

**CURTIS RUSSELL**

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**EDUCATION:**

- Ph.D. The Graduate Center, City University of New York, expected 2022. Theatre and Performance. Certificate in Film Studies. Dissertation - "Pictures of the Past: Nostalgia for Classical Hollywood in the Broadway Musical, 1955-1990." Advisor: David Savran.
- M.A. Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, University of London, 2015, with Distinction. Performance and the City (renamed Theatre Criticism and Dramaturgy).
- H.B.A. University of Utah, 2014. Theatre Studies, magna cum laude. Honors designation.

**AREAS OF RESEARCH AND TEACHING:**

Musical Theatre; Theatre and Performance: Theory and Criticism; History; Dramaturgy; Chilean Theatre; Twentieth-Century US Drama; British Theatre; National Theatres; Film: Film Genres; Chilean Cinema; Twentieth and Twenty-First Century US Cinema; Television

<b>RESEARCH</b>
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**JOURNAL ARTICLES:**

- "Four *Hairsprays*, one Baltimore: The city in trans-medial adaptation," *Studies in Musical Theatre* 12.3 (2018): 367-375. Peer-reviewed article.
- "Juan Radrigán and the Gringo, or Why Chilean Theatre Deserves Our Attention," *Review: The Journal of Dramaturgy* 23.2 (2014): 12-18. Article.
- "Entrevista con Andrea Ubal sobre *Beckett y Godot* de Radrigán," *Latin American Theatre Review* 47.2 (2014): 123-127. Interview.

**BOOK, PERFORMANCE, AND FILM REVIEWS:**

- "Dawson City: Frozen Time (2017)," *Film and History* 48.2 (2018). Film Review of *Dawson City: Frozen Time*, Dir. Bill Morrison.
- "Scorched Earth," *PAJ: A Journal of Performance and Art* 40.2 (2018). Performance Review of Belarus Free Theatre's *Burning Doors* at La MaMa E.T.C., New York, October 12-23, 2017.
- Book Review of Jeremy Harrison's *Actor-Musicianship*, Dan Dietz's *The Complete Book of 1940s Broadway Musicals*, and Stephen Purdy's *Musical Theatre Song*. *The Journal of American Drama and Theatre* 30.1 (2017).
- "The Process of Dramaturgy," *Review: The Journal of Dramaturgy* 23.1 (2013). Book Review with Martine Kei Green-Rogers of Scott R. Irelan, Anne Fletcher, and Julie Felise Dubiner's *The Process of Dramaturgy*.

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS:**

*Off Off Online*, Theatre Reviewer, 2017-2019. 44 theatre performance reviews.

*Exeunt Magazine*, Theatre Reviewer, 2017-2019. 9 theatre reviews and columns.

*Graduate Center Advocate*, Columnist, 2017-2018. 6 theatre/film/TV reviews and columns.

**EDITING:**

2017 Book Editor Assistant, *Theatre Survey*

2016-2017 Managing Editor, *The Journal of American Drama and Theatre*

**CONFERENCE PAPERS AND EXPERIENCE (juried, unless noted otherwise):**

“*Singin’ in the Rain: Hidden Sound, Invisible Labor.*” Paper accepted to be presented at cancelled annual meeting for the Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Detroit, MI, July 29-August 2, 2020.

“It Came from Hollywood: 1978’s *Platinum* and the Dawn of Broadway’s Hollywood Turn.” Paper accepted to be presented at cancelled annual Song, Stage and Screen Conference, Cleveland, OH, June 17-20, 2020.

“New Ways to Dream: A Taxonomy of the Screen-to-Stage Musical.” Paper presented at the annual Song, Stage and Screen conference, Leeds, UK, June 26-29, 2019.

“Someone Else’s Memories of Oblivion: Juan Radrigán and the Indigenous Other.” Paper presented at the annual meeting for the Latin American Studies Association, Boston, MA, May 24-27, 2019.

“Cool Heads Prevail: Pop Music in the Films and TV of Edgar Wright.” Paper presented at the annual meeting for the Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Seattle, WA, March 13-17, 2019.

“Emotional Capitalism on 51<sup>st</sup> St.: Navigating Failure with the Cast, Crew, Creators, Critics, Patrons, Investors, Staff, and Friends of *A Doll’s Life*.” Paper accepted to be presented at the cancelled annual meeting for the American Society for Theatre Research, San Diego, CA, November 15-18, 2018.

“I Know They’re Kids But They’re Awesome!: The Virtuositic Spectacle of Child Prodigies in *Billy Elliot* and *School of Rock*.” Paper presented at Broadway Bodies: An Interdisciplinary Conference on the Musical, Washington University, St. Louis, MO, September 28-29, 2018.

