

JANET HAYATSHAHI

AEA, SDC
Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

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

Thesis title: *The Rest is Silence*

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

Certificate, Acting, Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts

Language Skills: Fluent in Farsi

TEACHING AND RESEARCH INTERESTS

Theories of Directing and Acting
Devised Performance
Physical Theatre Techniques
Social Problems as Performance: #BlackLivesMatter #meeto
Re-imaginings of ancient tales
Models of Collaboration
Community-based Performance
Solo Performance
Contemporary Experimental Theatre and Performance
Post-modern Choreographic Techniques
Inter/Cross-disciplinary Collaboration

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Seattle University

Assistant Professor, Fall 2022 –

Acting I (2500), II (3500), III (4500)
Beginning Acting (UCOR)
Theatre as Social Change (2700)
Script Analysis (2300)
Solo Performance (3910)
Artistic Innovators (Honors 2420)
Theatre Production (4000)

Randolph-Macon College

Associate Professor, Fall 2021 – Spring 2022

Assistant Professor, Fall 2015 – Spring 2020

Introduction to Improvisation
Theatre for Social Change (210)
Acting for Non-Majors (112), Acting I (211), Acting II (212)
Intro to Directing (215)
Mapping Theatre in Ireland (J-term travel course, 220)
Script Analysis (320)
Junior Seminar (322)
Senior Thesis in Drama (422)

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)

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)

ARTISTIC EMPLOYMENT

La Jolla Playhouse

Summer 2007 - 2012 Conservatory

Movement Instructor for summer theatre training program.

Old Globe Theatre

2000 – 2009

Literary Associate, Teaching Artist, and Shakespeare Conservatory Director

Sledgehammer Theatre

2000 - 2006

Ensemble Member, Associate Artistic Director/Grant Writer (2004)

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

- 2024 ***Love's Labor's Lost***. Seattle Shakespeare Company.
- 2023 ***Lightning: A 10-minute New Play Festival***. Sound Theatre Company.
- 2018-19 ***Launching Ships*** by Kirsten Brandt and Janet Hayatshahi. 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. Kirsten Brandt and Janet Hayatshahi, co-directors.
- 2016 ***Thirsting for Salt***, Grüntaler9, Berlin, Germany. Durational performance examining food in relationship to grief and family as well as distance through technology. Co-directed and conceived with Kirsten Brandt and Lily Kelting.
- 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 (The Hat Play)***, 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

- 2024 ***English***. Roya. Naghmeh Samini, Director. Seda Iranian Theatre Ensemble and ArtsWest. Seattle, WA.

- 2024 **Pfizer/Ibrance** commercial, Seattle, WA.
- 2024 **Western Union** commercial and print ad, Portland, OR.
- 2023 **Henry IV.** Northumberland and Mistress Quickly. S. Franco, Director. Seattle Shakespeare Company. Seattle, WA.
- 2019 **The Heiress** by Ruth and Augustus Goetz. Elizabeth Almond. Seema Sueko, Director. Arena Stage. Washington, DC.
- 2018-19 **Launching Ships** by Kirsten Brandt and Janet Hayatshahi. Helen. (see Directing)
- 2016 **Right Now a Moment**, Mina, independent feature film. Maurice Vellas, Director. Richmond, VA.
- 2016 **Thirsting for Salt**, Grüntaler9, Berlin, Germany. (see Directing)
- 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.
- 2005 **The Miser.** Ensemble U/S. Dominique Serrand, Director. La Jolla Playhouse.
- 2005 **Chrysalis: Rapechild.** Woman. Esther Emery, Director. Sledgehammer Theatre*.
- 2004 **A Dream Play.** Indra's Daughter. Kirsten Brandt, Director. Sledgehammer Theatre*.
- 2004 **Macbeth.** Lady Macbeth and 3rd Witch. Kirsten Brandt, Director. 9-person cast adaptation. Sledgehammer Theatre*.
- 2004 **Remains.** Laila. Siobhan Sullivan, Director. Mo'olelo Performing Arts Center.
- 2003 **nu** conceived and directed by Kirsten Brandt and Jessa Watson. Ensemble. World Premiere – a play without words. Sledgehammer Theatre*.
- 2003 **[sic].** Babette. Ruff Yeager, Director. Sledgehammer Theatre*.
- 2003 **Berzerkergång.** Erda. Michael Severance & Jessa Watson, co-Directors. World Premiere based on Wagner's *Ring Cycle*. Sledgehammer Theatre*.
- 2002 **Master Class.** Maria Callas. Rick Simas, Director. Poway Center for Performing Arts.
- 2001 **Richard III.** Ratcliff. Kirsten Brandt, Director. Sledgehammer Theatre*.
- 2000 **Furious Blood.** Megaera. Kirsten Brandt, Director. World Premiere - based on Oresteia. Sledgehammer Theatre*.
- 1999 **Phenomenal Acceleration.** Mira Markovic. Ethan Feerst, Director. World Premiere. Sledgehammer Theatre*.
- 1999 **In the Heart of America.** Fairouz. Bryan Bevell, Director. Fritz Theatre.
- 1999 **Around the World in a Day** by Steve Cosson. Beatrice. Steve Cosson, Director. San Diego Repertory Theatre Calafia Project.
- 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*.

- 1997 ***The Devil's Arithmetic*** by Jane Yolen. Gitl. Kay Martinovich, Director. Apple Tree Theatre. Chicago, IL.
- 1996 ***Steven Berkoff's Agamemnon***. Clytemnestra. Dale Goulding, Director. European Repertory Company. Chicago, IL.
- 1995 ***Beyond Therapy***. Charlotte. Charlie Bachmann, Director. Centerpoint Theatre Group. San Luis Obispo, CA.

