

Aaron Landsman
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EDUCATION

2020 MFA, Public Action, Bennington College (anticipated)
1991 BFA, NYU's Experimental Theatre Wing

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2018-19 Bennington College, Guest Instructor/Researcher, Center for Advancement of Public Action
2016-19 Princeton University, Visiting Associate Professor, Whitman College Fellow, Lewis Center for the Arts
2014-16 Princeton University, Arts Fellow, Lewis Center for the Arts,
2012-13 University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, Guest Instructor
2002-09 New York University, Instructor, Tisch School of The Arts
2002-06 The Juilliard School, Instructor and Artistic Advisor, Dance Division

GUEST ARTIST AND LECTURER ENGAGEMENTS

2018 UNC Chapel Hill, Guest Artist, Socially Engaged Theater course
2017 California State University San Marcos, Guest Artist, Theater Program
2016 Colorado College, Guest Instructor and Artist
2016 Lewis And Clark College, Guest Artist,
Arizona State University, Guest Artist/Instructor
2015 Bard College, Guest Lecturer
Arizona State University, Guest Artist/Instructor
2014 Keene State College, Guest Artist/Lecturer
Stanford University Center for the Arts, Guest Artist
Arizona State University, Guest Artist/Instructor
2013 Akademija Umetnosti, Guest Lecturer, Novi Sad, Serbia.
University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, Guest Lecturer, Professional Practice,
College of Art and Design
2012 University of Houston, Guest Artist/Instructor, Mitchell Center for the Arts
University of Scranton, Guest Artist, Theater
2011 Columbia College, Guest Artist/Lecturer, MFA in Printmaking
Virginia Commonwealth University, Guest Artist/Presenter, Artists' Toolkit
Charlotte Street Foundation, Guest Artist/Lecturer
2010 University of California, San Diego, Guest Artist/Instructor, MFA Theater Program
2009 TITAN Teaterskole, Guest Artist/Instructor, Oslo Norway.
2006 UC Santa Barbara, Guest Artist, Summer Theater Lab,

CREDIT COURSES (CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT)

- 2019 *Performance Walks*, Center for Advancement of Public Action, Bennington College
- 2019 *Arts of Urban Transition*, cross-listed in Architecture, Dance, Urban Studies, Princeton, Lewis Center for the Arts
- 2018 *Creative Strategies for Artists*, Bennington College, Center for Advancement of Public Action
- 2018 *Ethical Community Collaborations*, Bennington College, Center for Advancement of Public Action
- 2018 *Introduction to Theatermaking*, Princeton University, Lewis Center for the Arts
- 2018 *Remapping the City, Race and Protest on Campus and in Trenton*, Princeton, Cross-listed in History, African-American Studies, Urban Studies and Theater
- 2017 *Introduction to Theatermaking*, Princeton, Lewis Center for the Arts
- 2016 *Creative Strategies for Artists*, Princeton, Lewis Center for the Arts
- 2015 *Arts of Urban Transition*, cross-listed in Architecture, Dance, Urban Studies, Princeton, Lewis Center for the Arts
- 2015 *Creating Collaborative Theater*, Princeton, Lewis Center for the Arts
- 2014 *Ethnographic Playwriting*, Princeton, Lewis Center for the Arts
- 2013 *Socially-Engaged Theatermaking*, Bard College
- 2012 *Professional Practices for Artists*, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana
- 2009 *Producing Theater in New York*, NYU's Tisch School of the Arts
- 2007 *Producing Theater, in New York*, NYU's Tisch School of the Arts
- 2006 *Producing Theater in New York*, NYU's Tisch School of the Arts
- 2006 *Senior Production*, (instructor and artistic advisor), Juilliard School, Dance Division
- 2005 *Producing Theater in New York*, NYU's Tisch School of the Arts
- 2005 *Senior Production*, (instructor and artistic advisor), Juilliard School, Dance Division