“Four *Hairsprays*, One Baltimore: The City in Trans-Medial Adaptation.” Paper presented at the annual meeting for the Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Boston, MA, August 1-5, 2018.

“Ghost Lights in the Floor: Political and Aesthetic Hauntings in *Tony Manero*.” Paper presented at the annual meeting for the Popular Culture Association, Indianapolis, IN, March 28-31, 2018.

**INVITED LECTURES**

2018 Invited speaker, Prelude 2018 talkback, Martin E. Segal Theatre Center, The Graduate Center, CUNY

**TEACHING**

**DREW UNIVERSITY (Madison, New Jersey)**

**Lecturer, Theatre and Dance, 2018 – present**

**Courses Taught:**

Dramaturgy (Spring 2020)  
History of the Musical Theatre (Spring 2019)  
Art of the Play (Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2020)  
Contemporary Performance and Critical Theory (Fall 2018)

**LEHMAN COLLEGE (New York, New York)**

**Lecturer, Music, Multimedia, Theatre, and Dance, 2018 - 2019**

**Courses Taught:**

History of Musical Theatre (Fall 2018, Spring 2019)

**THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK (New York, New York)**

**Lecturer, Theatre and Speech, 2017 – 2019**

**Courses Taught:**

Theatre History I (Fall 2018, Fall 2019)  
Introduction to Theatre Arts (Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019)

**THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH (Salt Lake City, Utah)**

**Lecturer, Theatre, 2016**

**Course Taught:**

Introduction to Studio [Script Analysis for Musical Theatre Majors] (Spring 2016)

**FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND DISTINCTIONS**

- 2020 Connect New York Fellowship, The Graduate Center, CUNY, \$4,000.
- 2020 Doctoral Student Research Grant, The Graduate Center, CUNY, \$1,500.
- 2020 Student Conference Travel Award, The Graduate Center, CUNY, \$600.
- 2019 Student Conference Travel Award, The Graduate Center, CUNY, \$300.
- 2018 Student Conference Travel Award, The Graduate Center, CUNY, \$300.
- 2017 Sidney E. Cohn International Theatre-Going Award (for travel to Cuba), The Graduate Center, CUNY, \$1,000.
- 2016 Judith Milhous Theatre-Going Award, The Graduate Center, CUNY, given to two first-year students, \$1,000.
- 2016 Five-Year Graduate Center Fellowship, \$125,000 and tuition waiver.
- 2014 Theatre Honors Thesis: Documentary play *The Zion Curtain*, University of Utah. Advisor: Sydney Cheek-O'Donnell.
- 2013 Marion Stiebel Siciliano Utah Fine Arts Institute Scholarship, University of Utah, \$4,000.
- 2013 Jack Lunt Prize for Summer Study (for study in Chile with playwright Juan Radrigán), University of Utah, \$500.
- 2013 Ralph E. and Winnifred S. Margetts Scholarship for Excellence in Dramaturgy, University of Utah, \$1,000.
- 2013 University of Utah Department of Theatre Scholarship, \$1,000.
- 2012 Ralph E. and Winnifred S. Margetts Scholarship for Excellence in Dramaturgy, University of Utah, \$1,000.
- 2012 University of Utah Department of Theatre Scholarship, \$1,000.

## SERVICE

### UNIVERSITY SERVICE, THE GRADUATE CENTER, CUNY

2018-19 Co-chair, Conference Planning Committee for Screening Performance, Performing Screens: New Projections in Theatre and Media. Sponsored by Doctoral Theatre Students' Association and Martin E. Segal Theatre Center, May 13-14, 2019.

2018-19 Elected Admissions and Awards Officer, Doctoral Theatre Students' Association Board; Served on Department of Theatre and Performance Admissions Committee

### UNIVERSITY SERVICE, THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK

2018 Norming Committee, Division of Humanities & the Arts

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Drama Desk

Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS)

Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA)

Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)

American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR)

Out of the Wings Theatrical Translation Group, King's College, London

### LANGUAGES

English—fluent.

Spanish—fluent.

French—reading proficiency.

## CREATIVE ACTIVITY

### PRODUCING:

Co-Founder/Dramaturg, Pintamonos, theatre-in-translation and new writing company, London, 2014-2015.

Producer/Stage Manager, *The Zion Curtain*, by Curtis Russell, Studio 115, University of Utah, January 2013.

### PLAYWRITING:

Lyricist/Head Librettist/Dramaturg, *Pomp and Circumstance*, an original musical written for and with input from the University of Utah's first graduating musical theatre senior class, Music by Alex Marshall, Directed by Denny Berry, April, 2014.

