

JESS K SMITH

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EDUCATION

MFA in Directing, Columbia University	2008 - 2011
<i>Theatre Departmental Fellow (2008 – 11)</i>	
BA in Theatre Arts (Honors), University of Puget Sound	2001 - 2005
<i>Theatre Research Scholar (2004 - 05)</i>	
<i>Acting Pedagogy Fellowship (2002 – 03)</i>	
BA in Psychology, University of Puget Sound	2001 - 2005
SITI Company Summer Intensive, Skidmore University (Graduate Credit)	Summer, 2007

THEATRE CREDITS

DIRECTING: PROFESSIONAL GENERATIVE

<i>What Gets Passed Between</i>	Director/Collaborator	Instagram	2020
A story about mothers and daughters and what gets passed between them, told through image and text, over time on an Instagram account (@whatgetspassedbetween)			
<i>The Archive</i>	Director/Collaborator	Fort Worden, Port Townsend	2019
Interactive installation of women's stories. Produced by ARTBARN and presented as part of Seattle Theatre Group's THING Festival.			
<i>The Archivists**</i>	Director/Collaborator	Warner Gym, Tacoma	2017
Original site-specific performance piece written by Melissa D. Brown and contributing writers about women – how we come together in crisis and perhaps how before that crisis we have the luxury or arrogance to be apart. Produced by ARTBARN through a developmental workshop hosted at the University of Puget Sound.			
<i>How We Pray**</i>	Director	Black and Tan Hall, Seattle	2017
Original ensemble-generated performance based on interview transcripts from people around the country of varying relationships to prayer and faith.			
<i>We Remain Prepared</i>	Co-Director/Producer	Georgetown Steam Plant, WA	2016
Original site-specific performance piece written by Melissa D. Brown inspired by the history of the Georgetown Steam Plant and the ways we make meaning. Produced by ARTBARN and the Satori Group			
<i>The Circle</i>	Director/Collaborator	Byrdcliffe Arts Colony, NY	2015
Original site-specific performance piece with live music and food written by Melissa D. Brown and Raven Burnett inspired by Shakespeare's <i>The Tempest</i> and William Butler Yeats' <i>The Second Coming</i> . Produced by ARTBARN			
<i>This is a Ghost House</i>	Director/Collaborator	Byrdcliffe Arts Colony, NY	2014
Original site-specific performance piece written by Melissa D. Brown inspired by the notorious hoarders of Harlem, the Collyer brothers, the psychology of labyrinths, and the lengths we go to hide from ourselves. Produced by ARTBARN			
<i>King of Joy</i>	Director/Collaborator	Inscape Arts, Seattle	2014
Original immersive performance piece created in collaboration with the Satori group in response to Richard Chiem's book <i>King of Joy</i> . Performed as part of APRIL's All Made Up Fiction Showcase			
<i>Home Stretch</i>	Director/Collaborator	Byrdcliffe Arts Colony, NY	2013
Original site-specific installation performance piece written by Melissa D. Brown inspired by Robert Frost's poem, <i>In the Home Stretch</i> . Produced by ARTBARN			

DIRECTING: PROFESSIONAL GENERATIVE (CONT'D)

<i>Terra Incognita</i>	Co-Director/Collaborator	Center for Perf. Research, NY	2013
Ensemble devised piece incorporating dance, language, and video projection inspired by Rebecca Solnit's A Field Guide to Getting Lost. Presented in the New Voices in Live Performance Series			
<i>Pandora's Box Project</i>	Director/Creator	Columbia University, NY	2012
		Cornish College, Seattle	2012
		New York University, NY	2011
Theatrical piece developed from the writing of over 40 writers in response to reproductive justice in America. Selected for the 2015 Women Playwrights International Conference			
<i>Akkord I</i>	Director/Collaborator	Miller Theatre, NY	2012
Collaboration with composer, piano, flute, electronics, and sculpture			
<i>Nomadic Dream Project</i>	Collaborator/Performer	Prague Quadrennial, Czech Rep.	2011
Site-specific piece based on levels of wakefulness			
<i>deCOMPOSITION</i>	Director/Creator/Writer	Erickson Theatre, Seattle	2010
		Columbia University, NY	2010
Theatre piece using science, folk music, and realism			
<i>Listen to Low</i>	Co-Creator	Columbia University, NY	2010
Sound installation and Flash Mob event (Featured in the City Room Blog, New York Times)			
<i>EDIT</i>	Director/Choreographer	Columbia University, NY	2009
Dance-theatre piece based on the life and work of Franz Kafka			
<i>The Lady Liberty Blues</i>	Director	Live Girls Theater, Seattle	2008
Theatre piece using interrogation transcripts and shadow puppetry			
<i>Amplified</i>	Creator/Performer	On the Boards, Seattle	2008
Dance-theatre piece for two performers			

