

SARA B.T. THIEL  
Curriculum Vitae

Chicago Shakespeare Theater  
Public Humanities Manager  
800 E. Grand Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611

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**EMPLOYMENT**

- 2018–present Public Humanities Manager, Education Department  
Chicago Shakespeare Theater
- 2017–2018 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Theatre Arts  
University of Pittsburgh  
Affiliate Faculty: Cultural Studies; Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies
- 2010–2017 Instructor and Teaching Assistant, Department of Theatre  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
- 2008–2010 Associate Director and Dramaturg  
Shakespeare Dallas

**EDUCATION**

- 2017 Ph.D., Theatre Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Minor: Gender and Women’s Studies
- 2012 M.A., Theatre Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- 2008 B.A., Theatre and Philosophy, Stephen F. Austin State University

**TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Directing  
Dramaturgy  
Dramatic Literature  
Theatre history  
Adaptation theory  
Early modern performance practices

## **TEACHING AND ADVISING**

### **University of Pittsburgh, Department of Theatre Arts**

#### Graduate Directed Studies

Shelby Brewster, Aphra Behn and Restoration Staging (2018)

Courtney Colligan, Shakespearean Performance and Pedagogy (2018)

#### Graduate Project Advisor

Andrea Gunoe, Choreographer, Pitt Stages production of *Little Shop of Horrors* (2018)

#### Graduate Courses

Race and Gender in Contemporary Criticism: Problems in Shakespeare Studies (2018)

#### Undergraduate Courses

World Theatre III: 1890–Present (2018)

Props, Prosthetics, and Cosmetics: Constructing Embodied Difference on the Early Modern English Stage (2017)

#### Bachelor of Philosophy Committees

##### *Chair*

Alex Knapp, “Affect for Effect: Emotion and Prosocial Change in Brecht’s Theatre.”

Defense Date: March 30, 2018

### **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Department of Theatre**

Introduction to Directing (2016)

History of the Theatre II (2015)

History of the Theatre I (2015)

Literature of the Modern Theatre (2014)

Dramatic Analysis (2014)

Dramaturg’s Workshop (2013)

Fundamentals of Acting (2011)

Introduction to Theatre Arts (2010–2017)

### **University of Illinois, Department of Communication**

Introduction to Public Speaking (2012, 2013)

## **ADMINISTRATION, Graduate Research Assistantship**

2015–2016     Assistant to the Director of Graduate Studies, Valleri J. Robinson

## **CREATIVE RESEARCH AND PRACTICAL THEATRE WORK**

### **Dramaturgy and New Work Development**

- 2020      *Richard III*. The Shakespeare Project of Chicago. Directed by Peter Garino  
(*Dramaturg*)
- 2017      *Parade*. University of Pittsburgh Stages, Department of Theatre Arts, University of Pittsburgh. Directed by Robert Frankenberry. (*Dramaturg*)
- 2016      *Desdemona: A Play about a Handkerchief*. School of Theatre and Dance, Northern Illinois University. Directed by Rachel Price Cooper. (*Dramaturg*)
- 2015      *'Tis Pity She's a Whore*. Department of Theatre, University of Illinois. Directed by William Brown. (*Dramaturg*)
- 2014      *Much Ado About Nothing*. Department of Theatre, University of Illinois. Directed by Kathleen F. Conlin. (*Dramaturg*)
- 2013      *The Tempest*. Department of Theatre, University of Illinois. Directed by Robert Gerard Anderson. (*Dramaturg*)
- 2013      *Fables on Global Warming*. Armitage Gone! Dance, Krannert Center for Performing Arts. Choreographed by Karole Armitage. (*New Work Development*)
- 2012      *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*. Department of Theatre, University of Illinois. Directed by Lisa Gaye Dixon. (*Dramaturg*)
- 2011      *The Minotaur*. Lark Theatre Play Development Residency, Department of Theatre, University of Illinois. Written by Anna Ziegler. Directed by Lisa Rothe. (*New Work Development*)
- 2010      *Two Gentlemen of Verona*. Shakespeare Dallas. Dallas, TX. Directed by Raphael Parry. (*Dramaturg*)

### **Directing and Devising**

- 2014      *4000 Miles* by Amy Herzog. The Station Theatre, Urbana, IL. (*Director*)
- 2012      *SisEphus*. Armory Free Theatre, "Adaptations at the Armory," University of Illinois. (*Deviser & Director*)

