

## **JANET HAYATSHAHI**

AEA

Stage Directors and Choreographers Society

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### **EDUCATION**

**MFA, Theatre and Dance**, 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

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

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### **INVESTIGATION & SPECIALIZATION**

Theories of Acting

Developing Devised Work

Models of Collaboration

Physical Theatre Techniques

Community-based Performance

Solo Performance

Science/Technology/Performance

Contemporary Experimental Theatre and Performance

Post-modern Choreographic Techniques

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## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **Randolph-Macon College**

#### **Assistant Professor**

#### **Fall 2015 – Present**

##### **Courses:**

Acting I  
Acting II  
Intro to Directing  
Junior Seminar  
Introduction to Improvisation  
Script Analysis  
Dramatics Participation  
Mapping Theatre in Ireland (travel course)  
Theatre for Social Change  
Acting for Non-Majors  
Senior Thesis in Drama  
Introduction to Theatre

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

#### **Visiting Director and Lecturer**

#### **Fall 2013 through Spring 2015**

Advanced Acting, Acting Studio: Classical Theatre  
Beginning Acting  
Intermediate Acting  
Theatre Performance and Pedagogy  
Theory/Criticism/Praxis

### **San Diego City College**

#### **Adjunct Professor**

#### **2008 through 2016**

Acting for Non-Majors  
Intro to Dramatic Arts  
History of Theatre: The Restoration to the Present  
History of Canonized Theatre: Ancient Greece to the Restoration  
Intro to Dramatic Arts (exclusively online – 12 terms)

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

#### **Lecturer**

#### **Summers 2010 through 2012**

Introduction to Acting  
Beginning Contemporary Dance

**San Diego State University**

**Adjunct Professor/Lecturer**

**Spring 2012**

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

**2004 through 2009**

Acting I

Movement for Theatre

Voice and Speech for the Actor

Acting for Non-Majors

Theatre for Young Audiences

History of the Theatre (A and B)

**Grossmont College**

**Adjunct Faculty**

**Fall 2004 through 2009**

Beginning Acting

Intermediate Acting

Advanced Acting II

Voice and Movement

**University of California San Diego Extension**

**Instructor**

**Spring 2010**

Improv 101

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**TEACHING ARTIST**

**La Jolla Playhouse**

**Summer 2007 - 2012**

**Conservatory**

Master Class in Suzuki Technique for summer training program.

**Summer 2008**

**Young Performer's Workshop**

Movement Instructor for summer theatre training program. Classes: Spolin improvisation, Viewpoints, Suzuki, and Odin Teatret training techniques.

**Old Globe Theatre**

**Summer 2005**

**Shakespeare Conservatory**

Conservatory Director, Acting/Movement Instructor, and co-director of production of *Macbeth*.

**2002 – 2009**

**Production Guide**

Teaching Artist - interactive workshops to the student groups incorporating standards-based initiatives, helping enhance student's understanding of the production they are to attend through arts literacy in the classroom.

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**ARTISTIC EMPLOYMENT**

**Sledgehammer Theatre**

**2004**

**Associate Artistic Director/Grant Writer**

Associate Artistic Director of Sledgehammer Theatre, assisting with season selection, balancing the budget, grant writing, artistic hiring, and management of the company.

**2000 - 2006**

**Ensemble Member**

As an ensemble member of Sledgehammer Theatre, I was part of a nationally-recognized company known for its intense dedication for developing new American voices in theatre, re-interpreting classic stories, and for creating unique theatrical events.

**Old Globe Theatre**

**2000 – 2005**

**Literary Associate**

I served as part of the season-selection committee at the Old Globe Theatre, reading and reviewing script submissions, supervising a Literary Committee of seven individuals who helped in the assessment of the submitted scripts.

