

JOHN H. MUSE

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Chicago, 2010-present
Assistant Professor, Department of English, Committee on Theater and Performance Studies, and the College of Arts and Sciences

Yale University, 2009-2010
Instructor, English Department

EDUCATION

Yale University, Ph.D. in English Literature, 2004-2010
Dissertation: *Short Attention Span Theaters: Modernist Shorts Since 1880*, directed by Professors Joseph Roach and Marc Robinson
English Department Prize for best dissertation, 2010-2011

Yale University, B.A. in English Literature, 1996-2000
Phi Beta Kappa, *summa cum laude*, extraordinary distinction in the major

HONORS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Nominated for Executive Committee, American Society for Theater Research, 2015-18
Franke Institute Fellowship in the Humanities, University of Chicago, 2013-14
Mellon Summer School for Theatre and Performance Research at Harvard University, 2011
Best Dissertation Prize, Yale English Department, 2010
Thomas F. Marshall Travel Grant, American Society for Theatre Research, 2009
Whiting Dissertation Fellowship in the Humanities, 2008-2009
Beinecke Library Summer Research Fellowship, 2006
Distinction in all fields, English Department Oral Examination, Yale University, 2006
Yale Graduate School Fellowship, 2004-2008
Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship in Humanistic Studies, 2004-2005
Lloyd Mifflin Prize for excellence in English and American Literature, Yale University, 2000
Robert Stewart Kilborne Fellowship (funding research abroad on James Joyce), 1999

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Monograph

Microdramas: Crucibles for Theater and Time. University of Michigan Press, 2017.

Journal Articles

- “Virtual Theater, Virtual Spectatorship: On Jonathan Ball’s *Clockfire*” *Theater* 48.1 (Winter 2018): 79-89.
- “Performance and the Pace of Empathy.” *Affect, Performance, Politics* Special Section of *The Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism* 26.2 (Spring 2012): 173-188.
- “140 Characters in Search of a Theater: Twitter Plays.” *Theater* 41.2 (Summer 2012): 42-63.
- “Flash Mobs and the Diffusion of Audience.” *Theater* 40.3 (Fall 2010): 9-23.
- “Dimensions of the Moment: Modernist Shorts.” *Modern Drama* 53.1 (Spring 2010): 76-102.
- “The Paradoxes of Suzan-Lori Parks’s *365 Days / 365 Plays*.” *The Journal of American Drama and Theatre* 22.1 (Winter 2010): 7-31.
- “The Craft of Naiyer Masud.” *Annual of Urdu Studies* 21 (2006): 2-22.

Scholarly Interviews

- “Killing Time in *Waiting for Godot*: An Interview with John Muse,” *Center for Classic Theater Review* 3 (2014/15), 34-38.

Book and Performance Reviews

- Modern Drama and the Rhetoric of Theater* by W. B. Worthen. *Critical Inquiry*, 13 June 2016.
- Performance review of *Song About Himself*, by Mickle Maher. *Theatre Journal*, 67 (2015) 699-700.
- The Cambridge Introduction to Modern British Theatre* by Simon Shepherd. *Modern Philology* 110.3 (February 2013): E213-215.
- Great Lengths: Seven Works of Marathon Theater* by Jonathan Kalb. *Modern Drama* 55.4 (Winter 2012): 581-84.

Other Writing

- “Anecdote of the Stage (After Stevens),” and critical gloss, *Imagined Theatres: Writing for a Theoretical Stage*, ed. Daniel Sack (New York: Routledge, 2017), 26-27.
- “The Play had stood—A Loaded Gun,” critical gloss on Jonathan Ball’s play *Gun*, in *Imagined Theatres: Writing for a Theoretical Stage*, ed. Daniel Sack (New York: Routledge, 2017), 97.

Work in Progress

- Theater and the Virtual* (monograph).

“Microdrama,” contribution to special issue on short form in *New Literary History* 50.2 (2019).

