Jason T. Fitzgerald

(734) 764-6574
November 2026 *jfitzt@umich.edu*

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor
University of Michigan, 2020-present — Department of English

Postdoctoral Fellow
University of Pittsburgh, 2018-2020 – Humanities Center, affiliation: Dept of Theatre Arts

Adjunct Professor
Purchase College, SUNY, Fall 2017 - Liberal Studies and Humanities
Yale University, Spring 2018 – Lecturer with the Yale Residential College Seminar Program
Columbia University, Spring 2018 – English and Comparative Literature

EDUCATION

Columbia University
PhD (2017), MPhil (2013), MA (2011), Theatre (Dpt of English and Comparative Literature)
Dissertation: "Exiting Eden: U.S. Avant-Garde Theatre's Humanist Controversy"
(W.B. Worthen, Julie Peters, Bruce Robbins; outside readers: Elin Diamond, Marc Robinson)

Yale School of Drama
M.F.A. 2008, Dramaturgy and Dramatic Criticism

Harvard University
A.B. 2004, History and Literature, magna cum laude

Other
Futures of American Studies Institute, Dartmouth College, 2018
Modern and Contemporary Studies Initiative (MCSI) Summer Institute, Penn State U, 2017
School of Criticism and Theory, Cornell University, 2013
Harvard Mellon School of Theater and Performance Research, Harvard University, 2013

PUBLICATIONS

Works in Progress
Theater at the End of Humanism: Reading the Radical Sixties Stage (manuscript under review)

Peer-Reviewed
"Watch Me Mourn: Suzan-Lori Parks's Diary Plays" (revised resubmission under review, *Theatre Survey*)
"Amiri Baraka's Humanist Theatre: A Reading of *A Black Mass*," *boundary 2* 51.4, Nov 2024
• Honorable Mention, ATDS Vera Mowry Roberts Award
"Climate Staged: The Place of Theatre in *The Great Immensity*" (*ISLE*, March 2021)
"Ratifying the Myth of Eden: The Open Theater's Critique of Humanism," *Modern Drama* 61.4 (Winter 2018)

Short Essays, Interviews, Book and Performance Reviews (Academic)
Review: Lindsay Goss, *F*ck the Army! How Soldiers and Civilians Staged the GI Movement to End the Vietnam War*. *Modern Drama* 68.2 (July 2025)

"The Possibility of Progress: An Interview with Bruce Robbins" (*boundary 2* 29.4, Nov 2022)
"Baraka, Amiri (LeRoi Jones)" in *Twentieth-Century and Contemporary American Literature in Context* (ABC-CLIO, May 2021)
"Showstoppers," *Lights Camera Action Committee*, lightscamera.org, December 2019
"Homo Defeatist?," review of Yuval Harari, *Homo Deus*. *Politics/Letters*, August 2017.
"The Lesson of David Greenspan," *PAJ* 103 (2013).
"I Had a Dream: 'Rose's Turn,' Musical Theatre, and the Star Effigy," *Studies in Musical Theatre* vol. 3, no. 3 (2009)
"Rancière's Counter-Modernism," review Jacques Rancière, *Aisthesis*. *Public Books*, May 2014
Review: *The Sixties, Center Stage*, eds. Harding and Rosenthal. *Theatre Journal* 70.1 (2018)
Review: Wickstrom, *Performance in the Blockades of Neoliberalism. Modern Drama* 57.2(2014)
Review: John M. Clum, *The Drama of Marriage*. *Modern Drama* vol. 56, no. 1 (2013)
Review: Stephen Sondheim, *Finishing the Hat/Look, I Made a Hat*. *Theatre Survey* 54.2 (2013)
Review: Tobin Nellhaus, *Theatre, Communication, Critical Realism*. *Theatre Survey* 53.1 (2012)
Review: David Román, *Performance in America*. *Theater* vol. 37, no. 2 (2007)
Review: *Standing on Ceremony: The Gay Marriage Plays*. *Theatre Journal* 63.1 (2011)
Review: Taylor Mac's *The Lily's Revenge*. *Theatre Journal* vol. 62, no. 3 (2010)

Performance Reviews (trade press) (selected)
New Haven Independent, 2018. Available: http://www.newhavenindependent.org
Village Voice, 2014-2017. Available: https://www.villagevoice.com/author/jasonfitzgerald/
Slant, 2013-2015. Available: http://www.slantmagazine.com/author/1011/P0
Backstage, 2008-2013, Available: http://www.backstage.com

HONORS AND AWARDS

Honorable Mention, ATDS Vera Mowry Roberts Research and Publication Award 2025
Institute for the Humanities Summer Fellowship, U Michigan, 2021
Theory and Criticism Graduate Student Paper Award, ATHE, 2010
Bruce Kirle Emerging Scholarship Panel in Music Theatre/Dance, ATHE, 2009