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**DIRECTING EXPERIENCE**

- 2017-18     ***Launching Ships***. An examination of beauty and objectification through the mythical journey of Helen of Troy. Immersive performance through film, mediated communication, and live performance. Workshop conducted in March 2017 with another work-in-progress at Firehouse Theatre, Richmond, VA on January 22, 2018. Co-directed and conceived with Kirsten Brandt.
- 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 ***Every 28 Hours***, R-MC Acting and Directing course production. A collection of 70 short plays that reflect on current civil rights activism.
- 2016 ***Thirsting for Salt***, Grüntaler9, Berlin, Germany. Durational performance and performance dinner, examining food in relationship to grief and family, and distance through technology.
- 2016 ***Eurydice***, Randolph-Macon College Cobb Theatre, Ashland, VA.
- 2015 ***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 Reading in December 2014, Full production in 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.
- 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."
- 2009 ***Inside Story: Middle Eastern Tales***, SDSU Theatre of the World Festival, San Diego, CA.
- 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.

#### 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.
- 2017-18 ***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 and Tentacular Productions, Santa Cruz, CA. 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. KPBS Patté Award for “Outstanding Direction.”
- 2004 ***A Dream Play*** by August Strindberg. Indra’s Daughter. Kirsten Brandt, Director. Sledgehammer Theatre\*. San Diego, CA. KPBS Patté Award “Outstanding Production.”
- 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. KPBS Patté Award for “Outstanding Direction.”
- 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. Playbill Billie Award for “Outstanding Choreography.”
- 2003 ***[sic]*** by Melissa James Gibson. Babette. Ruff Yeager, Director. Sledgehammer Theatre\*. San Diego, CA.
- 2003 ***Berzerkergäng*** by Kirsten Brandt. Erda. Michael Severance and Jessa Watson, co-Directors. World Premiere - based on Wagner’s *Ring Cycle*. Sledgehammer Theatre\*. San Diego, CA. KPBS Patté Award for “Outstanding Production,” San Diego Playbill Billie Award for “Outstanding New Play.”

- 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. KPBS Patti Award for "Outstanding Direction."
- 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.
- 1998 **Use it Again**. B.B. Craig Sjogerman, Director. Gaia Children's Theatre, Chicago, IL.
- 1997 **The Devil's Arithmetic** by Jane Yolen. Gitl. Kay Martinovich, Director. Apple Tree Theatre. Chicago, IL.
- 1997 **A Quirky Carol**. Giselle McQuirk. Craig Sjogerman, Director. Gaia Children's Theatre, Chicago, IL.
- 1996-98 Educational Theatre, female roles, Warren Baumgart, Director. Imagination Theatre Company, 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.

\*ensemble member of theatre company

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#### PERFORMANCE TRAINING/WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

- 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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#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2018 Featured Performer, *Launching Ships*. Women and Gender Studies Conference, George Mason University. November 16, 2018.
- 2018 Paper Session, Classical Association of the Middle West and South. *Bringing Seneca's Thyestes to Life: Integrated Project-based Learning in the Latin and Theatre Classrooms*. April 12, 2018.
- 2017 Featured Panelist. *Diversity and Inclusion in American Theatre*, Virginia Theatre Association Conference. October 27, 2017.
- 2016 ATHE conference workshop presentation in the peer-reviewed *Adjudicated Acting Exercises Debut Session* on August 12, 2016.
- 2015 Climate Change Theatre Action, in collaboration with NoPassport, The Arctic Cycle and TheatreWithout Borders. Staged reading of plays for global theatre conference. Randolph-Macon College. November 20, 2015.
- 2015 Featured Panelist. *Secondary Matters: Energizing Millennials*. Virginia Theatre Association Annual Conference. 22-25 October 2015. Norfolk, VA.
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#### AWARDS, GRANTS, and FELLOWSHIPS

- 2016 Walter Williams 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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### **COMMITTEES/SERVICE**

- 2016-19 Committee on College Life, Randolph-Macon College
- 2016-19 Committee on Assemblies and Special Events, Randolph-Macon College
- 2016-17 Committee on Scholarships, Randolph-Macon College
- 2018-19 Music Search Committee
- 2017-18 Sociology Search Committee
- 2017 Psychology Search Committee
- 2016-2019 Fulbright Application Advisee Panel, Randolph-Macon College
- 2016-19 Faculty Advisor for Theatre Arts Group (TAG)
- 2017-19 Faculty Advisor for Alpha Psi Omega