INVITED TALKS AND PAPERS

“Theater’s Virtual Realities,” Materiality and Invisibility in Theatre and Performance Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, April 2018

“Virtual Theater as Theory,” Theater and Performance Studies Graduate Workshop, University of Chicago, May 2017

“Spectatorship Bound and Unbound,” Spectatorship in an Age of Surveillance Symposium, Bard College, October 2016.

“Temporal Structures of Feeling: Digital Rhythms,” Structures of Digital Feeling conference, State University of New York, Buffalo, 2015

“Joyce’s Music, Joyce’s Theater,” Court Theater Producer’s Circle, University of Chicago, 2012

“Microdramas,” Humanities Visiting Committee, University of Chicago, 2012

“A Little Order: Time, Shape, and Control in Beckett’s Late Plays,” Theater and Performance Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, 2012

“Façade: Interactive Drama in New Media,” Cinema and Media Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, 2011

“On Brevity in Modern Drama,” Franke Institute of Humanities, University of Chicago, 2011

“Marinetti, Mayakovsky, and Meyerhold,” Survey of Theatre and Drama II, Yale University, February 2008

“*Twelfth Night*: The Mirror and the Feast,” Survey of Theatre and Drama I, Yale University, October 2007

“Tennessee Williams’s *Period of Adjustment*,” Modern American Drama, Yale University, November 2006.

CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS, AND PANELS

“On Virtual Violence,” Violent Bodies, Violent Acts Working Group, American Society for Theater Research, November 2017

Respondent, Theater and Transmedia Working Session, American Society for Theater Research, November 2016

- “Twitter Theater and Virtual Realism,” Stakes of Digital Scholarship in Theater and Performance working session, American Society for Theatre Research, November 2015
- “(How) did modernism end?,” Modernist Studies Workshop, University of Chicago, April 2015
- “Maeterlinck’s Anti-theatricality,” Theatrophobia Symposium, University of Chicago, April 2015
- “A World, An Artifact, An Event: Three Ways of Looking at *Waiting for Godot*,” Weissbourd Symposium, Harper Schmidt Society of Fellows, University of Chicago, 2015
- “Staging *Waiting for Godot*,” Panel at Court Theater, University of Chicago, 2015
- “Love and Information and Time: Structural Rhythm,” Time as Actor working session, American Society for Theater Research Conference, Baltimore, November 2014
- “The Big Tent: Theater and Performance Studies and the Rhetoric of Drama,” Drama Divisions Today panel, Modern Language Association Conference, 2014
- Panelist and Respondent at “Marathon Theater” Event, Segal Theater Center, City University of New York, April 2013
- “Futurist Simultaneity in Theory and Practice,” Pre-circulated for Staging Time, Timing History seminar, American Society for Theater Research Conference, Nashville, 2012
- “Frost and the Dramatic Mode,” Panel on *Poetry/Performance/Poetry*, Modernist Studies Association Conference, Las Vegas, 2012
- “A Little Order: Time, Shape, and Control in Beckett’s Late Plays,” Pre-circulated for faculty seminar, Mellon School for Theatre and Performance Research, Harvard University, 2011
- “The Challenges of Comprehensiveness.” Response paper at panel on Catherine Cole’s *Performing South Africa’s Truth Commission: Stages of Transition*, Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference, Chicago, 2011
- “From Novel to Drama: Beckett’s Small Medium,” Pre-circulated for Media of Theater and Dance in History and Theory seminar, American Society for Theatre Research Conference, Seattle, 2010
- “Fail Better: How (Not) To Do What Beckett Says,” Panel on Top/Bottom Modernisms, Modernist Studies Association Conference, Montreal, 2009
- “Play 2.0: *The WikiPlay* and Radically-Inclusive Collaboration,” Pre-circulated for Digital DestiNations seminar, American Society for Theatre Research Conference, San Juan, 2009