*The Zion Curtain*, Studio 115, University of Utah, January, 2013.

*When the Gods Came Looking for Us, We Were Buried Under the Sand*, University of Utah New Play Workshop, April, 2012.

### TRANSLATION:

*The Maids (Las Nanas)* by Leonardo González, staged reading November 20, 2016, The Bridge Theatre at Shetler Studios, NYC; full production IATI Theater, NYC, June 22-25, 2017. Produced by LaMicro Theater.

*Drunken Ghosts (Los Fantasmas Borrachos)* by Juan Radrigán, staged reading November 19, 2016, The Bridge Theatre at Shetler Studios, NYC. Produced by LaMicro Theater.

*Santiago High Tech* by Cristián Soto, staged reading November 17, 2016, The Bridge Theatre at Shetler Studios, NYC. Produced by LaMicro Theater.

*Reason and Force*: Full production double-bill of *Nothing Buried Here (Aquí No Se Ha Enterrado Nada)* by Leonardo González and *Santiago High Tech* by Cristián Soto, May 2015, King's Head Theatre, London. Produced by Pintamonos.

*Beckett and Godot (Beckett y Godot)* by Juan Radrigán, staged reading December 2013, University of Utah.

### **DRAMATURGY:**

Literary intern, Finborough Theatre, London, 2014-2015

*Les Misérables* by Alain Boublil, Claude-Michel Schönberg, and Herbert Kretzmer, Directed by Charles Morey, Pioneer Theatre Company, Salt Lake City, UT, May 2013.

*The Odd Couple* by Neil Simon, Directed by Karen Azenberg, Pioneer Theatre Company, Salt Lake City, UT, March 2013.

*Clybourne Park* by Bruce Norris, Directed by Timothy Douglas, Pioneer Theatre Company, Salt Lake City, UT, February 2013.

*The Philadelphia Story* by Philip Barry, Directed by Jenn Thompson, Pioneer Theatre Company, Salt Lake City, UT, January 2013.

*A Christmas Carol: The Musical* by Alan Menken, Lynn Ahrens, and Mike Ockrent, Directed by Karen Azenberg, Salt Lake City, UT, December 2012.

*Sweeney Todd* by Stephen Sondheim and Hugh Wheeler, Studio 115, University of Utah, November 2012.

*Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck, Directed by Mary B. Robinson, Pioneer Theatre Company, Salt Lake City, UT, October 2012.

*In the Heights* by Lin-Manuel Miranda and Quiara Alegría Hudes, Directed by Matt August, Pioneer Theatre Company, Salt Lake City, UT, September 2012.

*Stop Kiss* by Diana Son, Studio 115, University of Utah, April 2012.

*All My Sons* by Arthur Miller, Babcock Theatre, University of Utah, April 2012.

### **MISCELLANEOUS EXPERIENCE:**

Documentary Film-Making and Visual Storytelling for Researchers Seminar, The Graduate Center, CUNY, Dr. Rachel Eskin Fisher, January 2020

Actor, *She Loves Me* by Joe Masteroff, Jerry Bock, and Sheldon Harnick, Directed by Denny Berry, Babcock Theatre, University of Utah, February 2014.

Assistant Director, *Spring Awakening* by Duncan Sheik and Steven Sater, Directed by Denny Berry, Babcock Theatre, University of Utah, April 2013.

Teaching Assistant to Denny Berry, Head of University of Utah Musical Theatre Program, 2013-2014, 2015-2016; duties included class instruction, clerical/organizational activities, grant writing, assistant direction in class, and assisting special guest instructors.

London Theatre Study Abroad, University of Utah, 2012

**PROFESSIONAL TRAINING:**

UCLA Professional Program in Screenwriting, 2018-19, Awarded Certificate. Two complete screenplays: *A More Perfect Utah* and *Showguys*.

<b>REFERENCES</b>
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David Savran, Distinguished Professor, Vera Mowry Roberts Chair in American Theatre  
The Graduate Center, CUNY  
dsavran@gc.cuny.edu

Jean Graham-Jones, Lucille Lortel Professor of Theatre, Latin American, Iberian and Latino  
Cultures, and Comparative Literature  
The Graduate Center, CUNY  
jgraham-jones@gc.cuny.edu

Elizabeth Wollman, Associate Professor of Music  
Baruch College  
elizabeth.wollman@baruch.cuny.edu

Sydney Cheek-O'Donnell, Associate Professor of Theatre, Associate Dean for Research, College of  
Fine Arts  
University of Utah  
cheek.odonnell@utah.edu