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Talks
"Keyword: Science," More Soon: A Symposium Honoring Joe Roach, Chicago, 2019
Public Lecture and campus visit as Visiting Educator, Whitman College, March 5-8, 2018
"The Impossible Study: Joseph Chaikin's Humanism," Drama Colloquium, Harvard, 2015
"Presence as Technique: Joseph Chaikin and Authenticity," Performance Studies Working Group, Yale University, 2014

Campus Talks and Presentations
Critical Conversations: "Precarity" panel presentation, UM LSA English Dpt, Nov 2020
"Making Humans, Making Humanism: History and Universalism on Amiri Baraka's Black Nationalist Stage," b2@pitt *boundary 2* conference, University of Pittsburgh, 2019
"Against the Spectacle of Extinction: Bringing *The Great Immensity* Home," Humanities Center Colloquium, University of Pittsburgh, Oct 4, 2018

Conference Presentations (selected)

"Dreaming the Human in the Theatre of Paradise," ASAP/16 2025
"A Diary for America: Grieving Democracy in Suzan-Lori Parks's Diary Plays," ASTR 2024
"'Thats Not a Play': Political Trauma and Acting Out in Suzan-Lori Parks's *365 Plays/365* Days," MLA 2024
"The Feminist Barbaric in Rochelle Owens's *Homo*," ASTR 2022
"Staying in Place: Bringing *The Great Immensity* Home," MLA 2021
"Countercultural Humanism: A Recovery and Critique," Considering the Counterculture conference, Princeton, 2019
"Undoing the Myth of Eden: Restaging a Theatrical Controversy," MLA 2018
"The Beast and the Magician: Staging Amiri Baraka's Black Humanism," ASTR Plenary 2017
"Joseph Chaikin's Impossible Study," MCSI Summer Institute, 2017
"The Magic of Black Humanism: Amiri Baraka's *Black Mass* and the Black Arts Counterpublic," MLA 2016
"Postdramatic Theatre and the Humanist Mysterium in the U.S. 1960s," ASTR 2015
"Notes Toward a Postdramatic Humanism," ASTR 2014
"'Never go back to the theatre!': *Paradise Now* and the Paradoxical Politics of Authenticity," ATHE 2014
"'Never come to the theatre again!': *Paradise Now*, Theatricality, and the Politics of Authenticity," ACLA 2014
"Getting to the Point: Jacques Derrida Makes a Decision," *UNSCRIPTED*, Columbia U Symposium for the study of performance, March 2013
"These Ghosts Were Made for Walking: Ira Sachs's *Last Address*," ATHE 2012
Roundtable participant: "Writing in the Sand: Performing John Herbert's Memoirs," ATHE 2011
Roundtable Book Discussion on Alice Rayner's *Ghosts*, ATHE 2011
"What Happened: David Greenspan Faces the Void," MLA 2011
"Immediate Family: Harvey Fierstein's Imperfectly Catered Affair," ATHE 2010
Roundtable Book Discussion on Peggy Phelan's *Unmarked*, ATHE 2010
"The Whole World if I Can: Meta-Textuality and Political Discourse in David Greenspan's *Old Comedy*," Northeast MLA, April 2010
"Walking and Feeding the Dog: Gay Marriage in the Plays of Harvey Fierstein," Mid-America Theatre Conference (MATC), May 2010
"I Had a Dream: 'Rose's Turn' and the Illusion of Presence in Musical Theatre," Bruce Kirle Emerging Scholarship Panel in Music Theatre/Dance, ATHE, 2009

Panels and Working Groups Organized

Roundtable: Staging Conformity and Citizenship: A Roundtable on Kimberly Jannarone's *Mass Performance*, MLA 2027
Working Group: "Anti-Authoritarian Theatre," ASTR 2025, 2026
Working Group: "Artists as Producers: Politics, Aesthetics, Institutions in the 21st Century," ASTR 2019
Working Group: "The Afterlives of the Sixties in Contemporary Performance," ASTR 2013
Roundtable: "This is What Democracy Looks Like: Neoliberalism and Performance on the Global Stage," ATHE 2012
"There's Not a Tune You Can Hum: A Roundtable on the Limits of 'Musical Theatre," ATHE 2011
"A Very Good Place to Start: A Roundtable on the American Musical Theatre Canon," ATHE 2010
Roundtable: "Witnessing Progress, Queerly," LGBTQ Focus Group Preconference, ATHE, 2011
Facilitator and Talkback Moderator, Reading of *A Horse's Ass* by David Greenspan, LGBTQ Focus Group Pre-Conference, ATHE, 2009

