

JAYE AUSTIN WILLIAMS

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Drama and Theatre, University of California, Irvine (Joint Program with UC San Diego), 2013

M.F.A., Dramatic Writing, New York University, 2008

B.S., Theater, Skidmore College, 2004

EMPLOYMENT/TEACHING

Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts, California State University, Long Beach, Fall 2015 - Present

Chancellor's ADVANCE Postdoctoral Fellow in Drama, UC Irvine, 2014-2015

Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Drama, University of California, Irvine, 2013-14

Lecturer, Program in African American Studies, University of California, Irvine, 2014

Instructor, Department of Drama, University of California, Irvine, 2012-13

Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Drama, University of California, Irvine, 2009-12

Visiting Teaching Artist, Department of Theatre, Middlebury College, 2006

Visiting Teaching Artist, Department of Theatre Arts, Gallaudet University, 2005

Visiting Teaching Artist, Department of Performing and Media Arts, Cornell University, 2003

SELECT THEATRICAL EXPERIENCE

Director, *A Cool Dip in the Barren, Sabaran Crick*, Kia Corthron, Cal State Long Beach, Studio Theatre, Spring 2016.

Director, *The Liquid Plain*, by Naomi Wallace, Robert Cohen Theatre, UC Irvine, Jan/Feb 2015, (California and University Premiere)

Director, *The Trial of Dedan Kimathi*, By Ngũgĩ wa Thĩong'o and Micere Githae Mugo, Xmpl Theatre, UC Irvine, March 2014 (American Premiere)

Director, *American King Umps: A Midsummer Night's Melodrama on the Tragedy of Slavery*, Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center (IFCC), Portland, Oregon, 2014

Director, *The Colored Museum* by George C. Wolfe, University of California, Irvine, 2011

Director, *In the Blood* by Suzan-Lori Parks, Middlebury College, 2006

Director, *for colored girls...* by Ntozake Shange, Gallaudet University, 2005

Director, *Topdog/Underdog* by Suzan-Lori Parks, Hangar Theatre, 2003 (Regional Premiere)

Director, *Proof* by David Auburn, Hangar Theatre, 2002 (Regional Premiere)

Director, *Having Our Say* by Emily Mann, Hangar Theatre, 2001

Playwright, *Ghosting*, The Public Theatre, 2008

Playwright, *A Not So Quiet Nocturne*, Manhattan Theatre Club, 1998; Cherry Lane Theatre, 2001

Playwright, *American Dreams*, New York Theatre Workshop, 1996; The Public Theatre, 1998

Playwright, *Passion Play: A Parable*, Artists In Search Of...Inc., 1994; Theatrework Santa Fe, 1998

Playwright, *subURBS*, Clark Studio Theatre, 1997

Playwright, *If One Could Fly*, Onyx Theatre Company, 1993

AWARDS AND HONORS

Chancellor's ADVANCE Postdoctoral Fellowship – UC Irvine, 2014-2015 (Accepted)
Mellon Foundation Humanities Postdoctoral Fellowship, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), 2014 (Declined)
Commencement Speaker, Black Baccalaureate Ceremony, UC Irvine, June 2015
Commencement Speaker, Graduate Hooding Ceremony, UC Irvine, June 2013
Visiting Teaching Fellowship, Faculty of Languages and Literatures, Universität Bremen, 2013
Peterson Community Spirit Scholarship, Claire Trevor School of the Arts, UC Irvine, 2012
Faculty Mentor Program Diversity Fellowship, Graduate Division, UC Irvine, 2010
Distinguished Achievement in Playwriting, Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Lorraine Hansberry Competition, Kennedy Center, 2008
Dalio Family Foundation Scholarship, Department of Dramatic Writing, NYU, 2008
Certificate of Merit, Kennedy Center Regional American College Theatre Festival, 2008
Artist-in-Residence, Hangar Theatre Lab Company, Ithaca, NY, 2003
Artist-in-Residence, Cherry Lane Theatre, NYC, 2002
Artist-in-Residence, Tribeca Performing Arts Center, 2000
NEA/TCG, Career Development Program for Directors, 1999
Artist-in-Residence, Theatrework, Santa Fe, 1998
Van Lier Playwriting Fellow, Manhattan Theatre Club, 1997
Artist-in-Residence, Breadloaf School of English, Middlebury College, 1997