SELECTED ARTS AND ACADEMIC CONFERENCE AND PANELS

- 2019 ArtPlace America Symposium and Conference, annual gathering on Creative Placemaking and Community Art
- American Historical Association Annual Conference, moderating panel on Art and Historical Research
- 2017 New Cities, Future Ruins, Symposium Panelist at Southern Methodist University
- 2015 National Performance Network Annual Conference, Panelist on Equity and Race
- 2011 Delegated Performance Conference, Stanford University, Phd. Program, Theater, Site Specific Theater, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2010 Prelude NYC Panelist and Moderator, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2009 Site Specific Theater, CUNY Graduate Center
- 2008 Art and Censorship Panel with Free Theater Belarus, Minsk, Belarus

ACADEMIC SERVICE

- 2018 Panel Moderator, Princeton Arts Alumni, Princeton Entrepreneurs Alumni, "Entrepreneurship and the Arts"

- 2017 Senior Thesis Advisor, Princeton University, Lewis Center for the Arts
Group Facilitator, NYU Tisch School of the Arts, Office of Faculty Research retreat
- 2015 Senior Thesis Production Committee, Princeton University, Lewis Center for the Arts
- 2016 Senior Thesis Advisor, Princeton University, Lewis Center for the Arts
- 2008 Artistic Mentor, NYU, Tisch School of the Arts, Independent Student Production
- 2005-06 Artistic Advisor, Juilliard School, Dance Division

NON-MATRICULATED LEARNING

- 2019 Planners' Network Conference attendee, New York, NY
- 2018 Poetry Barn four-week workshop, New York, NY
- 2016 Research on Art/Urban Planning with Todd Lester/Lanchonete in Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 2015 Playwriting, Erik Ehn, silent writing retreat, TX
- 2014 Urban Planning research residency, with Deland Chan, Stanford University
- 2000 Poetry workshop, one-year, with Gary Keenan
- 2000 Poetry workshop, Sarah Lawrence Summer Writers' Program, Heather McHugh
- 1998-2008 Kung Fu/Tai Chi, Zen Meditation, 2nd Degree Black Belt, Nabi Su Martial Arts
- 1998 Clowning/Physical Comedy, The Actors' Center, New York, NY
- 1997-2007 Kung fu, zen meditation, tai chi, Nabi Su Martial Arts, New York, NY

ADDITIONAL TEACHING AND WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2002-Pres Curriculum Development and Instruction, Creative Capital Foundation's Professional Development Program. Created groundbreaking workshop content. Continue to teach peer-to-peer skills workshops for artists in all disciplines, in partnership with Pew Foundation, Kresge Foundation, Heinz Foundation, DiverseWorks, PICA and other major funders and presenters. Developed weekend and one-day peer-to-peer workshops in Professional Development for Artists, emphasis on Fundraising and Community Engagement. Nationwide, have taught more than 2,000 artists.
- 1996-2000 Senior Staff, Director of Development, Interim Director, The Field (Artist-run non-profit). Programs administered include fiscal sponsorship, peer feedback workshops, fundraising workshops, and individual artist management.

ARTISTIC WORKS

- 2020 *Language Reversal*
In-progress presentation of new performance work, created in collaboration with Serbian artists and NGO Kulturanova. Presented at La MaMa. Anticipated full production in 2020. Co-commissioned by ASU Gammage.
- 2016-Present *Perfect City*
Instigator, project director, 20-year socially-engaged art project, now in year three, created with a paid working group on the Lower East Side. Presentations with Crossing The Line, CUNY Prelude, Abrons Arts Center, A Blade of Grass.

Pedagogy; publications; workshops, performance walks; created through ongoing weekly meetings.