DIRECTING: PROFESSIONAL FREELANCE (REPRESENTATIVE)

<i>House Fire Project**</i>	Kaytlin McIntyre	Strawberry Theatre Workshop	2022
<i>House Fire Project*</i>	Kaytlin McIntyre	Vashon Repertory Theatre	2021
<i>Yankee Pickney (Covid Cancellation)</i>	Jéhan Ósanyín	Earthseed Seattle	2020
<i>Lungs</i>	Duncan Macmillan	The Alaska Experience, Anchorage	2018
<i>This Restless House*</i>	Zinnie Harris	Seattle Repertory Theatre	2017
<i>Dinner With Friends*</i>	Donald Margulies	Theatre Puget Sound, Seattle	2017
<i>Rhinoceros</i>	Eugene Ionesco	Strawberry Theatre Workshop	2016
<i>Cowboys #2</i>	Sam Shepard	Profile Theatre, Portland	2014
<i>Shakespeare in the Alley</i>	Sam Shepard	Profile Theatre, Portland	2014
<i>Umbrella Houses</i>	Emerie Snyder & Nick Lewis	Dixon Place, NY	2012
<i>Harlowe</i>	Jennifer Lane	3LD, NY	2011
<i>Machinal</i>	Sophie Treadwell	The Riverside Theatre, NY	2011
<i>The Hardly Wonder</i>	Jason Gray Platt	Playwrights Horizons, NY (Samuel French OOB)	2009
<i>The Spectacular Demise of Platonov</i>	Inspired by Chekhov Adapted by Jess K Smith & Melissa D Brown	Columbia University, NY	2009
<i>After</i>	Elena Hartwell	Tacoma Actors Guild, Tacoma	2008
<i>800 Words: The Transmigration of Philip K. Dick</i>	Victoria Stewart	Live Girls! Theater, Seattle	2007

DIRECTING: ACADEMIC

<i>Indecent</i>	<i>Paula Vogel</i>	<i>University of Puget Sound</i>	2022
<i>Machinal</i>	Sophie Treadwell	University of Puget Sound	2021
<i>Antigone</i>	Sophocles (Trans. Braun)	University of Puget Sound	2018
<i>You On The Moors Now</i>	Jaclyn Backhaus	University of Puget Sound	2018
<i>Rent</i>	Jonathan Larson	University of Puget Sound	2016
<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i>	Tennessee Williams	University of Puget Sound	2015
<i>Iphigenia 2.0</i>	Charles Mee	University of Puget Sound	2014
<i>War of the Worlds</i>	Orson Welles	Middlesex County College	2013
<i>The Riverboat Runs Aground</i>	Wesley K. Andrews	Middlesex County College	2013
<i>When the Rain Stops Falling</i>	Andrew Bovell	Middlesex County College	2012
<i>The Visit</i>	Friedrich Durrenmatt	Middlesex County College	2012

TEACHING

UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (Tenured), Department of Theatre Arts 2019 – Present

Develop and teach *Directing* (THTR 313), *The Actor and the Classical Repertoire* (THTR 310), *The Actor and the Craft of Characterization* (THTR 300), *The Theatrical Experience* (THTR 200), *Playwriting* (THTR 325), and *Projects in Dramaturgy: The Dramaturgy of Space, Sites, and the Audience Experience* (THTR 323)

Direct main stage productions

Mentor students in and outside of the classroom in their academic and professional pursuits

Assist in course and department assessment

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR (Tenure Line), Department of Theatre Arts 2013 – 2019

See above

Recipient of the 2016 Davis Teaching Award for Excellence in Teaching

Recipient of the 2019 Kris Bartenan Award for Excellence in Research

GUEST LECTURER 2005 - 2008

Dramaturgy and The Laramie Project; Collaboration and the Role of the Leader; Next Steps; Viewpoints

MIDDLESEX COUNTY COLLEGE

INSTRUCTOR (Tenure Line), Visual, Performing and Media Arts 2012 - 2013

Develop and teach nine college courses in Theatre

Mentor students in and outside of the classroom in their academic and professional pursuits

Assist in course and program assessment for the Communications and Theatre programs

Develop new collaborative and inter-disciplinary curriculum and events with peer faculty

VISTING INSTRUCTOR, Visual, Performing and Media Arts 2011 - 2012

Develop and teach new curriculum for nine college courses in Theatre and Communications

Mentor students in and outside of the classroom in their academic and professional pursuits

Assist in course and program assessment for the Communications and Theatre programs

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

GUEST LECTURER 2009 - 2011

Machinal and American Expressionism; The Structure and Form of Greek Tragedies; New Play Development; Chekhov and Interpretation; Theatre and The Body

