

# JANET HAYATSHAHI

## Curriculum Vitae

Department of Arts, Theatre  
Randolph-Macon College  
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### EDUCATION

**MFA, Theatre and Dance (directing emphasis)**, University of California, San Diego, 2012

Thesis title: *The Rest is Silence*

*The Rest is Silence* is a dance theatre performance piece loosely based on the lives of eight Shakespearean heroines who encounter one another after their individual deaths. Through a blend of classical and modern text and contemporary physical narrative, the site-specific event actively engages spectators and invites them to explore the performance through their individual imaginative journey.

**MA, Theatre Arts**, San Diego State University, 2006

Thesis title: *Character in action: A comparison and analysis of select existing approaches to physical actor training in Europe, Asia, and the United States*

**BFA, Acting**, Ithaca College, December 1992

**Certificate, Acting**, Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts, 1991

**Language Skills:** Fluent in Farsi

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### TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Social Problems as Performance: #BlackLivesMatter #meetoo  
Re-imaginings of ancient tales  
Models of Collaboration  
Physical Theatre Techniques  
Community-based Performance  
Solo Performance  
Science/Technology/Performance  
Contemporary Experimental Theatre and Performance  
Post-modern Choreographic Techniques  
Theories of Acting

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## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Randolph-Macon College**

#### **Assistant Professor, Fall 2015 -**

- Introduction to Theatre (111)
- Acting for Non-Majors (112)
- Introduction to Improvisation (115)
- Acting I (211)
- Acting II (212)
- Theatre for Social Change (210)
- Intro to Directing (215)
- Mapping Theatre in Ireland (J-term travel course, 220)
- Dramatics Participation (310)
- Script Analysis (320)
- Junior Seminar (322)
- Senior Thesis in Drama (422)
- Theory and Practice of World Theatre (honors program, HONR 125)
- Principles of Arts Management (arts management program, AMGT 411)

### **Pomona College of the Claremont Colleges**

#### **Visiting Director and Lecturer, Fall 2013 - Spring 2015**

- Beginning Acting (001)
- Intermediate Acting (012)
- Advanced Acting (100)
- Theory/Criticism/Praxis (188)

### **San Diego City College**

#### **Adjunct Professor, 2008 - 2015**

- Acting for Non-Majors (103)
- Intro to Dramatic Arts (online, 105)
- History of Canonized Theatre: Ancient Greece to the Restoration (136)
- History of Theatre: The Restoration to the Present (137)

### **University of California, San Diego**

#### **Lecturer, Summers 2010 - 2012**

- Introduction to Acting (TDAC 1)
- Beginning Contemporary Dance (TDMV 2)

### **San Diego State University**

#### **Adjunct Professor/Lecturer**

#### **Spring 2012**

- Heritage of Storytelling (Family leave replacement. D.J. Hopkins, professor of record)

**2004 - 2009**

Voice and Speech for the Actor (110)  
Acting for Non-Majors (115)  
Acting I (130)  
Theatre for Young Audiences (315)  
Movement for Theatre (355)  
History of the Theatre (460A & B)

**Grossmont College****Adjunct Faculty, Fall 2004 - 2009**

Voice and Movement (115)  
Beginning Acting (130)  
Intermediate Acting (131)  
Advanced Acting II (231)

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**ARTISTIC EMPLOYMENT****La Jolla Playhouse****Summer 2007 – 2012**

Conservatory Director

**Summer 2008**

Young Performer's Workshop

**Old Globe Theatre****2000 – 2005**

Literary Associate

**Summer 2005**

Shakespeare Conservatory Director

**2002 – 2009**

Production Guide

**Sledgehammer Theatre****2004**

Associate Artistic Director/Grant Writer

**2000 - 2006**

Ensemble Member

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## PROFESSIONAL DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