- 2017 *Open House, Oslo, Norway and Rabat, Morocco*
City-specific rewrite and re-mount of site-specific play performed in people's homes, presented by Nordic Black Theater in Oslo and on tour in Rabat.
- 2017 *Squares (work-in-progress)*
Developmental residency on new devised theater work inspired by a series of found photographs. Presented by the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN. Created in collaboration with Mallory Catlett, Jim Findlay and photographer Paul Shambroom.
- 2016 *Empathy School/Love Story*
Stage presentation of two solo performance works, at Abrons Art Center, NYC
- 2016 *Open House, Phoenix*
City-specific remount of site-specific theater work, performed in peoples' homes, presented by ASU Gammage, Phoenix.
- 2015 *Meetup*
Performed participatory get-together at Theatr Frascati, Amsterdam, Netherlands, co-created with Mallory Catlett, using strategies from 2012-14 *City Council Meeting*
- 2015 *Running Away From The One With The Knife*
Play with live music, commissioned and premiered by The Chocolate Factory, NYC
- 2014 *Empathy School*
Writer/Director of monologue performed on a night bus ride through a rural landscape. Collaboration with filmmaker Brent Green. Commissioned by EMPAC, Troy NY.
- 2013 *Open House, Novi Sad*
Writer/Director of city-specific remount and translation of 2008 play, performed in six homes in Novi Sad, Serbia, in translation, presented by Kulturanova.
- 2012-14 *City Council Meeting*
Participatory performance created through a residency at HERE Art Center. Co-commissioned by DiverseWorks Art Space, Houston, Zspace, and ASU/Gammage, Presented in New York, Tempe, Houston, Keene, NH, and San Francisco.
- 2009-14 *Appointment*
Creator/director of site-specific theater installation, of repeatable, 12-minute works for one actor and one audience member, in small offices. Created fresh in each location. Presented at CUNY's PRELUDE Festival, NYC, Ensemble Free Theater Norway, Oslo, NYU, ASU Gammage, Phoenix.

- 2010 *Patient Boy*
Writer of site-specific theater work for five actors, directed by Mallory Catlett, presented by LMCC, NYC.
- 2009 *Special Tonight*
Five-character full-length play. Developed with P73's Interstate Writers' Group, presented as a reading directed by Ken Rus Schmoll. Yale Drama Series finalist.
- 2008 *Open House*
Writer. Premiere of site-specific play performed in 24 New York City apartments. Commissioned and produced by The Foundry Theatre, NYC.
- 2005 *What You've Done*
Wrote and directed site-specific theater work, cast of three. Commissioned by the National Performance Network and DiverseWorks, written for and presented at Project Row Houses, Houston, TX.
- 2003 *Family Establishment*
Wrote and directed site-specific play, performed in East Village bar, cast of three. Presented by Dixon Place, and in-progress at HERE Art Center, NYC
- 2001 *Desk*
Wrote and performed site-specific play in abandoned midtown office, by Chashama and HERE, NYC
- 1998 *Wreckage*
Writer and performer, two-person physical comedy, directed by Christopher Bayes, commissioned by Performance Space 122, NYC
- 1995 *Cakewalk*
Co-creator of collaborative multi-media performance work with playwright Tanya Barfield and choreographer Andrea Kleine. Presented at PS122, NYC, Red Eye, MN
- 1994 *How To Get By And Be Easily Understood*
Collaborative triptych of short works created with playwright Tanya Barfield and choreographer Andrea Kleine. Presented at PS 122's New Stuff series and The 600 Club, NYC, Cleveland Performance Art Festival, and Red Eye Theater, Minneapolis.

SELECTED SHORT PERFORMANCE WORKS

- 2017 "Love Story"
Wrote and directed remount of prior 35-minute performance in a gallery, at Bard Graduate Center, New York, NY.

- 2010 "Liver Lady and Anything Man"
Wrote and directed 5-actor play for 25 Cent Opera of San Francisco performance series in Brooklyn.
- 2009 "Aftermath"
Wrote short play commissioned by Free Theater of Belarus, created in conjunction with 12 playwrights from 12 countries. Funded by the city of Lund, Sweden, performed in Australia, Sweden, Poland and Belarus.
- 2007 "Love Story (Excerpt)"
Fusebox Festival presentation of new work-in-progress.
- 2006 "Even The Nostalgia Was Better Back Then"
Writer/director of 30-minute linked set of monologues, performed at Little Theater at Tonic.
- 2000 "Banana Yoga"
15-minute monologue, Dixon Place, NYC, WBAI Radio, Minnesota Public Radio
- 1995 "Red, White and Still"
15-minute monologue, presented by Performance Mix, NYC, and CEC, Philadelphia