- “Chekhov and the Slow Death of Suicide,” Twentieth Century Colloquium Graduate Student Conference, Yale University, New Haven, 2009
- “Parks and the Pace of Empathy,” Radical Intersections Conference, Performance Studies Department, Northwestern University, Evanston, 2009
- “The Empathetic Moment? Performance and the Pace of Empathy,” Seminar on Activism and the Limits of Empathy, American Society for Theatre Research Conference, Boston, 2008.
- “Maeterlinck’s Intermediary Worlds,” Seminar on Modernism and the Fantastic, Modernist Studies Association Conference, Nashville, 2008
- “The Sound of Wind or Whales Forever: Parks’s Paradoxes,” Twentieth Century Colloquium Graduate Student Conference, Yale University, New Haven, 2008.
- “A Brief, Well-Lighted Place: Microdramas by Cangiullo, Beckett, and Parks,” Twentieth Century Colloquium Graduate Student Conference, Yale University, New Haven, 2007
- “America Always Pictorial? Whitman and Photography, Reconsidered,” Ethics of Photography Graduate Student Conference, Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, 2007

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Areas of Specialization

Late Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Theater and Literature
Contemporary Theater and Performance
Avant-garde Drama and Literature
Theater History
Theater and Digital Media
Media Studies, Genre Studies

University of Chicago

Virtual Theaters, Master’s level interdisciplinary seminar, Spring 2018, Winter 2017, Spring 2015
Theater about Theater, undergraduate seminar, Spring 2018 (Signature Course), Winter 2016
Approaches to Theater 2: Late 17th Century to the Present, Spring 2017
Approaches to Theater 1: Ancient to Renaissance, Winter 2017
Text and Performance, Humanities Arts Core course, Fall 2017, Spring 2015, Fall 2015
Media Aesthetics—Text, Humanities Core for first-year students, Winter 2016, 2013, 2012, 2011
Staging Modernism, PhD Seminar, Fall 2015
Introduction to Drama, undergraduate lecture, Winter 2015
Staging Modernism, Master's level interdisciplinary seminar, Fall 2012
History and Theory of Drama, MA/undergraduate seminar, Fall 2012

Beckett and Media, Master's level interdisciplinary seminar, Fall 2011
Impossible Theaters, undergraduate seminar, Fall 2011
Beckett: Page, Stage, Screen, undergraduate seminar, Fall 2010
Short Attention Span Fictions, MA/undergraduate seminar, Fall 2010

Yale University

Short Attention Span Fictions, Instructor, writing intensive seminar, Spring 2010
European Literary Tradition, Instructor, writing intensive seminar, Fall 2009
Survey of Theatre and Drama II: 17th Century to the Present, Teaching Assistant to Marc Robinson, Spring 2008
Survey of Theatre and Drama I: Antiquity to European Renaissance, Teaching Assistant to Marc Robinson, Fall 2007
Daily Themes, Tutor, intensive creative writing course, 2006-2007
Shakespeare's Comedies and Romances, Teaching Assistant to Lawrence Manley, Spring 2007
Modern American Drama, Teaching Assistant for Murray Biggs, Fall 2006

Chiang Mai University, Thailand

Taught intermediate to advanced courses in English as a foreign language (writing, reading, grammar and conversation) at a public university, 2002-2004

DISSERTATION, THESIS, AND ORALS SUPERVISION

PhD Dissertations

Joseph Simmons, "A Peaceful Modernism: The Early Work of David Jones and W. H. Auden," Committee on Social Thought, in progress.
Rachel Kyne, "Stuck in Time: Modernist Momentums" English department, 2014-2017
Brian Berry, "Serious Doubt: Skepticism and the Ordinary in Samuel Beckett and Stanley Cavell" Comparative Literature, 2014-2016.

