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# TALYA KINGSTON

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## EDUCATION

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- 2007    UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, AMHERST – MFA, Dramaturgy  
“Dramaturgy of Dialect: an examination of the sociolinguistic problems faced when producing contemporary British plays in the United States”  
(Advisors: Julian Olf, Julie Nelson and Paul Walsh)
- 1996    UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING, SCOTLAND – BA, History (Honors)  
“Public Images of American Twentieth Century First Ladies”  
(Advisor: Colin Nicolson)

### Conservatory Training:

- 2014    JUILLIARD, Directing Fellow, Shakespeare Intensive for Theatre Educators  
1999    AMERICAN CONSERVATORY THEATRE, Stage Direction  
1994    NATIONAL YOUTH THEATRE OF GREAT BRITAIN, Stage Management

## RESEARCH, ARTISTIC & PEDAGOGICAL INTERESTS

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- Scottish and Irish theatre in independence and revolution; feminist performance practices; the ethics and creation of Documentary Drama; stage adaptation and sociolinguistic translation.
- Director and Dramaturg of new and devised plays, and an advocate for gender parity in American theatre.
- Interdisciplinary educator with a passion for inspiring artistic and intellectual curiosity and advocating for the performing arts as a powerful force for social change.

## APPOINTMENTS

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| 2007-present | Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre<br>School for Interdisciplinary Arts, Hampshire College, Amherst, MA.    |
| 2013-2015    | Professor, Navigating the Edinburgh Fringe Festival<br>English Department, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. |
| 2004-2007    | Instructor & Teaching Assistant<br>Theatre Department, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.                     |
| 2001-2003    | Education Director, Hartford Stage   |
| 2002         | Adjunct Professor, Capital Community College, Hartford   |
| 1996-2001    | Educational Programs Coordinator, New Conservatory Theatre Center,<br>San Francisco, CA                          |

## PRODUCTION CREDITS

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### Dramaturgy:

Seriously...what did you call me? *	Onawumi Jean Moss	Ko Festival
The Overcoat+	Esa Leskinen/Sami Keski-Vähälä	Passport Theatre Company
Helmet+	Douglas Maxwell	New York International Fringe
A Christmas Carol *	Charles Dickens	
	new adaptation by M. Lombardi	University of Massachusetts
Bover Boys	Willy Holtzman	University of Massachusetts
Gum	Karen Hartman	University of Massachusetts
The Last Five Years	Jason Robert Brown	University of Massachusetts
Life is a Dream *	Pedro Calderón de la Barca	
	new adaptation by Erdman & Sasso	University of Massachusetts
My Hartford: The Oral History Project*	Teenage ensemble	Hartford Stage
Culture Clash*	Teenage ensemble	Hartford Stage
Over My Dead Body*	Teenage ensemble	Hartford Stage
Necessary Targets *	Eve Ensler	Hartford Stage
		& Variety Arts Theatre, NYC
Buzz! +	Andrew Alty	New Conservatory Theatre Center
The Other Side of the Closet +	Ed Roy	New Conservatory Theatre Center
Beautiful Thing	Jonathan Harvey	New Conservatory Theatre Center

\* denotes World Premiere    + denotes American Premiere

### Directing

<i>Of Who We Used To Be</i>	Katja Gottlieb-Stier	Hampshire College
<i>The Lonely Soldier Project</i>	Helen Benedict	Moving Words
<i>Elemeno Pea</i>	Molly Smith Metzler	Beer & A Play (staged reading)
<i>The Metal Children</i>	Adam Rapp	Beer & A Play (staged reading)
<i>Collapse</i>	Allison Moore	Beer & A Play (staged reading)
<i>The Mother of Modern Censorship</i>	Karen Hartman	University of Massachusetts
<i>Lovers (winner &amp; losers)</i>	Brian Friel	CUBIT Productions, San Francisco
<i>Ashes to Ashes</i>	Harold Pinter	Limelight books, San Francisco
<i>Get Real!</i>	Doug Holsclaw	New Conservatory Theatre Center

### Assistant Directing:

<i>Chess</i>	Andersson & Ulvaeus/Tim Rice	New Conservatory Theatre
<i>The Jewish Wife</i>	Bertolt Brecht	Eastenders Repertory Company
<i>In the Shadow of the Glen</i>	John M. Synge	Eastenders Repertory Company

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Performance criticism, program notes and scholarly articles:

