theatre Conference, 2020

"Two Celtic Revivalisms: Yeats and Synge on Deirdre"

Paper presented at Sigma Tau Delta International Convention, 2017

"The Deirdre Complex: Past as Present in the Celtic Revival," 2017

Thesis presented at Muhlenberg College Senior Honors Thesis Presentations

"Adapting Deirdre"

Poster presented at Muhlenberg College Summer Research Symposium

The Library by Nora M. Whittaker

Production directed as keynote presentation of Youth & Prejudice: Reducing Hatred Conference,

Institute of Jewish-Christian Understanding, 2016

"2 B R O 2 B Adapted: A Verbal-Physical Dialectic"

Paper presented at Sigma Tau Delta International Convention, 2016

"The Agenda: A Facade of Balanced Power Dynamics"

Poster presented at International Writing Center Association Conference, 2015

Honors, Awards, and Grants

- J. Pat O'Keefe Memorial Scholarship, 2020
- Morton Brown, Nellie Lea Brown, and Minelma Brown Lockhood Scholarship in Drama, 2019
- Dean of Students Summer Research Grant, Muhlenberg College, 2016
- Mid-Atlantic Writing Center Association Scholarship, 2015
- Honorable Mention for Espi Guinto Award for Best First-Year Writing, Muhlenberg College, 2014
- Presidential Scholar, Muhlenberg College, 2013-2017
- Theater Talent Scholarship, Muhlenberg College, 2013-2017

Additional Work Experience

Content Editor, HowlRound Theatre Commons, Emerson College Office of the Arts, August 2021 to Present

- Evaluate all pitches for journal essays, interviews, podcast series, and TV events for inclusion on commons-based global theatre platform.
- Usher contributors through the editorial process to ensure clarity of purpose and adherence to style guide.
- Edit communications copy including newsletters, email blasts, press releases, and social media posts.

Exhibits and Administrative Liaison Intern, Texas Folklife, June 2020 to September 2020

- Developed virtual exhibit strategies through research and management of digital media assets
- Assisted strategy and administration of several exhibits and artist grants

Artistic Associate, The Dare Tactic, September 2018 to December 2019

- Coordinated all company calendars, including rehearsal and production schedules
- Supported execution of a full season of mainstage productions, workshops, and special events
- Evaluated script submissions and managed season selection process
- Served as communications liaison between artists and staff

Front Desk Attendant, The Artist Co-Op, May 2018 to September 2018

- Acted as point of contact for all members and visitors to lively arts-based co-working space
- Processed membership and rehearsal requests

Community Engagement Manager, Muhlenberg Theatre Association, May 2015 to May 2017

- Orchestrated all community engagement activities for a club of 500+ students, including two performance festivals, three theatre education programs, and a county-wide series of workshops
- Acted as official liaison between Muhlenberg Theatre Association and Muhlenberg Office of Community Engagement
- Launched inclusivity and equity initiatives, including a popular series of roundtable discussions

Arts Administration Intern, Civic Theatre of Allentown, January 2015 to May 2015

- Wrote and proofed content including press releases, playbills, newsletters, and member correspondence
- Established database and maintained connections between Civic Theatre and 200 area schools

Artistic Work

denotes devised/ensemble **denotes upcoming *production interrupted by Covid-19 pandemic*

Directing

Cent'anni	by Ashley Malafronte	The Cohen New Works Festival
[app]arition	by Daniel Pérez	The Navigators
The Last Blueberry On Earth	by Gage Tarlton	WOW Cafe Theater, The Dare Tactic
And the Trees Fall Down	by Viviana Prado-Núñez	The Center at West Park
Internet Love Story	by Michael Andrews	Blue Pearl Theatrics
A Midsummer Night's Dream	by William Shakespeare	Shipwreck Theatre Company
Codified <i>(reading)</i>	by Blake Chernin	Future is Female Festival
Shoelaces <i>(reading)</i>	by Maggie Esposito	Muhlenberg College
The Solitary Voice*	Various Authors	Pier House, Inis Mór, Ireland
What You Will*	Inspired by William Shakespeare	Bag & Baggage Shakespeare Project
The Library	by Nora M. Whittaker	Inst. Jewish-Christian Understanding
Vaudeville Population Two	by Will Eno	Muhlenberg College
Sour Eggs <i>(reading)</i>	by Kyra Baldwin	Shakespeare on the Sound
Deirdre <i>(reading)</i>	by Ashley Malafronte	Muhlenberg College
This Property is Condemned	by Tennessee Williams	Muhlenberg College
Talk to Me Like the Rain...	by Tennessee Williams	Muhlenberg College
Devil's Backbone*	Inspired by William Shakespeare	Bag & Baggage Shakespeare Project
2 B R 0 2 B	Adapted from Kurt Vonnegut	Muhlenberg College
What think you of love?*	Inspired by William Shakespeare	Bag & Baggage Shakespeare Project
Myself O'erthrown*	Inspired by William Shakespeare	Bag & Baggage Shakespeare Project