SELECTED PERFORMANCE IN WRITERS', DIRECTORS' AND CHOREOGRAPHERS' WORK

- 2019 *Gatz* at Skirball Center, NYU, with Elevator Repair Service, New York, NY
Gatz at McCarter Theater, Princeton, NJ, Elevator Repair Service, Princeton, NJ
- 2015 *The Sound and the Fury* Public Theater, Elevator Repair Service, New York, NY
- 2013 *Unreliable Bestiary/Wolf*, Krannert Center for the Arts, Deke Weaver, Urbana, IL
Gatz, West End/LIFT Festival, with Elevator Repair Service, London, UK
- 2010 *Ten People Smiling* with Tim Etchells, Vlatka Horvat, Performa, New York, NY
The Sound and the Fury, Adelaide Festival, Adelaide, Australia
- 2009 *American Treasure*, new play by Julia Jarcho, 13P, New York, NY
- 2008 *The Sound and the Fury*, New York Theatre Workshop, New York, NY
The Sound and the Fury, Redcat Theater, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2007 *Gatz*, PICA, TBA Festival, Portland, OR
Gatz, Elevator Repair Service, On The Boards, Seattle, WA
- 2006 *Gatz*, Elevator Repair Service, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN
Gatz, Elevator Repair Service, KunstenFestival des Arts, Brussels, Belgium
Gatz, Elevator Repair Service, Teatrspektakl, Zurich, Switzerland
Gatz, Elevator Repair Service, Holland Festival, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2005 *Gatz*, Elevator Repair Service, Under The Radar Festival, New York, NY
- 2003 *Gatz*, in progress, Elevator Repair Service, Collapsible Hole, New York, NY
- 2001 *Every Hotel TV Plays On*, Johanna S. Meyer, chor. Dixon Place, NYC
- 2000 *The Florida Project*, Performance Space 122, Tory Vazquez, dir, New York, NY

1999 *Cowboys and Indians*, Soho Rep Theater, Richard Maxwell, dir. New York, NY

SELECTED COMMISSIONS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

2019 LMCC Creative Fund grant for *Perfect City*
ART-NY Opportunity To Grow grant for infrastructure.

2018 Trust for Mutual Understanding grant for *Language Reversal* in New York.
ASU Gammage co-commission for *Language Reversal* development
Foundation for Contemporary Art Emergency Grant, *Language Reversal*
Nominee, Herb Alpert Award

2017 Guggenheim Fellowship in theater, for new performance work, *Squares*
Network of Ensemble Theaters *In The Lab* grant for *Language Reversal*
Belgrade and Novi Sad, Serbia, with Kulturanova

2016 Graham Foundation Grant for *Perfect City*
Rubin Foundation Grant for *Perfect City*
LMCC Creative Fund grant for *Perfect City*
Trust for Mutual Understanding grant for *Language Reversal*
Howard Gilman Foundation Grant for *Empathy School/Love Story*

2014-16 Princeton University Fellowship in the Performing Arts

2014 MAP Grant for *Empathy School* premiere at EMPAC
Two-year Jerome Foundation Grant for *Squares* and untitled new work

2013 Finalist, Alpert Award In The Arts
Two-year Jerome grant for *Running Away from the One With The Knife* and
Perfect City
LMCC Fund for Creative Communities grant for *City Council Meeting*
EMPAC Commission for *Empathy School* site-specific performance

2012 NPN Forth Fund for *City Council Meeting*
ASU Gammage Commission for *City Council Meeting*

2011 MAP Grant for *City Council Meeting*
NEFA National Theater Pilot Grant for *City Council Meeting*
Jerome Foundation Grant for *City Council Meeting*
NPN Creation Fund Award for *City Council Meeting*

2010 Finalist, Yale Drama Series award for playwriting

2005 National Performance Network Creation Fund grant for *What You've Done*

2002 Bossak Heilbron Foundation research grant for *Love Story*

2001 Bossak Heilbron Foundation production grant for *Desk*

1998 Jerome Foundation Commission for *Wreckage* at PS122

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

2017-19 Collapsible Hole, Resident Artist (collectively run theater space at Westbeth Arts Center), NYC