1. "What's in a Name?" program note for *Seriously... What did you Call Me?* Ko Festival 2015.
2. "The Scottish Independence Debate at the Edinburgh Fringe. Part Two: Reimagining a National History." *Howlround*. September 16 2014.
3. "The Scottish Independence Debate at the Edinburgh Fringe. Part One: Staging a Vote." *Howlround*. August 28 2014.
4. Performance Review article "*Ciara* by David Harrower and *The Events* by David Grieg" *Theatre Journal*. Vol. 66 No. 2. May 2014. pp. 264-266
5. "Dispatch from the Edinburgh Fringe. Part Three: A Controlled Escape" *Howlround*. August 26, 2013.
6. "Dispatch from the Edinburgh Fringe. Part Two: Bearing Witness" *Howlround*. August 17 2013.
7. "Dispatch from the Edinburgh Fringe. Part One: Feast or Binge" *Howlround*. August 13 2013.
8. "The Dramaturgy of Dialect" in *The Moving Voice: The Integration of Voice and Movement Studies*. Rena Cook, editor. University Readers. June 28, 2009.
9. "A Christmas Carol for our Stage" UMass Theater. December 2006.
10. *Life is a Dream* Program Note. UMass Theater. December 2005.
11. "Brush Up Your Shakespeare: The Guthrie Theater's *Othello*" *Valley Advocate*. April 2004.
12. "Good Fight Ladies: *Boston Marriage* by David Mamet" *Valley Advocate*. March 2004.
13. "West Side Stories: Amherst's debate about high school theatricals becomes a play in itself" *Valley Advocate*. February 2004.
14. "Courting Controversy: Amherst Regional High School's staging of *The Vagina Monologues*" *Valley Advocate*. February 2004.
15. "Blood in Return for Blood: *Electra* and the Cycle of Revenge." *Stage Notes*. Hartford Stage. January 2003.
16. "Review: The Theater Project's *To Kill A Mockingbird*." *Springfield Journal*. April 2002.
17. "Review: The Noise of Time" *Springfield Journal*. November 2001.
18. "Ghosts Who Will Not Rest" Program Note for *Necessary Targets*. Hartford Stage. November 2001.
19. "Review: *My Fair Lady*" *Springfield Journal*. October 18, 2001.
20. "Review: *Brimstone*" *Springfield Journal*. October, 2001.

### Study Guides:

1. *Seriously... What did you Call Me?* written and performed by Onawumi Jean Moss. 2015-2016 tour.
2. *A Christmas Carol* by Maryann Lombardi adapted from Charles Dickens. University of Massachusetts.
3. *Life is a Dream* by Pedro Calderón de la Barca (bilingual guide). University of Massachusetts.
4. *The Mystery of Irma Vep* by Charles Ludlam. Hartford Stage
5. *8 by Tenn* by Tennessee Williams. Hartford Stage
6. *Electra* by Sophocles. Hartford Stage.
7. *Edgardo Mine* by Alfred Uhry. Hartford Stage
8. *Much Ado About Nothing* by William Shakespeare. Hartford Stage
9. *Constant Star* by Tazewell Thompson. Hartford Stage
10. *2.5 Minute Ride* by Lisa Kron. Hartford Stage
11. *Necessary Targets* by Eve Ensler. Hartford Stage
12. *The Other Side of the Closet* by Ed Roy. New Conservatory Theatre Center.
13. *Living Side by Side* by Avishay Greenfield. New Conservatory Theatre Center.
14. *Old, Jewish and Queer* by Naomi Newman. A Traveling Jewish Theatre.

## INVITED TALKS

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- "Endgame Project"  
Serious Play! Post-show discussions of new Beckett interpretation. March/April 2016.
- "Fantasy Feminisms: Dreaming of the Perfect Syllabus"  
Association of Theatre in Higher Education Conference. July 2014.
- "Embodied Dramaturgy as Compassionate Action in *The Lonely Soldier Project*."  
Association of Theatre in Higher Education Conference. July 2014.
- "Cultivating Student-Dreamers in Contemporary Liberal Arts Environments" (respondent)  
Association of Theatre in Higher Education Conference. July 2014.
- "Power Play."  
Chester Theatre First Friday Lecture Series, July 12, 2013.  
An Interactive talk examining some of the theatrical devices employed by directors to manipulate an audience's sympathies by shifting the power dynamics between the characters on stage.
- "Plays With Music."  
Chester Theatre First Friday Lecture Series, June 28, 2013.  
Drawing examples from recent American musical theater, this talk explored the various ways that music affects relationships on stage and between the story and its audiences.
- "Dramaturgy: a performative essay."  
Hampshire College Writers Reading in the Library series. May 2013.
- "Documentary Theatre."  
Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region 1, 2013.  
An interactive talk for writers, directors, dramaturgs and anyone else who is interested in exploring the potentials and problems of representing reality on stage.
- "Talking With Audiences."  
Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region 1, 2013.  
An exploration of different forms of pre- and post-production audience outreach and discussion.
- "Betwixt and Between: Representing parallel and colliding worlds on the stage."  
Chester Theatre First Friday Lecture Series, 2012.  
A talk on Magical Realism in the theatre in connection with Chester Theatre's production of *The Betrothed* by Dipika Guha.
- "Stop Doing Other People's Homework! Engaging Production Dramaturgy."  
Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region 1, 2012.  
Strategies of how to approach dramaturgical research, how to engage other members of the production team in the research, and how to present it in such a way that inspires creativity and dialogue around the play.
- "Voices in Contemporary Feminism(s)." A Festival of New American Plays by Women, UMass Amherst. April 2011. Spoke about historical/documentary drama following a reading of *Unspeakable Acts* by Mary F. Casey.
- "Theatre For Social Change."  
An interactive lecture for the MA students in Social Work at Smith College. July 2010.
- "Dramaturgy of Dialect"  
The North-East region mini-conference for the Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas. UMass Amherst, October 2007.