Assistant Directing & Observerships

Private Lives	by Noël Coward	dir. KJ Sanchez	Arizona Theatre Company
High Crimes*/***	by Kirk Lynn	dir. Shawn Sides	Rude Mechs
Mac Beth (<i>SDCF Observer</i>)	by William Shakespeare	dir. Erica Schmidt	Red Bull Theater
10 th Annual Awards Ceremony	by Stephen Tenney	dir. Lucia Bellini	Planet Connections
Exchange*	Ensemble & found text	dir. Ian Alderman	A Broken Umbrella Theater
The Cherry Orchard	by Anton Chekhov	dir. Matt Moore	Muhlenberg College
Ulysses in Nighttown	by Marjorie Barkentin	dir. Jim Peck	Muhlenberg College

Playwriting

Cent'anni

April 2021 Production, The Cohen New Works Festival, University of Texas at Austin

How I Wonder

co-written with Kate O'Donoghue

September 2017 Production, Muhlenberg College Mainstage, dir. Drew Maidment

April 2017 Staged Reading, Muhlenberg College New Play Reading Series, dir. Sarah Bedwell

Deirdre

October 2016 Staged Reading, Muhlenberg College, dir. Ashley Malafronte

Summer 2016 Recipient of 2016 Student Summer Research Grant, Muhlenberg College

A Revolution

October 2015 Workshop, Muhlenberg College Arts Marathon, dir. Genevieve Wall

June 2015 Staged Reading, Shakespeare on the Sound, dir. Thomas Shuman

2 B R O 2 B

adapted from a short story by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.

November 2015 Production, Muhlenberg College Red Door Play Festival, dir. Ashley Malafronte

Production Dramaturgy

Henry VI, Part I** by William Shakespeare dir. Amara Aja Waterwell/PPAS

Roe by Lisa Loomer dir. Heather Lanza Waterwell/PPAS

A Fistful of Trespassing by Minghao Tu dir. Anna Skidis Vargas University of Texas at Austin

Festival Dramaturgy

Executive Committee, Dramaturgy Co-Chair, The Cohen New Works Festival, UT Austin, April 2020 to May 2021

- Programmed, produced, and moderated panel series comprised of nationally recognized guest artists
- Supervised all production dramaturgy and dramaturgy deliverables for 33 festival projects
- Utilized Zoom, Vimeo, and OBS Ninja to provide technical support for panels and talkbacks
- Served on subcommittee for budgeting and pay equity

Artistic Intern, Planet Connections Theatre Festivity, June 2018 to September 2018

- Co-facilitated weekly writers group to support development of new works by festival playwrights
- Created copy to promote 50 productions in socially conscious, sustainable theater festival
- Supported productions with front of house and community partner communications
- Adjudicated all productions and readings for festival's awards ceremony

Additional Production & Event Experience

Showcase Co-Director, *The Dare Tactic Kick-Off Gala*, The Dare Tactic, 2018

Sage Manager, *HalloQueen*, The Dare Tactic, 2018

Directing Consultant, *Abdelazar*, Columbia University Performing Arts League, 2018

Producer, *Muhlenberg Political Arts Festival*, Muhlenberg Theatre Association, 2017

Producer, *Budding Bards Festival of New Work*, Shakespeare on the Sound, 2016-2017

Supervisor, *Muhlenberg Arts Marathon*, 2016

Production Stage Manager, *Beauty and the Beast Jr.*, Guilford Youth & Family Services Family Theatre, 2013

Performer (Gentlewoman, Child of Macduff), *Macbeth*, Elm Shakespeare Company, 2012

Student Choreographer, *Aladdin Jr.*, Guilford Youth & Family Services Family Theatre, 2012

Technical Intern, *Measure for Measure*, Elm Shakespeare Company, 2011
Student Choreographer, *Pirates of Penance Jr.*, Guilford Youth & Family Services Family Theatre, 2011
Student Choreographer, *Dear Edwina*, Guilford Youth & Family Services Family Theatre, 2010

Season Selections and Script Reviewing

Selections Committee Member, Texas Theatre and Dance Subscription Season, University of Texas at Austin, 2020
Script Reviewer, NAPSeries New Play Festival, Normal Ave Productions, 2018
Script Reviewer, FactorEEE Workshop Series, The Dare Tactic, 2018
Selections Committee Chair, Muhlenberg Political Art Festival, 2017
Selections Committee Member, Muhlenberg Arts Marathon, 2016

Panels and Academic Service

Admissions Adjudicator, middle and high school applicants to Professional Performing Arts School, 2022
Panelist, NYC Theatre Greening Grant Review Committee, Broadway Green Alliance, 2022
Moderator, "What's New?" Panel, Cohen New Works Festival, University of Texas at Austin, 2021
Moderator, Conversation with Helen Shaw, "Critical Engagements: Performance Criticism and the Post-Covid World," Performance as Public Practice Fridays@2 Colloquium, University of Texas at Austin, 2020
Awards Adjudicator, Planet Awards Ceremony, Planet Connections Theatre Festivity, 2018
Social Chair, Muhlenberg College Writing Center, 2016-2017
Workshop and Discussion Facilitator, Youth & Prejudice: Reducing Hatred Conference, Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding, 2014, 2016

Professional Affiliations

Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, Associate Member
Mid-America Theatre Conference