PUBLICATIONS

“Apollo Theater.” In *Oxford Bibliographies in African American Studies*. Ed. Gene Jarrett. New York: Oxford University Press, forthcoming, Winter 2016.
“On the Table, Crumbs of Freedom and Fugitivity: A 21st Century (re) Reading of Lynn Nottage’s *Crumbs from the Table of Joy*,” *A Critical Companion to Lynn Nottage*, Buckner, Jocelyn L., Ed., Routledge, Spring, 2016.
“Staging (Within) Violence: A Conversation with Frank Wilderson and Jaye Austin Williams,” *Rhizomes 28: Black Holes: Afro-Pessimism, blackness and the discourses of Modernity*, Dalton Anthony Jones, Ed., Winter 2015.
“A Review of *Suzan-Lori Parks in Person* by Philip C. Kolin and Harvey Young, Eds.” *Text & Presentation 2014*, McFarland, Jan. 2015.
Kia Corthron in Concert: Selected Plays and Critical Engagements, in progress.
Theory-in-Practice: Staging Slavery, Post-Coloniality and Modernity on the University of California, Irvine Stage, in progress.
Jasmine: A Novel, New York: HarperCollins Publishers, under review.
“Thinking About Hollywood: Breaking the Entertainment Barrier,” *On the Issues Magazine*, 2010.
“Liberian Women Forge a Real-Life Lysistrata,” *On the Issues Magazine*, 2010.
“Affinity,” *On the Issues Magazine*, 2008.
“On Theater After 9/11,” *National Diversity Forum*, Alliance for Inclusion in the Arts, 2003
“Ngene’s Voices,” *Eyes of Desire: A Deaf Gay & Lesbian Reader*, edited by Raymond Luczak, New York: Alyson Publications, 1993.

PRESENTATIONS

“The Subtext Uttered: Exposing ‘The Theatre’ as Metonymic Anathema to Black Dramatic Critique,” in the seminar, “Black Matter: The Times and Spaces of Black Movement, Black Thought, and Black Creation,” American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) Annual Meeting, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, March 2016.

PRESENTATIONS (Cont'd.)