INSTRUCTOR, Theatrical Collaboration, *Columbia Summer High School Program* 2009 – 2011

Lead workshops in directing, playwriting, and acting

Mentor the collaborative process of developing a new play

Provide constructive criticism and lead feedback sessions with students and instructors

TEACHING ARTIST: INTIMAN THEATRE

- GUEST ARTIST, *Microsoft* 2015 – Present
Teach workshops for a range of Microsoft constituents based on the principles of storytelling
- GUEST ARTIST, *2017 Edelman Leadership Academy* 8/2017
Demo a storytelling workshop for Edelman’s International leadership conference
- LEAD FACILITATOR, *Kaiser Permanente* 4/2017
Design and teach curriculum based on Kaiser Permanente’s internal-facing guiding principles
Train and collaborate with Guest Artists
- GUEST ARTIST, *REI* 8/2016
Teach workshops for a range of REI constituents based on the principles of storytelling

TEACHING ARTIST: LINCOLN CENTER THEATRE

- As You Like It*, Middle School Shakespeare Residencies 4/2013
Design and teach curriculum around Lincoln Center Theatre’s production of *As You Like It*
Collaborate with classroom teachers
Lead exercises in script analysis, tactics, and objectives
- ANN*, High School Residencies 3/2013
Design and teach curriculum around Lincoln Center Theatre’s production of *ANN*
Collaborate with classroom teachers
Lead exercises in script analysis, political engagement, and social issues
- Golden Boy*, High School Residencies 8/2012
Design and teach curriculum around Lincoln Center Theatre’s production of *Golden Boy*
Collaborate with classroom teachers
Lead exercises in activating text and contextual research
- War Horse*, High School Residencies 4/2012
Design and teach curriculum around Lincoln Center Theatre’s production of *War Horse*
Collaborate with classroom teachers
Lead exercises in puppetry, design, and contextual research
- Julius Caesar*, Middle School Shakespeare Residencies 1/2012
Design and teach curriculum around Lincoln Center Theatre’s production of *Julius Caesar*
Collaborate with classroom teachers
Lead exercises in script analysis and activating text
Direct and film an original adaptation of *Julius Caesar*

TEACHING ARTIST: SEATTLE REPERTORY THEATRE

- LEAD TEACHER, Design and Production, *The Center School* 2006 - 2008
Design and teach a semester-long design curriculum
Lead students through units on Set design, Costume design, Sound design and Publicity
Supervise students through the design and build of a professional production at SRT
- LEAD TEACHER, Playwriting Project, *Woodinville H.S. and Roosevelt H.S.* 2006 - 2008
Design and teach a two-month Playwriting residency
Mentor five student playwrights through the process of writing a One Act play
Lead student actors through feedback workshops with a peer playwright
Direct a student-written one act play with student actors
- CO-TEACHER, Arts Pathway, *Denny Middle School* 3/2007 - 5/2007
Design an after school Drama Program curriculum for seventh grade students
Lead students in the process of writing and producing an original play
Tour an original production to local Elementary Schools
- CO-TEACHER, Rehearsal and Performance, *The Center School* 2/2006 - 5/2006
Design a semester-long acting curriculum
Lead exercises and lessons based on acting techniques, movement, and character analysis
Assistant direct a full-length original play with a cast of thirty students

TEACHING ARTIST: FREELANCE

INSTRUCTOR, Foundations in Theatrical Intimacy, <i>The Vashon Dove Project (Zoom)</i>	10/2021
Design and teach a workshop for theatre practitioners on building a culture of consent	
WORKSHOP LEADER, Viewpoints for Directors, UAA	8/2018
Design and teach a workshop for UAA undergraduate directors	
Lead exercises in script analysis, composition, and expressionistic staging	
WORKSHOP LEADER, Strategies for Collaborative Playwriting, <i>Fringe Con</i>	11/2016
Design and teach a professional development workshop for adults	
Lead exercises in generative and collaborative structures of playwriting	
WORKSHOP LEADER, Techniques for Ensemble-Generated Theatre, Seattle	2008
Design and teach a one-day professional development workshop for adults	
Lead exercises in Vocal and Physical storytelling, improvisation, and group writing	

ARTISTIC DIRECTORSHIP

ARTBARN creates original site-responsive performances, activating unexpected spaces in order to engage a community of artists and audiences in asking big human questions.