Masters Theses

Maxine Frenzel, "@realDonaldTrump: Performance, Performativity, and Affect in a Digital Era," 2018
Jeffrey Chin, "Covert Reclamation: Citizenship and Masculinity in David Henry Hwang's *M. Butterfly*," 2018
Molly Greene, "The Ground of *Hamlet*: Reading Hamlet through Thomas Ostermeier's 2008 production," 2017
Jose Clair, *Four Days Without Breathing* (Graham School), 2016
Marnie Rose, "Reshaping Modern Form: Virginia Woolf's Photo Albums and *The Waves*," 2015
Logan Metz, "The Tragicall History of Othello T. Moore: A Play with Music," 2015
Mercedes Trigos, "Present Absence and Absent Presence: Lorca's *La Casa de Bernarda Alba*," 2013
David Lurie, "Games of Access and Coherence in Samuel Beckett," 2012
Nahuel Telleria, "Don't We Laugh: Humor in Samuel Beckett's *Endgame*," 2012
Allison Thawley, "Performing Stories in *Pericles*," 2011

Lorenzo Rubio, "Stage Directions in Parks's *365 Days/365 Plays*," 2011

BA Honors Theses

Yuri Motoyama, "Beckett's Decompositions: *How It Is* and the Material History of Tenderness," 2018

Elisabeth del Toro, "The American Musical As A Political Object: An Exploration of Accessibility and Live Performance," 2016

Joshua Harris, "A Million Lies: Unreliable Narration as Human Subjectivity in Crime Fiction and Film Noir," 2016

Carol Ann Tan, *Apartment Complex* (original play), 2015

Christopher Deakin, "It's All Here: Towards a Total Experience of MB Financial Park at Rosemont" (original solo performance and paper), 2015

Evan Garrett, "What's the Date? Exploring a Theatrical Representation of Solitary Living and its Relevance to Contemporary Life," (original solo performance and paper), 2012

Amanda Fink, "Dramatic Chapters within the Novel and Trauma," 2012

David Sisco Casey, "Gary Shteyngart, the Internet, and the (Unlikely) Demise of Literature," 2011

Oral Fields Examinations

Jennifer Pan (chair), 2018

Stephen Pannuto (chair), 2016

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND ACTIVITIES

In the fields of Modernist Studies, Theater Studies, and Digital Culture:

Editorial Board, ImaginedTheaters.com, 2017-present

Manuscript Reviewer, Methuen Drama, 2017

Referee, *Studies in Theatre and Performance*, 2017

Panelist, "Surviving the Tenure Track," American Society for Theatre Research, November 2016

Working session organizer, "Theater and Transmedia," American Society for Theater Research, November 2016

Co-author, Inaugural National Adjunct Labor Survey for Faculty in Theater and Performance Studies, Association for Theatre in Higher Education, July 2015

Moderator, Adjunct Labor Open Forum, Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference, Montreal, July 2015

Member, Strategic Planning Committee, Association for Theater in Higher Education, 2013-15

Conference organizer, "What Can Performance Philosophy Do?" University of Chicago, Chicago Cultural Center, and School of the Art Institute of Chicago, 2015

Panel chair and moderator, "Time, Beckett, and Performance as Philosophy." Performance Philosophy Conference, Chicago, 2015