- 2016        ***Thirsting for Salt***, Grüntaler9, Berlin, Germany. Durational performance and performance dinner, examining food in relationship to grief and family, and distance through technology.
- 2013        ***A Vast Hoard*** (World Premier), part of Gallery Secrets, co-produced by Chalk Rep and the Museum of Natural History, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2013        ***Adoration of Dora***, co-directed by Dani Bedau and Janet Hayatshahi. Forest Avenue Collective, Laguna Beach, CA.
- 2012        ***A Man, his Wife, and his Hat***, Moxie Theatre, San Diego, CA.
- 2010        ***Notes from Underground***, Assistant Director to Robert Woodruff, La Jolla Playhouse, San Diego, CA.
- 2009        ***9 Parts of Desire***, Mo'olelo Performing Arts Company, San Diego, CA. KPBS Patté Award for "Outstanding Direction."
- 2008        ***9 Parts of Desire***, Mo'olelo PAC/Thurgood Marshall College Human Rights Symposium (staged reading), San Diego, CA.
- 2007        ***The Turn of the Screw***, Cygnet Theatre, San Diego, CA.
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## DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER

- 2012        ***The Rest is Silence***, UCSD Thesisworks. A full-length dance theatre piece, this original work is loosely based on the lives of eight Shakespearean heroines who encounter one another after their individual deaths. San Diego, CA.
- 2011        ***mouth at each end***, UCSD Winterworks. A 20-minute piece about the modern woman; the woman who likes her house to be immaculate. San Diego, CA.
- 2010        ***Class Ick! de Cons Truck Ted***, UCSD Art Gallery. A full-length dance theatre improvisation deconstructing Clytemnestra and Agamemnon as they are wrapped in cellophane. San Diego, CA.
- 2010        ***Fish Without Bicycle***, UCSD New Directions. A 20-minute dance theatre piece analyzing the three faces of a mother who loses a child: the one who loves, the one who hates, and the poetic one. San Diego, CA.
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## PROFESSIONAL ACTING EXPERIENCE

- 2019        ***The Heiress*** by Ruth and Augustus Goetz. Elizabeth Almond. Seema Sueko, Director. Arena Stage. Washington, DC.
- 2017-19     ***Launching Ships*** by Kirsten Brandt and Janet Hayatshahi. Helen. An examination of beauty and objectification through the mythical journey of Helen of Troy. Immersive performance through film, mediated communication, and live performance. Firehouse Theatre, Richmond, VA, Tentacular Productions, Santa Cruz, CA, George Mason University Gender Studies Conference, and Statera National Conference. Co-directed with Kirsten Brandt.
- 2016        ***Right Now a Moment***, Mina, independent feature film. Maurice Vellas, Director. Richmond, VA.