- 2011 *Their Ills Instruct Us So*. Armory Free Theatre, University of Illinois. (*Deviser & Director*)
- 2011 *All's Well that Ends Well*. The Public Theater: Free Shakespeare in the Park, New York, NY. Directed by Daniel J. Sullivan. (*Directing Apprentice*)
- 2011 *Misalliance* by George Bernard Shaw. Department of Theatre, University of Illinois. Directed by Kathleen F. Conlin. (*Assistant Director*)
- 2010 *Venus and Adonis*. Shakespeare Dallas, Dallas, TX. (*Adaptor & Director*)
- 2010 *Cymbeline*. Shakespeare Dallas, Dallas, TX. Directed by René Moreno. (*Associate Director*)
- 2009 *Julius Caesar*. Shakespeare Dallas, Dallas, TX. Directed by Raphael Parry. (*Associate Director*)
- 2009 *One in 3*, world premiere by Merritt Tierce, Gretchen Dyer, and Valerie Loe Hicks. The Green Zone, Project X: Theatre, Dallas, TX. Directed by Raphael Parry. (*Assistant Director*)
- 2008 *Othello*. Shakespeare Dallas, Dallas, TX. Directed by Raphael Parry. (*Assistant Director*)

### **Practice as Research**

- 2014 *Waking the Dead: J.M. Synge's Riders to the Sea*. Director and Producer, University of Illinois. Funded by the College of Fine Arts Creative Research Award.
- 2013 *Be Stone No More: Shakespeare's The Winter's Tale and Middleton's Second Maiden's Tragedy*. Director and Producer, University of Illinois.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### **Monograph**

- forthcoming* *Performing Pregnancy on the Early Modern Stage, 1603-1642*. Under contract with Routledge's Studies and Performance in Early Modern Drama series.

### Refereed Journal Articles

- 2018 “Wielding the Maternal Body: Queen Anna of Denmark Performs Blackface Pregnancy,” *Shakespeare Studies*, 156–60.
- 2017 “Performing Blackface Pregnancy at the Stuart Court: *The Masque of Blackness* and *Love's Mistress, or the Queen's Masque*,” *Renaissance Drama* 45, no. 2 (Fall 2017): 211-236.
- 2013 “‘You Demi-Puppets’: Playing for Humanity in *The Feast: an intimate Tempest*,” *Puppetry International #33: When Flesh Meets Wood*. (Spring and Summer 2013). 14-17.

### Edited Collection Chapters

- 2018 “‘Cushion Come Forth’: Materializing Pregnancy on the Stuart Stage.” *Stage Matters: Props, Bodies, and Space in Shakespearean Performance*. Annalisa Castaldo and Rhonda Knight, eds. Madison, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 143-58.
- 2017 “Game/Play: The Five Conceptual Planes of Punchdrunk’s *Sleep No More*.” *Immersive Theatre: Engaging the Audience (vol. 1)*. Champaign, IL: Common Ground Publishing, 2017. 55-64.

### Book Reviews

- 2018 *Childhood, Education and the Stage in Early Modern England*. Richard Preiss and Deanne Williams. *Queering Childhood in Early Modern English Drama and Culture*. Jennifer Higginbotham and Mark Albert Johnston, eds. *Theatre Survey* 60.1, 2019.
- 2018 *Plotting Motherhood in Medieval, Early Modern, and Modern Literature*. Mary Beth Rose. *Chaste Value: Economic Crisis, Female Chastity and the Production of Social Difference on Shakespeare's Stage*. Katherine Gillen. *Shakespeare Quarterly*, 69.3, Fall 2018.
- 2014 *Shakespeare and the Materiality of Performance*. Erika T. Lin. *Theatre Survey* 55.3, 2014. 402–4.
- 2012 *Shakespeare/Adaptation/Modern Drama: Essays in Honour of Jill Levenson*. Randall Martin and Katherine Scheil, eds. *Theatre Research in Canada*. 33.2, 2012. 262–5.

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

- 2017 Departmental Distinction for Excellence in Teaching, Research, and Theatre Practice, Department of Theatre, University of Illinois, May 2017.
- 2016 Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Theatre History and Criticism Essay Prize, “Performing Motherhood on the Stuart Stage: Queen Anna of Denmark and the Birth of Pregnancy Plays in Seventeenth-Century London Theatres,” August 2016.
- 2010–2016 List of Instructors Ranked as Excellent, University of Illinois, Fall 2010–Spring 2016.