TEACHING

University of Michigan

Humanism, Antihumanism, Posthumanism: grad seminar
Antifascist Theatre: undergrad seminar, Brecht, Gambaro, Churchill
Engaging Performance: undergraduate performance course in collaboration with University Musci Society (UMS)
Stage Readings: Interpretive Methods in Thtr & Perf Studies: grad seminar
Suzan-Lori Parks: undergrad seminar, complete dramatic works
LGBTQ+ Theatre and Camp in the US, undergrad, Sontag, Ludlam, Reyes, Bornstein, Split Britches
Theatre of US Women's Liberation; undergrad seminar
How to Be a Hippie: The Youth Counterculture of the 1960s; undergrad seminar,
lit & intellectual history: Huxley, Marcuse, Snyder, Roszak, Watts, Laing, Hoffman, Wolfe
Revolutionary Theatre: US 1960s Radical Theatre Groups; undergrad seminar
Disaster Plays: undergrad seminar, Kraus, Wilder, Beckett, Abdoh, Churchill
Eco-Theatre: Staging Climate Crisis; upper-level undergrad seminar

University of Pittsburgh

World Theatre I / III, fall 2019 / spring 2020: mixed grad/undergrad lecture, ~35 students, 1 TA
Introduction to Dramatic Art, fall 2018: undergrad script analysis, department req, ~20 students

Purchase College

Beat Generation, fall 2017: lit seminar, 20 students, Kerouac, Ginsberg, di Prima, Snyder, Corso
Writing About Theatre (College Writing), fall 2017: comp, 17 students. Case study: Thornton Wilder

Columbia University

Contemporary Civilization, The Core Curriculum, 2015-2017
second-year undergraduate "Great Books" seminar, 22 students, Plato through Foucault
American Theatre and Radical Politics after 1989, spring 2014
undergraduate drama seminar, 14 students, Albee, Kushner, Parks, Jean Lee, Deveare Smith
University Writing, The Core Curriculum, fall 2012–fall 2013: 1st-year composition, 14 students

Yale University

The World is Ending: Human-Caused Catastrophe in Literature and Film, spring 2018
undergraduate lit/film seminar, 18 students, Vonnegut, Ghosh, Robinson, Rich, Winterson
How to Scare Men with Women: The Diva in Opera and Musical Theatre, spring 2010, co-taught

SERVICE

Journal Referee: *Performance Philosophy* (2025), *boundary 2* (2024), *Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism* (2024), *ISLE* (2020, -24), *Feminist Studies* (2022), *LIT* (2019), *Ecozon@* (2018), *Studies in Musical Theatre* (2015)
Book Proposal Referee: Routledge (2020)
Advisory Board, Center for World Performance Studies, University of Michigan, 2022–2025
Assistant Editor, *boundary 2*, 2020-2023
Book Review Editor, *Theatre Journal*, 2019-2021
Organizer: Una Chaudhuri (NYU), visit U Pittsburgh, April 1-3, 2020 [canceled due to Covid-19]
Mentoring Committee, ASTR, 2019-2022
Assistant to Prof. Rachel Adams, Future of Disability Studies Project, Columbia U, 2013-15
Editorial Assistant, Profs. Katherine Biers and Sharon Marcus, special issue of *Nineteenth Century Theatre and Film*, Columbia U, Spring 2015
Conference Planner, LGBTQ Focus Group, ATHE 2012-2014

Member-at-Large, Theatre & Criticism Focus Group, ATHE 2011-12
Co-convener, Graduate Reading Group in Theatre & Performance Studies, 2010-2012
Member-at-Large, LGBTQ Focus Group, ATHE 2010-2012
Pre-Tenured Faculty Award Committee, American Theatre and Drama Society, ATHE, 2009-10
Graduate Student Representative, Musical Theatre/Dance Focus Group, ATHE, 2009-2010
Managing Editor, *Theater*, Ed. Thomas Sellar, 2006–2007

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Modern Language Association, American Society for Theater Research, Association for Theater in Higher Education, American Studies Association, American Theatre and Drama Society, Association for the Study of Literature and Environment

REFERENCES

Jonathan Arac
Andrew W. Mellon Professor of English (Emeritus)
University of Pittsburgh
(412) 624-6506
arac119@comcast.net

W.B. Worthen
Alice Brady Pels Professor in the Arts
Chair, Dpt of Theatre
Barnard College
wworthen@barnard.edu
(212) 854-2757

Julie Peters
H. Gordon Garbedian Professor of English and Comparative Literature
Columbia Universty
peters@columbia.edu
(212) 854 2472

Bruce Robbins
Old Dominion Foundation Professor in the Humanities
Department of English and Comparative Literature
Columbia University
bwr2001@columbia.edu
(212) 854-6463

Enoch Brater
Kenneth T. Rowe Collegiate Professor of Dramatic Literature & Professor of English and Theater
Department of English Language and Literature
University of Michigan
enochb@umich.edu
(734) 764-2275

Jean Howard
George Delacorte Professor in the Humanities
Department of English and Comparative Literature
Columbia University
jfh5@columbia.edu
(212) 854-6225