*company ensemble member

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

- 2025 ***The Seagull***, Seattle University
- 2025 **~~*Scratched Out*~~**, Seattle University
- 2023 ***Nora: A Doll's House***, Seattle University
- 2022 ***A Campus Cabaret***, Seattle University
- 2022 ***Peter and the Starcatcher***, Randolph-Macon College (RMC), Ashland, VA
- 2021 ***imprints of those [still] waiting***, site-specific dance piece based on *Waiting for Godot*, RMC
- 2020 ***Beyond the Brokenness***, 37-minute film about Japan and the 3/11 earthquake/tsunami, RMC
- 2018 ***It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play***, RMC
- 2018 ***Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike***, RMC
- 2017 ***It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play***, RMC
- 2017 ***Thyestes***, RMC
- 2016 ***Holiday Tales***, RMC
- 2016/17 ***Every 28 Hours***, RMC
- 2016 ***Eurydice***, RMC
- 2015/17 ***Climate Change Theatre Action***, RMC
- 2014/2015 ***Kitimat*** (World Premiere), Pomona College, Claremont, CA.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING/WORKSHOPS

- 2025 Push Festival Industry Series, Vancouver, BC, January 28-February 1.
- 2024 Seattle Festival of Dance and Improv (SFDI), Seattle, WA, August 5-10, 2024.
- 2023 Directors Lab West, Los Angeles, CA, May 20-27 2023.
- 2021-24 Solidarity Economics Learning Circle
- 2021 Theatrical Intimacy Education online courses: "Best Practices" and "Consent in the Acting Classroom," August 11 & 12, 2021.
- 2020 Fulbright Program Adviser Development Initiative, Washington, DC, March 2020.
- 2020 Theatre Communications Group Virtual Conference: Re: Emergence, May and June 2020.
- 2020 Association for Theatre in Higher Education Virtual Conference, July 2020.
- 2020 Academics for Black Survival and Wellness Virtual Workshop, June 2020.
- 2020 Madloba, A Physical Theatre Virtual Conference hosted by Synetic Theater, May 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 *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.

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

- 2025 Race, Racialization, and Resistance: Curriculum, Pedagogy, and Humanities. "Oral History in Solo Performance as Collective Memory." Seattle University. 26 April 2025.
- 2025 Excerpts from *English*. Bellevue College Faculty Professional Development, Bellevue, WA. 4 March 2025.
- 2025 National Theatre Conference. "Board of Trustees Idea Café." Players Club, New York City. 19 January 2025.
- 2023 Pigott Visual Culture Symposium. "Helen of Troy and the Male Gaze." Seattle University. 13 October 2023.
- 2023 Adjudicated Acting Exercises. Session Coordination. ATHE Austin, TX. 04 August 2023.

- “Devising and New Play Nurturing: Encouraging Diverse Voices Through New and Rebuilt Practices.” ATHE Austin, TX. 04 August 2023.
- “Rebuilding a Stronger Foundation: a salon discussion on enhancing equity through theatre pedagogy.” ATHE Austin, TX. 05 August 2023.
- 2022 **Cold Case** by Cathy Tagnak Rexford. Stavis Award Presentation. National Theatre Conference. New York City. 03 December 2022.
- 2022 Adjudicated Acting Exercises. Session Coordination. ATHE Detroit, Michigan. 28 July 2022.
- “Teaching Theatre and Beyond: Interdisciplinary and Team Teaching.” ATHE Detroit. 30 July 2022.
- 2021 “Reimagining the Acting Classroom with Anti-Racism Principles.” ATHE Virtual Conference. 07 August 2021.
- “International Theatre Exchange: Perspectives on Collaborative Praxis.” ATHE Virtual Conference. 05 August 2021.
- 2020 “Rant.” Presenter. National Theatre Virtual Conference. 04 December 2020.
- 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.” Paper. 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.

AWARDS, GRANTS, and FELLOWSHIPS

2024	Mellon Foundation Project Funding (\$3000) new course development <i>Oral History in Solo Performance as Collective Memory</i> .
2023	Provost Summer Faculty Fellowship (\$7100) recipient in support of <i>Nation of Immigrants</i> .
2021	Walter W. Craigie Grant (\$5450) recipient in support of <i>Nation of Immigrants</i> .
2020	Junior Rashkind Grant, research funds and course release.
2019	TOMODACHI Travel Grant recipient to develop <i>Beyond the Brokenness</i> , stories of Japan and Survival post 3/11.
2018	Walter W. Craigie Grant (\$6280) recipient in support of <i>Launching Ships</i> , presented at Center Stage in Santa Cruz, CA.
2016	Walter W. Craigie Grant (\$6000) recipient in support of <i>Thirsting for Salt</i> , 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	KPBS Patté Award for "Outstanding Direction," <i>9 Parts of Desire</i> , 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

SERVICE

2024	Producing liaison with The Feast at the Lee Center for the Arts (SU)
2023-25	Fulbright National Screening Committee
2023	LIFT SU Goal 4 Working Group, Seattle University (SU)
2021	Executive Committee, Randolph-Macon College (RMC)
2021-	Prestigious Fellowships and Awards Committee, RMC
2020-21	Committee on Faculty Development, RMC
2019-2020	Academic Integrity Appeals Board, RMC
2018-2020	Non-discrimination Committee, RMC
2016-2018	Committee on College Life, RMC
2016-2018	Appointed Member, Committee on Assemblies and Special Events, RMC
2016-17	Committee on Scholarships, RMC

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Board of Directors, Co-Chair, Theatre Puget Sound (TPS)
Board of Trustees, National Theatre Conference (NTC)
Actors Equity Association (AEA)
Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC)
Association of Theatre for Higher Education (ATHE), member-at-large, Theatre as Social Change
Focus Group, adjudicated acting session coordinator, Acting Focus Group