

James P. Stanley, PhD

Artistic Producer of Theater, Dance & Media
Harvard University

PO Box 55, Marion MA 02738 • 646-322-1542 • jamesstanley@fas.harvard.edu

ARTISTIC PRODUCER

2018-Present

Theater, Dance & Media at Harvard

Oversee three annual productions in theater and dance per year, including artist recruitment and creative team building, administrative management and publicity; oversee alignment of productions with curricular goals of the program; recruit and host visiting artists for talks, workshops, class visits and special programs; collaborate with other departments and programs to produce events that span the Harvard campus.

TEACHING

Harvard University

Lecturer in Theater, Dance & Media

2016-Present

Junior Tutorial

2018-Present

Live Art from Archival Sources: Devised Theater Workshop

2016-Present

Production Studio

2018-19

Total Theater (based on nothing)

2017-18

Lecturer on History & Literature

Imagining Media, Sophomore Tutorial

2016-17

Senior Tutorials

Advising Senior Theses

2015-16

Junior Tutorial

Art and Culture in Postwar America

Fall 2015

Individualized Research Projects

Spring 2016

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

2018

Lecturer on Music and Theater Arts

Comedy Across Media

2018

Harvard Extension School

2017

Graduate Research and Writing in the Humanities*

Spring 2017

Theatrical Realism and the Avant-Garde

Summer 2017

(*commendation for teaching performance)

New York University

Adjunct, Media, Culture, and Communication

2011-2015

Media History of New York

2011-15

History of Media and Communication

2013-14

Media and Cultural Analysis

2013

Cultural Capital: Arts and Culture in NYC

2012-13

Introduction to Human Communication and Culture

2011

Teaching Assistant, Media, Culture, and Communication

2009-2010

Intro to Communications, Prof. Victor Packard

2010

History of Communications, Prof. Lisa Gitelman

2010

Intro to Communications, Prof. Ted Magder

2009

Guest Lecturer, Tisch Performance Studies

2010

Writing the Essay: The World Through Art

Spring

Walker Art Center, MN

2009

Master Class

"Theater of Total Commitment" (with NTUSA)

EDUCATION:

PhD in Media, Culture and Communications**New York University****2015**

Research Interests: theater history, media history, early American popular entertainment, theatrical avant-gardes, performance, space and materiality.

Dissertation:***Vaudevillian Returns: Space, Community and Economy in Postmillennial Theater Cultures***

This dissertation examines three contemporary theater projects that, in pursuing communitarian missions, consciously evoke late nineteenth-century populist cultural forms: vaudeville, Chautauqua and American folk music. Using ethnographic and archival research, as well as years of experience working as a producer, playwright and theatrical performer, I argue that the ways in which these projects frame, adapt, and selectively interpret their historical forbearers point to a persistence of tensions between economy, community, and cultural production in these two transitional eras bracketing twentieth century industrial modernity.

M.A. in Media, Culture and Communications**New York University****2008**

Thesis: "From Arts and Crafts to Intimate Capitalism"

Conservatory in Classical Theater**London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art****1996****B.S. in Film****Boston University****1994**

Additional Training: Nonfiction Writing w/ Philip Lopate, New York State Writers Conference (2005); 'Le Jeu' w/ Philippe Gaulier (2003); Williamstown Theater Festival, Williamstown, MA. (1997-98); Belvoir St. Theater Sydney, AU (1995); National Theater Institute, New London, CT/Chichester, UK (1993).

ARTISTIC AFFILIATION**The National Theater of the United States of America (NTUSA)**

Founder and Co-Artistic Director (2000-2017); Executive Director (2005-2012); Writer, Director, Designer, Performer and Producer (2000-Present)

The NTUSA (2000-2017) was a New York based experimental theater collective whose works mined American history and the history of American entertainment for what they can reveal of our cultural inheritance. NTUSA's works have been produced nationally and internationally. "So funny [they] cease to be avant-garde" (Guardian, UK) "one of the most exciting and eccentric young theater companies in town" (NY Times).