- 2016 ***Thirsting for Salt***, Grüntaler9, Berlin, Germany. Durational performance cooking Halva (a traditional Persian grief food) and telling stories.
- 2014 ***Andromache***, workshop of a devised adaptation created by the ensemble. Hecuba. Kate Jopson, Director. Circle X Theatre. Los Angeles, CA.
- 2013 ***Adoration of Dora***, by Lauren Simon. Nusch. Dani Bedau and Janet Hayatshahi, co-Directors. Forrest Avenue Collective. Laguna Beach, CA.
- 2010 ***Myth Project V: Cowboys: American Heroes***, conceived & choreographed by Patricia Rincon. Calamity Jane. Patricia Rincon Dance Collective. San Diego, CA.
- 2010 ***Fish Without Bicycle***, conceived & directed/choreographed by Janet Hayatshahi. Clytemnestra. UCSD New Directions. La Jolla, CA.
- 2005 ***The Miser*** by Moliere. Ensemble U/S. Dominique Serrand, Director. La Jolla Playhouse. La Jolla, CA.
- 2005 ***Chrysalis: Rapechild*** by Nick Green. Woman. Esther Emery, Director. Sledgehammer Theatre\*. San Diego, CA.
- 2004 ***A Dream Play*** by August Strindberg. Indra's Daughter. Kirsten Brandt, Director. Sledgehammer Theatre\*. San Diego, CA.
- 2004 ***Macbeth*** by William Shakespeare. Lady Macbeth and 3<sup>rd</sup> Witch. Kirsten Brandt, Director. 9-person cast adaptation. Sledgehammer Theatre\*. San Diego, CA.
- 2004 ***Remains*** by Seema Sueko. Laila. Siobhan Sullivan, Director. Mo'olelo Performing Arts Center. San Diego, CA.
- 2003 ***nu*** conceived and directed by Kirsten Brandt and Jessa Watson. Ensemble. World Premiere – a play without words. Sledgehammer Theatre\*. San Diego, CA.
- 2003 ***[sic]*** by Melissa James Gibson. Babette. Ruff Yeager, Director. Sledgehammer Theatre\*. San Diego, CA.
- 2003 ***Berzerkergång*** by Kirsten Brandt. Erda. Michael Severance and Jessa Watson, co-Directors. World Premiere - based on Wagner's *Ring Cycle*. Sledgehammer Theatre\*. San Diego, CA.
- 2002 ***Master Class*** by Terence McNally. Maria Callas. Rick Simas, Director. Poway Center for Performing Arts. San Diego, CA.
- 2001 ***Richard III*** by William Shakespeare. Ratcliff. Kirsten Brandt, Director. Sledgehammer Theatre\*. San Diego, CA.
- 2000 ***Furious Blood*** by Kelly Stuart. Megaera. Kirsten Brandt, Director. World Premiere - based on the Oresteia. Sledgehammer Theatre\*. San Diego, CA.
- 1999 ***Phenomenal Acceleration*** by Tim West. Mira Markovic. Ethan Feerst, Director. World Premiere. Sledgehammer Theatre\*. San Diego, CA.
- 1999 ***In the Heart of America*** by Naomi Wallace. Fairouz. Bryan Bevell, Director. Fritz Theatre. San Diego, CA.
- 1999 ***Around the World in a Day*** by Steve Cosson. Beatrice. Steve Cosson, Director. San Diego Repertory Theatre Calafia Project. San Diego, CA.
- 1998 ***The Infernal Machine*** by Jean Cocteau. Sphinx. Sarah Gabel, Director. Eclipse Theatre Company\*. Chicago, IL.
- 1998 ***The Knights of the Round Table*** by Jean Cocteau. Guinevere. Jay Paul Skelton, Director. Eclipse Theatre Company\*. Chicago, IL.

- 1997 ***The Devil's Arithmetic*** by Jane Yolen. Gitl. Kay Martinovich, Director. Apple Tree Theatre. Chicago, IL.
- 1996 ***Agamemnon*** by Steven Berkoff. Clytemnestra. Dale Goulding, Director. European Repertory Company. This production had a 3-year run. I performed in this show for one year. Chicago, IL.
- 1995 ***Beyond Therapy*** by Christopher Durang. Charlotte. Charlie Bachmann, Director. Centerpoint Theatre Group. San Luis Obispo, CA.
- 1995 ***The Taming of the Shrew*** by William Shakespeare. Hortensio. Patricia Troxel, Director. Central Coast Shakespeare. San Luis Obispo, CA.
- 1995 ***Macbeth*** by William Shakespeare. Ross. Patrick Kagen-Moore, Director. Central Coast Shakespeare. San Luis Obispo, CA.
- 1995 ***Marvin's Room*** by Scott McPherson. Lee. Michael Hofacre, Director. Centerpoint Theatre Group. San Luis Obispo, CA.
- 1994 ***Rules of Love*** by Joe Pintauro. Ensemble. Charlie Bachmann, Director. Centerpoint Theatre Group. San Luis Obispo, CA.

\*company ensemble member

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#### COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