FOUNDER AND CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR	2012 – Present
Direct all ARTBARN productions	
Lead the residency process with all collaborating artists	
Mentor Assistant Director and interns	
Assemble a core creative team of 2-5 artists based throughout the United States	
Schedule, plan, and lead all regular creative, marketing, design, and financial meetings	
Guide the creative development of each year's piece with all members of the core creative team	
Develop a financial plan with Managing Director	
Cast the play	
Build relationships with potential residency partners	
Develop and execute a marketing plan that reflects the priorities of the piece	
Facilitate script meetings with writers and actors to clarify material	
Lead production meetings and collaborate to create a unified production concept	
DIRECTOR	2013 – Present
<i>Home Stretch</i> (2013)	
<i>This is a Ghost House</i> (2014)	
<i>The Circle</i> (2015)	
<i>We Remain Prepared</i> (2016)	
<i>The Archivists: Workshop</i> (2017)	
<i>The Archive</i> (2019)	

ARTS BOARD LEADERSHIP

Pacific Northwest Theatrical Intimacy	2021 - Present
Co-founding Collective Member	
Strawberry Theatre Workshop	
Think Tank Member	2014 - 2016
Book Club Member	2014 - 2016
Northwest Playwrights Alliance	
Board Member	2007 - 2012
Lincoln Center Theatre	
Middle School and High School Curriculum Committees	2011 - 2013
Columbia University	
Interdisciplinary Arts Council, Theatre Representative and Events Planner	2009 - 2010
Macha Monkey Productions	
Advisory Board Member	2007 - 2008
Seattle Repertory Theatre	
National Arts Education Conference Coordinator	2006 - 2007

TRAINING

Intimacy Direction Workshops, Theatrical Intimacy Education (online) Best Practices; Studio Techniques; Intimacy Choreography; Foundations in Race, Intimacy, and Consent; Race and Choreography; Working With Minors	2020 – Present
Intimacy Direction Workshops, Intimacy Coordinators of Color (online) Racial Trauma in the Rehearsal Room	2020 – Present
Bystander Intervention Training, Hollaback! and Green Dot (online)	2020 – Present
Introduction to Transformative Justice, Mia Mingus (online)	Summer, 2020
Building Racial Equity, Race Forward (online)	Spring, 2020
Intimacy Direction Workshops, Intimacy Directors and Coordinators (Seattle, online) Introduction to Intimacy Direction, Consent in Academia, Acting Intimacy Essentials	2019 – Present
Introductory Linklater Voice Technique, Kristin Linklater Voice Centre (Orkney, Scotland)	February, 2020
Physical Comedy Workshop, Lecoq School (Paris)	Summer, 2019
Observation, Punchdrunk <i>Sleep No More</i> (New York)	2010 - 2011
Observation, Deja Donne Dance Theatre Company <i>A Glimpse of Hope</i> (Italy)	Summer, 2009
<i>Not Made For Flying</i> (Slovenia)	Summer, 2011
SITI Company Summer Intensive, Skidmore University (Graduate Credit)	Summer, 2007
Internship, Seattle Repertory Theatre	2005 - 2006
Private Voice Study (Lyric, Broadway, Jazz, Classical, Gospel, Linklater) Kathryn Weld	2005 – 2007
Dr. Tom Goleeke	2001 - 2005
Jill Levis	1995 - 2000
Wayne Hobbs	1994 – 1995

PUBLISHED WORK

- Smith, Jess K., "Language Worth Repeating." *HowlRound Anthology: Essays and Conversations from the First Ten Years*, Edited and Published by HowlRound Theatre Commons, 2022.
- Smith, Jess K. (2014, March 6). Women Directors: Language Worth Repeating. Posted to <http://howlround.com>
- Smith, Jess K. (2012). The Hero in the Human. In Lenka Flory (Ed.), *Deja Donne: Dance in Action* (pp.68-110). Italy: Editoria & Spettacola.

CONFERENCES + PRESENTATIONS

Intimacy Collective, Online presentation Presenter, <i>Intersectional Intimacy Practices</i>	2020
Themed Entertainment Association National SATE Conference, Cornish College of the Arts Panelist, <i>Blurring Realities: Immersive Storytelling</i>	2019
TEDx McMinnville, Linfield College Develop and present a TEDx Talk and Performance about site-specific theatre	2019
Daedalus Talk, University of Puget Sound Guest Lecturer, <i>SITES: Activating The Stories Within Spaces Through Performance</i>	2017
Ideas at Work and Play, University of Puget Sound Workshop Presenter, <i>SITES: Activating The Stories Within Spaces Through Performance</i>	2017

Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas National Conference, Portland, OR Panel Presenter, <i>Making Local, Thinking National</i>	2016
2015 Women Playwrights International Conference, Cape Town, South Africa Workshop Presenter, <i>Inspired Insanity: Strategies in Collaborative Playwriting</i> Present a staged reading of an excerpt from <i>Pandora's Box Project</i>	2015
Once and Future Antiquity: Classical Traditions in Science Fiction and Fantasy, UPS Chair, Session C: <i>Revisioning Genres</i>	2015