ORIGINAL THEATRICAL WORKS:**CURRENT PROJECTS: (bold indicates premier)*****CVK: Extended Play*** (Performance and Music Album)

(Writer, Composer, Designer, Performer)

FringePVD, Providence RI

2022

[Wilbury Theater Group, Providence RI]**2023]**

[SPACE Gallery, Portland ME

2023]

PAST PROJECTS:***House Warming***

(Writer/Designer/Performer)

Wilbury Theater Group, Providence RI**2017**

B-House Performance Garage, Beacon NY

2018

Torn Page, NYC

2019

<i>A New Practical Guide to Rhetorical Gesture and Action</i>	(Book & Gallery Show)	
	(Producer/Writer/Editor)	
	Book Published by 53rd State Press	2017
	Gallery Show Premier: Abrons Arts Center (NYC)	2017
	Gallery Show: PVD Fringe (Providence, RI)	2017
	Gallery Show Preview: Mass Live Arts, (MA)	2015
<i>The Carroll Street Sisters</i>	(Director, Choreographer)	
	Zeiterion Theater, "Teen, Tiny Dances"	2016
	New Bedford (MA)	
<i>The Golden Veil</i>	(Director/Designer)	
	Premiere: The Kitchen, NYC	2012
	Awards: Henry Hewes Design Award Nominations for Set and Costumes	
	Development: chashama/Uncanny Valley residency (2001-2012), LMCC Swing space residency (2011), EMPAC/Rensselaer Filament Festival (2010), Pratt Institute Performance Residency (2010)	
<i>Chautauqua!</i>	(Writer/Director/Designer/Performer)	
	Premiere: Walker Art Center, Out There Festival (MN)	2009
	Awards: Spalding Gray Award (commission, 2007)	
	Segerstrom Center Off Center Festival (CA)	2012
	Mass MoCA (MA)	2011
	Stonington Opera House (ME)	2011
	Institute of Contemporary Art. Boston (MA)	2011
	Long Wharf Theater, I. F.A. I. (CT)	2010
	Public Theater, Under the Radar Festival (NY)	2010
	NYC Parks Dept. Summerstage (NY)	2009
	Performance Space 122 (NY)	2009
	Vanderbilt University (TN)	2008
	Development:	
	Prelude Festival/CUNY (NY)	2008
	Collapsible Hole (NY)	2008
	The Bushwick Starr	2007
<i>NTUSA'S Don Juan</i>	(Co-Adaptor/Designer/Performer)	
	Premiere: The Chocolate Factory (NY)	2008
	Development: chashama Queens Bank residency	2007
<i>ABSN;RJAB</i>	(Co-Writer/Designer/Performer)	
	Premiere: Performance Space 122 (NY)	2006
	Awards: Village Voice OBIE Award for Design	
	Development: chashama Queens Bank residency,	2006-2007
<i>What's That On My Head!?!</i>	(Co-Writer/Director/Designer/Performer)	
	Premiere: NEST Arts (NY)	2004
<i>Placebo Sunrise</i>	(Writer/Director/Designer/Performer)	
	Premiere: chashama (NY)	2002
	Dublin Fringe Festival	2004
<i>Garvey & Superpant\$: Episode #23</i>	(Writer/Director/Designer/Performer)	
	Premiere: chashama (NY)	2001
	Dublin Fringe Festival	2003

OTHER THEATRICAL WORK

1998-Present

Since 1998, James has worked as a writer, set designer, performer and technician for some of New York's leading experimental theater artists including Young Jean Lee, Richard Maxwell, Hal Hartley, Thomas Bradshaw, Julie Atlas Muz, Phil Soltanoff, Joanna Settle, Darko Tresnjak, Yehuda Duenyas and others. He was a member of the Acting Company (1997) and has performed regionally at the Williamstown Theater Festival and the Westport Playhouse. A complete list of acting and design credits is available upon request.