- “Black Shell: Counter-Corrective Dreaming in Playwright Kia Corthron’s *Breath, Boom*,” President’s/Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellowship Retreat, UCLA Arrowhead Retreat, April 2015.
- “The Trial of Dedan Kimathi: A Documentary,” lecture and presentation, Retirement Celebration and symposium honoring Micere Githae Mugo, co-author, with Ngũgĩ wa Thĩng’o, of *The Trial of Dedan Kimathi*, University of Syracuse, March 2015.
- “Alienated Flesh: Excavating Dereliction and Inaudible Loss in Suzan-Lori Parks’ One-character Short Play, *Pickling*,” Comparative Drama Conference, Baltimore, MD, March 2015.
- “Chancellor’s ADVANCE Postdoctoral Fellowship: My Research and Practice Year in Review,” Lecture and a Panel discussion with former Dissertation Panelists and Collaborators: Drs. Frank Wilderson, Jared Sexton, Ngũgĩ wa Thĩng’o and Professor Sheron Wray, March 2015
- “Deaf Theatre and Performance: A Critical Examination,” Keynote Speech, Launch for *TransScripts* Special Issue on Disability, May 2014
- “Black Shell: Counter-Corrective Dreaming in Playwright Kia Corthron’s *Breath, Boom*,” The Futures of Black Studies Conference, Universität Bremen, Germany, April 2014
- “The Making of *The Trial of Dedan Kimathi*,” An Interdisciplinary Panel Discussion, School of Social Sciences, UC Irvine, March 2014
- “On the Table, Crumbs of Freedom: A 21st Century Reading of Lynn Nottage’s *Crumbs from the Table of Joy*,” Comparative Drama Conference, Baltimore, MD, April 2014 and Collegium for African American Research, Atlanta, 2013
- “Deaf Theatre and Performance,” Multicultural Spring, Drama Department, University of California, Irvine, 2012
- “Examining Lynn Nottage’s *Crumbs from the Table of Joy*,” “Cross-Cultural Women Playwrights and Performance Artists,” Drama Department, University of California, Irvine, 2012
- “Examining Lynn Nottage’s *Ruined*,” Multiethnic U.S. Performance and Cultural Politics, Drama Department, University of California, Irvine, 2012
- “A Dis-Embodied Display: Directing George C. Wolfe’s *The Colored Museum* in the 21st Century,” “UC and Africa” Symposium, University of California, Irvine, 2012
- “Black Shell: Counter-Corrective Dreaming in Kia Corthron’s *Breath, Boom*,” “Eyes on the Mosaic” Graduate Student Conference, University of Chicago, 2012
- “Founding Fathers: Kia Corthron and Suzan-Lori Parks on Independence and Emancipation,” “Thinking Afro-Pessimism” Symposium, University of California, Irvine, 2012
- “Frantz Fanon in Conversation with Haile Gerima’s *Bush Mama*,” Film and Racial Antagonism, Program in African American Studies, University of California, Irvine, 2011
- “Alienated Flesh at the Place of Trauma: Unearthing the Un-human in Suzan-Lori Parks’ *Pickling*,” “On Becoming Human” Symposium, University of California, Irvine, 2011
- “Race and Theory in Staging George C. Wolfe’s *The Colored Museum*,” Undergraduate Program in Arts and Humanities, University of California, Irvine, 2011
- “On Directing George C. Wolfe’s *The Colored Museum*,” Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, University of California Irvine, 2011
- “Black Shell: Counter-Corrective Dreaming in Kia Corthron’s *Breath, Boom*,” American Theatre in Higher Education Conference, Los Angeles, CA, 2010
- “Suzan-Lori Parks’ Lincoln: An Interrogation Revisited,” Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Philadelphia, 2009
- “Rethinking Plato’s Allegory of the Cave,” University of California International Performance & Culture Multi-Campus Research Group, 2009
- “Colorblind? Or Blind to the Breadth of Our Color,” Conference on Black Theatre, Indiana University, 2008
- “Sisters Outside: Professional Theatre Women,” Mid-Atlantic Theatre Conference, Chicago, 2004

SERVICE

“On the Objectification of the Black Body,” Guest Speaker, Black Student Union,
Cross-Cultural Center, UC Irvine, Feb. 2015
Moderator, Women’s Caucus, Black Afrika Conference, Black Student Union, UC Irvine, Jan 2015
LGBTQ Mentor, UCI Counseling Center, 2010-13
Panel Chair, “Derrida Today” Conference, UCI Claire Trevor School of the Arts, 2012
Production Consultant, V-Day UCI, *The Vagina Monologues*, Eve Ensler, 2012
Production Consultant, UCI Cross-Cultural Center, *for colored girls...*, Ntozake Shange, 2011
Production Consultant and Script Editor, DeafVision Filmworks, NYC, 2011
Production Consultant, UCI Drama Department, *The Wiz*, William F. Brown, 2010
Tutor for Learning Disabled Teens, Orange County, CA, 2010-present

LANGUAGES

American Sign Language: fluent manual and receptive; Spanish: advanced oral and written;
French: intermediate oral and written

CERTIFICATIONS

Fourth Degree Black Belt, Fuku-Shido-in Aikido
Second Degree Black Belt, Goju-Ryu Karate

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS (Past and Present)

Member, American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)
Member, Modern Language Association (MLA)
Member, American Society of Theatre Research (ASTR)
Member, Association of Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)
Member, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC)
Member, Theatre Communications Group, NYC
Member, Professional Directors Company, New York University
Member, New York Theatre Workshop
Alumnus, Lincoln Center Theatre Directors Lab, NYC
Adjudicator, New York State Council on the Arts
Associate Artistic Director, Hangar Theatre, Ithaca, NY
Board Member, NY Association of Women in Arts and Media
Selection Panelist/Adjudicator, New York Foundation for the Arts
Artistic Affiliate, Cherry Lane Theatre, NYC