## **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- 2018 European Studies Center Small Grant for Faculty Research, University of Pittsburgh, March 2018.
- 2016 Andrew W. Mellon Pre-Doctoral Summer Fellowship, Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities and Chicago Humanities Festival, July–August 2016.
- 2015 Shakespeare Association of America Graduate Student Travel Award, April 2015.
- 2014 College of Fine and Applied Arts Creative Research Award, University of Illinois, January 2014.

## **PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

- 2020 Lunch and Learn, *As You Like It*. “Shakespeare and the Girl Page Plot,” Chicago Shakespeare Theater, May 20, 2020.
- 2020 Lunch and Learn, *Emma*. “Revising Jane: Austen and Adaptation,” Chicago Shakespeare Theater, March 11, 2020.
- 2020 PreAmble: *Emma*, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, February – March 2020.
- 2019 Book Club, *Hamlet*. “Stoppard and Shakespeare: Imagining Elsinore,” Chicago Shakespeare Theater, April 2019.
- 2019 PreAmble: *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, December 2018 – January 2019.
- 2018 PreAmble: *Nell Gwynn*. Chicago Shakespeare Theater, October – November 2018.

- 2018 PreAmble: *Macbeth*. Chicago Shakespeare Theater, May – June 2018.
- 2017 PreAmble: *Red Velvet*. Chicago Shakespeare Theater, December 2017.
- 2017 PreAmble: *Shakespeare in Love*. Chicago Shakespeare Theater, June 2017.
- 2014 Illinois Shakespeare Festival Panel on Original Practices, Illinois State University, July 2014.

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **Panels and Talks Organized**

- 2019 “A City of Contradictions: A Discussion with Chicago Theater Makers,” Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas Conference, June 2019.
- 2018 “Cognitive Ecologies, 4E Cognition, and Theatre and Performance,” Rhonda Blair, University of Pittsburgh, March 2018.
- 2016 “She Works Hard for the Money: The Actress’ Labor in the Theatrical Marketplace.” Association for Theatre in Higher Education. Chicago, IL. August 2016.

### **Plenary Panels**

- 2017 “‘A quilted preface to advance your belly’: Pregnancy Prosthetics and the Queen's Men Repertory.” American Shakespeare Center Blackfriars Conference. Staunton, VA. October 2017.
- 2017 “Performing Blackface Pregnancy at the Stuart Court: Queen Anna of Denmark and the *Masque of Blackness*.” Shakespeare Association of America, NextGenPlen. Atlanta, GA. April 2017.
- 2015 “‘Cushion come forth’: Materializing Pregnancy on the Stuart Stage.” American Shakespeare Center Blackfriars Conference. Staunton, VA. October 2015.

### **Select Papers Presented**

- 2018            “Turning toward Anti-Racist Pedagogy: Disrupting White Supremacy in Shakespeare Studies.” Mid-America Theatre Conference. Milwaukee, WI. March 2018.
- 2017            “Extraordinarily Everyday: The Pregnant Page in Thomas Middleton’s *More Dissemblers Besides Women*.” American Society for Theatre Research. Atlanta, GA. November 2017.
- 2016            “Home Birth: Conflating Maternal and Professional Labor in *Girls*.” Association for Theatre in Higher Education. Chicago, IL. August 2016.
- 2014            “The Belly Performs: Pregnant Boys on the Stuart Stage.” American Society for Theatre Research. Baltimore, MD. November 2014.

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- 2013–2014     Graduate Representative for the New Paradigms in Graduate Education Committee, American Society for Theatre Research
- 2012–2013     Conference Assistance Committee, American Society for Theatre Research

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

#### **University of Pittsburgh**

- 2017–2018     Graduate Curriculum and Assessment Committee, Department of Theatre Arts
- 2017–2018     Performance Collaborative New Playwrighting Festival Judge

#### **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

- 2015            Graduate Subcommittee on Student Conduct, Committee Member, University of Illinois.
- 2012–2013     Provost and Graduate College Student Advisory Board, Graduate Student Representative, University of Illinois.
- 2012            Instructional Awards Committee, Theatre Representative, College of Fine and Applied Arts, University of Illinois.



**Department of Theatre, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**

- 2015 Department of Theatre Play Selection Committee, University of Illinois, August 2015–December 2015.
- 2013 Conference Planning Committee, Theatre Studies Graduate Conference, “Landscapes: Performing Space and Culture,” April 2013.
- 2013–2015 Theatre Studies Senior Thesis Project Mentor, Department of Theatre, University of Illinois, August 2013–May 2014; August 2014–May 2015.

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS**

Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas. Member since 2017.

Shakespeare Association of America. Member since 2015.

American Society for Theatre Research. Member since 2012.