ACADEMIC/ARTISTIC CONFERENCES:

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| American Society for Theatre Research, San Diego, CA
Working Group: Tourism | 2021 |
| American Society for Theatre Research, Atlanta, GA
Working Group: Pedagogy of Extraordinary Bodies | 2017 |
| University of Ontario, Ontario, CA:
Conference: Extending Expertise: Experts and Amateurs in Communication and Culture
Paper: "Demystifying Production: Arts, Crafts and Intimate Capitalism" | 2011 |
| Public Theater, Under The Radar Festival, New York, NY
Presentation: NTUSA devised work: <i>The Golden Veil</i> | 2011 |
| New York University, NYC
Conference: Politics of the Spectacle
Panel: "Intimate Spectacle – shaping context through the manipulation of space and convention" | 2010 |
| Parsons School of Design
Conference: The Storyteller
Lecture/Demonstration – "Collaborative Theater Practice"/presentation: <i>The Golden Veil</i> | 2010 |
| NYU Graduate Conference: Selecting a Canon in Media Studies
Paper: "Lewis Mumford: Loose Canon" | 2007 |

PUBLICATION

Books

- | | |
|---|------|
| <i>A New Practical Guide to Rhetorical Gesture and Action</i> (forthcoming) | 2017 |
| An NTUSA book project: illustrations by Jesse Hawley, text by Normandy Sherwood, essay by James Stanley; published by 53 rd State Press. | |

Book Reviews

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|---|-----------|
| "How Spiritualism Spread," <i>Public Books</i> | July 2016 |
| Multi-book review: <i>Mr. Splitfoof</i> by Samantha Hunt; <i>The Witch of Lime Street: Science, Seduction and Houdini in the Spirit World</i> by David Jaher; <i>Supernatural Entertainments: Victorian Spiritualism and the Rise of Modern Media Culture</i> . | |

Excerpted from Theatrical Text

- "The National Theater of the United States of America: Chautauqua!" *Brooklyn Review*, 26: 24-29, 2008.

MEDIA CITATIONS AND APPEARANCES

- Martin Harries. "Theater and Media Before "New" Media: Becket's *Film* and *Play*." *Theater*, 42:2 (2012), 7-25.

Patricia Milder. "Teaching as Art: The Contemporary Lecture-Performance." *PAJ: A Journal of Performance and Art*, 33:1 (January, 2011), 13-27.

Jessica Del Vecchio. "The Most American Thing in New York City: The Historiography of the National Theater of the United States of America." *TDR: The Drama Review*, 54:4 (Winter 2010): 155-174.

Interview: "Downtown Chautauqua." *The Brian Lehrer Show*. NPR/WNYC, 3/2/2009.
<http://www.wnyc.org/story/29866-downtown-chautauqua/>

EDITORIAL

Assistant Editor

Public Culture

2011-2012

HONORS AWARDS AND RESIDENCIES

ACADEMIC HONORS

Phyllis and Gerald LeBoff Doctoral Fellow 2009

ARTISTIC HONORS (with NTUSA)

Henry Hewes Design Award Nominations: *The Golden Veil* 2012

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council: President's Award 2010

Spalding Gray Award: *Chautauqua!* 2007

Village Voice OBIE Award for Design: *ABS:N:RJAB* 2006

FOUNDATION AWARDS

The Mellon Foundation/NYFA bi-annual operating support 2011-2015

New York State Council on the Arts annual project based support 2005-2015

NYC Department of Cultural Affairs annual project based support 2006-2015

Greenwall Foundation annual project based support 2005-2008

Arts International/DNA Project 2003

And more...

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

2018 SPACE at Ryder Farm (*CVK: Extended Play*)

2017 New Works at Wilbury Theater (*House Warming*)

2014 LMCC Process Space Residency (*A New Practical Guide...*)

2011-2012 chashama residency (Uncanny Valley and *The Golden Veil*)

2011 LMCC Swing Space Residency (*The Golden Veil*)

2010 FILAMENT Festival/EMPAC at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (*The Golden Veil*)

2010 Pratt Institute Performance Residency (*The Golden Veil*)

2005-2007 chashama Queens Bank residency (*Don Juan and Abacus Black*)

2005-2006 LMCC Swing Space Residency (*Abacus Black*)

2003-2005 Residencies at 70 Washington St and 16 Main St. In DUMBO, Brooklyn, provided by TWO

TREES realty. (*What's That on My HEAD!?! Placebo Sunrise tours*)

2000—2004 chashama residency (*Placebo Sunrise, Garvey & Superpant\$*)