**Hampshire College, Amherst:**

IA 107: The Absurd and the Magical  
IA 115: Everyone's a Critic  
IA 118: Plays by American Women  
IA 138 & IA 138T: Staging America  
IA 138: Staging the Ramayana (Co-Taught with Guest Professor Arshia Sattar)  
IA 156: Theatre for Young Audiences  
IA 213: A Century of British and Irish Drama  
IA 220: Playwriting Seminar  
IA 225: Practices of Dramaturgy  
IA 226: Using Theatre-in-Education for Social Change  
IA 233: Adaptation for the Stage  
IA 266: Reexamining Classic Drama  
IA 275: Documentary Drama  
IA 288: Feminist Theatre Practices  
IA 332: Division Three (Senior Thesis) Theatre Seminar  
Teaching Assistant, Theatre of the Oppressed (for Professor Natalie Sowell)

**Amherst Montessori School:**

Creative Drama workshops on the five senses (co-taught with Hampshire student Gaia Posner), 2009.  
Creative Drama workshops on mythology (co-taught with Hampshire student Niall Sullivan), 2010.

**University of Massachusetts, Amherst:**

Theater 100 Honors: Introduction to Theater (1st and 2nd year this was offered as an honors course)  
Theater 120: Introduction to Play Analysis  
Teaching Assistant, Theater 100: Introduction to Theater (for Professor Harley Erdman)  
Teaching Assistant, Theater 120: Introduction to Play Analysis (for Professor Julian Olf)  
English 397DH: Navigating the Edinburgh Fringe Theatre Festival (Co-Taught 2013, 2014 & 2015)

**HALO Juntos Collaborative in Holyoke:**

A series of workshops based on themes in Pedro Calderón de la Barca's *Life is a Dream*. 2005.

**Capital Community College, Hartford:**

English 299: Introduction to Theatre. 2002.

**Hartford Stage, Hartford:**

Teen Acting Workshop for 12-16 year olds (2002)  
Advanced Scene Study for 16-18 year olds (2002)  
Improvisation, Voice and Dialogue for 7-10 and 11-14 year olds (2002)  
*Critical Eye*, Professional Development workshops for High School Teachers (2001-2003)  
Pre- and post-show workshops at Hartford public middle and high schools (2001-2003)

**Amherst Leisure Services and Supplemental Education, Amherst:**

Creative Drama for 5-7 year olds (2002-2003)  
Young Actor's Workshop for 7-9 year olds (2003)

## **SERVICE**

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### At Hampshire College:

Hampshire College Institutional Review Board member (2012-2014)  
Hampshire College Teaching Circle: Teaching about Potentially Volatile Issues (2013-2014)  
Co-Creator & Facilitator, UNcourse: Feminist Matters, Hampshire College (2013-2014)  
Inter-group dialogue participant (2010, 2011)  
New Faculty Training on Writing Course Evaluations (2012)  
Organized the annual Sara Goldfinger theatre trip to New York / Boston (2011-2015)  
Hampshire College, School for Interdisciplinary Arts (2007-2015)  
Hampshire College Theatre Board (2007-2015)

### For the Five Colleges and Wider Community:

Co-Facilitator, 5Performs: Five College Performance Studies Consortium (2014-present)  
MFA Dramaturgy Thesis Committee Member for Amy Brooks, UMass (2014-2015)  
Script Review Committee, Company One (2013-present)  
Co-Chair, Jewish Community of Amherst Education Committee (2012-2014)  
Dramaturgy Respondent, KCACTF: Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region One (2011, 2012)  
Artistic Curator, Beer & A Play staged reading series (2011)  
Script Review, ATHE Jane Chambers Award for Women Playwrights (2010-2012)  
Script Reviewer, Hartford Stage (2007-2009)  
Board Member, University of Massachusetts Arts Council (2006-2007)  
Organizer, LMDA: Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas North-East Region Mini Conference (2007)  
Freelance Theatre Writer, Valley Advocate (2004-2005)  
Script Reviewer, New York Summer Play Festival (2006-2007)  
Script Reviewer, Marin Theatre Company, California (2007)  
Founding Member of SparkArt: Building Partnerships & Community Connections for Arts Education in Greater Hartford (2002-2004)  
Freelance Theatre Writer, Springfield Journal (2001-2002)  
Company Administrator, A Traveling Jewish Theater (1996-1997)

Active member of: Theatre Communications Group (TCG)  
Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas (LMDA)  
American Alliance of Theatre and Higher Education (ATHE)

## **CITIZENSHIP**

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United Kingdom. United States Permanent Resident since 2005.