- 2020 ***Beyond the Brokenness***, short film, Randolph-Macon College.
- 2018 ***It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play***, Randolph-Macon College Cobb Theatre, Ashland, VA.
- 2018 ***Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike***, Randolph-Macon College Cobb Theatre, Ashland, VA.
- 2017 ***It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play***, Randolph-Macon College Cobb Theatre, Ashland, VA.
- 2017 ***Thyestes***, Randolph-Macon College Cobb Theatre, Ashland, VA. This interdisciplinary project was translated by the Classics Department's Latin Drama course and adapted by the Theatre Program's Acting II course.
- 2016 ***Holiday Tales***, Randolph-Macon College Cobb Theatre, Ashland, VA. A staged-reading presentation of *A Christmas Memory* and *A Child's Christmas in Wales*.
- 2016/17 ***Every 28 Hours***, R-MC Acting and Directing course production. A collection of 70 short plays that reflect on current civil rights activism.
- 2016 ***Eurydice***, Randolph-Macon College Cobb Theatre, Ashland, VA.
- 2015/17 ***Climate Change Theatre Action***, R-MC Acting and Directing course production. A global movement of plays and performances reflecting on climate change as part of ARTCOP21 and the Paris climate change talks.
- 2014/2015 ***Kitimat*** (World Premiere), Workshop - December 2014, Production - April 2015. Development of new play, co-commissioned by the Department of Theatre and Dance and the Mellon Elemental Arts Initiative. Pomona College, Claremont, CA.
- 2009 ***Inside Story: Middle Eastern Tales***, SDSU Theatre of the World Festival, San Diego, CA.

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## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING/WORKSHOPS

- 2020 Theatre Communications Group Virtual Conference: Re:Emergence, May and June 2020.
- 2020 Madloba, A Physical Theatre Virtual Conference hosted by Synetic Theater, May 2020.
- 2020 Association for Theatre in Higher Education Virtual Conference, July 2020.
- 2020 Academics for Black Survival and Wellness Virtual Workshop, June 2020.
- 2020 Fulbright Program Adviser Development Initiative, Washington, D.C., March 2020.
- 2020 Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities, *Leading Conversations: Best Practices in Facilitation*, Richmond, VA, February and March 2020.
- 2019 Intimacy Workshop for Directors and Artistic Directors, Arena Stage, Washington, D.C., May 2019.
- 2013 *Moving Words*, Physical Theatre Workshop with Megan Finlay, Not Man Apart, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2013 *Hybrid Expression*, Contemporary Dance workshop with Bebe Miller and Angie Hauser, REDCAT Theatre, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2012 *Ineffable, Intangible, Sensational* workshop with Miguel Gutierrez, PADL West, San Diego, CA.
- 2011 *Readymade Dancing: Spontaneous Choreography in Performance* workshop with Nina Martin, PADL West, San Diego, CA.
- 2010 Contemporary Dance Workshop with Tere O'Connor, REDCAT Theatre, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2009 Cal-Laboratory Kitchen workshop with Allyson Green and dance artists from Eastern Europe and UCSD, San Diego, CA.
- 2008 Viewpoints Workshop with Kim Weild, Burning Wheel, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2008 Viewpoints Workshop with Alexandra Billings SDSU, San Diego, CA.
- 2004 Viewpoints and Suzuki Master Class with Barney O'Hanlon, Sledgehammer Theatre, San Diego, CA.
- 2000-06 Physical Training Workshops, Sledgehammer Theatre, San Diego, CA.
- 2000 *Scenic Presence & Theatrical Soundscape Workshop* with Torgeir Wethal & Frans Winther, Odin Teatret, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 1996 Master Class with Uta Hagen, Piven Theatre Workshop, Chicago, IL.

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## BOOK CHAPTER

- 2019 "Resistance." *Objectives, Obstacles, and Tactics in Practice, Perspectives in Activating the Actors*. Eds. Hillary Haft Bucs, Valerie Clayman Pye. New York: Routledge, 2019: 91-100.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2020 "Beyond the Brokenness: Collaborative Creation from a Virtual Space." Presenter. Virginia Theatre Association Virtual Conference. 30 October 2020.