- Referee in modern drama, *Modern Philology*, 2015, 2013, 2011
- Working session organizer, "Time as Actor: Temporal Turns in Theater and Performance," American Society for Theatre Research Conference, 2014
- Panelist, "Drama Divisions Today," Modern Language Association Conference, 2014
- Chair and Respondent, "Aversive Aesthetics: The Play of Unpleasant Feelings in Performance," Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference, 2013
- Chair, "Play is the Ultimate Principle: The Everyday and Its Disruptions in the 1960s Avant-Garde," Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference, 2013
- Discussion Leader, Midwest Faculty Seminar on Digital Humanities, Dec 2013
- Working session organizer, "Staging Time, Timing History," American Society for Theatre Research Conference, 2012
- Seminar organizer, "Recoiling from Modernism," Modernist Studies Association Conference, 2012
- Panel organizer, "Doing Justice: Responding to Catherine Cole's *Performing South Africa's Truth Commission: Stages of Transition*," Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference, 2011
- Member-at-Large, Performance Studies Focus Group, Association for Theatre in Higher Education, 2010-2011
- Panel organizer, "Top/Bottom Modernisms," Modernist Studies Association Conference, November 2009
- Manuscript reviewer, *Modern Drama*, 2011
- Research Assistant to Pericles Lewis for "Modern Drama" chapter in *The Cambridge Introduction to Modernism*, 2005-2006
- At University of Chicago:
- Committee on Theater and Performance Studies*
- Member, Theater and Performance Studies Hiring and Curriculum Committee, 2017-18, 2016-2017
- Member, Theater and Performance Studies Graduate Admissions Committee, 2018, 2017
- Member, Ad-hoc Committee to Review a Senior Lecturer for Renewal, 2017-2018
- MAPH Liaison, Committee on Theater & Performance Studies, 2017-18
- Member, Executive Committee, Center for Theater and Performance Studies, 2012-16
- Co-author, Theater and Performance Studies Graduate Program Proposal, Feb 2016
- Member, Professor of Practice Search Committee, Theater and Performance Studies, 2015
- English Department*
- Second-year Graduate Student advisor, 2017-18
- Advisor, *Exhaustion*, Department of English Graduate Conference, 2018

Member, Graduate Admissions Committee, 2016

Graduate Job Placement Advisor, English Department, 2011-12, 2012-13, and 2014-15

English Department Liaison for the Joint PhD in Theater and Performance Studies, 2015-present

Third Year Graduate Student Advisor, 2014-15, 2015-16

Member, English Department Policy Committee, 2011-12

Advisor, *States of Suspension: Politics and Histories, Aesthetics and Affects* Graduate Conference, 2012

English Department Representative, Thesis Defense by Melissa Barton, 2012

English Department Representative, Thesis Defense by Mary Cohen, 2012

English Department Representative, Thesis Defense by Adam Rzepka, 2011

Member, Program Review Committee, 2010-2011

The College

Arts Core Faculty Coordinator, Theater and Performance Studies, 2017-18

Faculty Advisor, The Underground Collective (Performance Troupe), 2016-2017

Moderator, Aims of Education Post-talk Discussion, Rickert House, 2015

Thinking about Grad School PRISM Information Session, 2010

The Division

Member, Divisional Dissertation Completion Fellowship Committee, 2017

Dean's Representative, Dissertation Defense by Anne Rebull, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, April 2017

Member, MAPH Faculty Advisory Committee, Humanities Division, 2014-17

Dean's Representative, Dissertation Defense by Mimmi Woisnitza, Germanic Studies, 2015

Co-author, Theater and Performance Studies Initiative, presented to Humanities Visiting Committee Arts Task Force, 2014

Dean's Representative, Dissertation Defense by Michelle Puetz, CMS, 2012

Panelist, The Arts and the University of Chicago, Humanities Visiting Committee, 2012

Committee on Theater and Performance Studies, 2010-2018

Dean's Representative, Dissertation defense by Melchijah Spragins, Music, 2010

The University

Faculty sponsor, Theater and Performance Studies Workshop, Council on Advanced Studies, 2011-2018.

Member, Faculty Advisory Council, Court Theater, 2013-2018

Co-author, White Paper on Theater and Performance Studies Initiative, 2017

Panelist, Dissertation as Process, Graduate School, 2015

Panelist, The First Book, Department of Germanic Languages, 2014

Panelist, "Why Teach at a Liberal Arts College?," Graduate School, 2012

MEMBERSHIPS

Modern Language Association

Modernist Studies Association

American Society for Theatre Research

Association for Theatre in Higher Education

Performance Philosophy