- 2020 "Devising Your Own Work." Featured Panelist. Virginia Theatre Association Virtual Conference. 30 October 2020.
- 2020 "Finding True Diversity in Theatre." Featured Panelist. Virginia Theatre Association Virtual Conference. 30 October 2020.
- 2020 "Where to go to College to Study Theatre." Featured Panelist. Virginia Theatre Association Virtual Conference. 30 October 2020.
- 2020 "Beyond the Brokenness: Collaborative Creation in a Virtual Space." George Mason University Virtual Conference on Undergraduate Theatre Education. 15 July 2020.
- 2019 "Crafting an Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Community." Roundtable Presenter. Southwestern Social Science Association, San Diego. 31 October 2019.
- 2019 *Launching Ships*. Featured performance. Statera Conference, New York. 28 October 2019.
- 2018 *Launching Ships*. Featured performance. Women and Gender Studies Conference, George Mason University, Fairfax. 16 November 2018.
- 2018 "Bringing Seneca's Thyestes to Life: Integrated Project-based Learning in the Latin and Theatre Classrooms." Presenter. Classical Association of the Middle West and South, Albuquerque. 12 April 2018.
- 2017 "Diversity and Inclusion in American Theatre." Featured Panelist. Virginia Theatre Association Conference, Norfolk. 27 October 2017.
- 2016 "Adjudicated Acting Exercises Debut Session." Peer-reviewed workshop presentation. ATHE Annual Conference, Chicago. 12 August 2016.
- 2015 *Climate Change Theatre Action*, in collaboration with NoPassport, The Arctic Cycle and Theatre Without Borders. Staged reading of plays for global theatre conference. Randolph-Macon College. 20 November 2015.
- 2015 "Secondary Matters: Energizing Millennials." Featured Panelist. Virginia Theatre Association Annual Conference, Norfolk. 24 October 2015.

#### **DIRECTED STUDENT PROJECT**

- 2018 "Closet Land: Combining Theatre and Film for a Psychological Thrill." SURF, Summer 2018.

#### **AWARDS, GRANTS, and FELLOWSHIPS**

- 2020 Walter W. Craigie Grant recipient in support of *Nation of Immigrants* (deferred until 2021 due to COVID-19)
- 2020 Junior Rashkind Grant, research funds and course release (declined due to COVID-19)
- 2019 TOMODACHI Travel Grant recipient to develop *Beyond the Brokenness*, stories of Japan and Survival post 3/11.
- 2018 Walter W. Craigie Grant recipient in support of *Launching Ships*, presented at Center Stage in Santa Cruz, CA.
- 2016 Walter W. Craigie Grant recipient in support of *Thirsting for Salt*, presented at Grüntaler9, Berlin, Germany.



- 2011 UCSD Department of Theatre and Dance travel grant funding for research trip to Berlin, Germany and the Tanz im August Festival.
  - 2009 – 2012 Full Academic Scholarship, University of California, San Diego (UCSD)
  - 2009 – 2012 Teaching Fellowship, UCSD
  - 2009 KPBS Patté Award for “Outstanding Direction,” *9 Parts of Desire*, Mo’olelo Performing Arts Company, San Diego, CA.
  - 2002 Graduate Equity Scholarship, San Diego State University (SDSU)
  - 2002 Marion Ross and Paul Michael Scholarship in the Performance Area, SDSU
  - 2001 Phi Beta Delta International Scholarship, SDSU
  - 1991 – 1992 Full Academic Scholarship - Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY
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## **SERVICE**

### **Service to the College**

- 2020 Co-Moderator, *Decolonizing Our Syllabi*, Anti-Racist Discussion Series
- 2018- Non-discrimination Committee
- 2016- Committee on College Life, Randolph-Macon College
- 2016- Appointed Member, Committee on Assemblies and Special Events, Randolph-Macon College (co-Chair Fall 2019)
- 2016- Fulbright Application Advisee Panel, Randolph-Macon College
- 2017-18 Sociology Search Committee
- 2017 Psychology Search Committee
- 2016-17 Committee on Scholarships, Randolph-Macon College
- 2019 Interviewer: *The Edge* Boot Camp
- 2017-2019 Presidential Scholarship Interview Days

### **Service to the Department**

- 2019 Music Search Committee
- 2018 Music Search Committee
- 2017- Faculty Advisor, Alpha Psi Omega
- 2016- Faculty Advisor, Theatre Arts Group (TAG)

### **Professional Memberships**

- Appointed Member, National Theatre Conference
- Actors Equity Association (AEA)
- Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC)
- Association of Theatre for Higher Education (ATHE)
- Virginia Theatre Association (VTA)
- Statera Arts