2018-20 Abrons Arts Center Social Practice Artist In Residence

2015-18 Abrons Arts Center Playwright-in-Residence

2016 Berkeley Rep Theater, Ground Floor Theater Lab Residency Artist

- 2014-16 ASU Gammage Residency Artist. *Open House, Love Story, Appointment*
2013 Orchard Project, Hunter, NY, Artist-in-Residence for *Empathy School*
2012-13 Artist-in-Residence, Cynthia Woods Mitchell Center, University of Houston
2011 Arts at University Settlement Artist In Residence for *City Council Meeting* and
Running Away From The One With The Knife
2010-13 HERE Art Center, Artist-in-Residence
2009 Arts At University Settlement, Performance Project Resident Artist
2001-02 HERE Art Space Artist-in-Residence

ARTS AND FUNDING PANELS

- 2016 Pew Fellowship Panelist, Pew Center for Arts and Heritage
2014 Pew Foundation, Reader, Pew Center for Arts and Heritage
2012 Pew Fellowship Panelist, Pew Center for Arts and Heritage
2005 MAP Fund, Panel Moderator in Theater
2002 Brooklyn Arts Council Grant Panelist

COMMUNITY WORK COMMITMENTS

- 2008-Pres Board of Directors, ArtHome
2007-09 Board of Directors, Elevator Repair Service Theater
2006 Producer, first English-language readings of Free Theater Belarus' work, for the
Impact Festival, NYC
2004 Founding Member, Collective Arts Think Tank, collective of presenters, artists and
funders researching and advocating for equity in arts funding.
2001-03 Board of Directors, The Field

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS OF MY WRITING

- 2020 Catlett, Mallory and Aaron Landsman. *No Is Qualified: City Council Meeting, a
participatory primer*. Iowa University Press, *manuscript in-process*
2019 "Schedule Snafu at the Cultural Center," essay forthcoming in *Sycamore Review*
"Wonder Wheel," poem in *Ghost City Review*
"White Men Running (for President), essay on *Public Seminar*
"The Invitation," upcoming chapter in The Foundry Theatre's *A Moment on the Clock
of the World*. M Joseph, Ed. 2018, Haymarket Press
"Wholehearted: Suli Holum and Deborah Stein", Interview in *The Brooklyn Rail*
2017 "Where do you belong, What do you avoid," Article written with Perfect City working
group on UrbanOmnibus.org
2016 "What can a process grounded in art-making and aesthetic priorities accomplish that
community organizing cannot?" – article co-written with Perfect City working group
on ArtsEverywhere.ca
2015 "Concurrencies," Article in *Innovation In Five Acts: Strategies For Theater And
Performance*, Cardidad Svich, ed. Published by TCG Books
"City Council Meeting," chapter in *What We Want is Free*, Ted Purves, ed.
2014 "After The Show," co-written Article/Script in *Theater* magazine, Gavin Kroeber, ed.

- 2013 *City Council Meeting*, Script and article in *Theater* magazine, Tom Sellar, ed.
2013 “City Council Meeting,” *Emergency Index*, Ugly Duckling Press
“Lysis,” Short story in *Painted Bride Quarterly*.
2009 “Free Theater Belarus”, Essay in *Contemporary Theatre Review (UK)*, 2007,
Volume 17 (2)
2007 “The Story I Would Tell You,” Short story in *Clackamas Literary Review*
2005 “Shootin’ The Moon”, Travel Essay, *Hobart*

CRITICAL WRITING ABOUT MY WORK - BIBLIOGRAPHY/PRESS

Bertie Ferdman, in *Off Sites: Contemporary Performance beyond Site-Specific*, Southern Illinois University Press, Pp 131-133, 2018

Stephen Eckert, “*Social Practice, Socially Engaged Art, Civic Practice: In Conversation with Aaron Landsman*,” Interview, Contemporary Performance Think Tank, *Currents*, January 2018.

Amelia Parenteau, “*How Do You Solve A Problem Like Documentary Theater*,” Feature article, American Theater Magazine, August 22, 2017.

Ben Brantley, “‘*Empathy School & Love Story*’ Plumbs the Varieties of Loneliness,” Review, Critic’s Pick, in *The New York Times*, April 22, 2016.

Helen Shaw, “*Empathy School / Love Story*,” Critic’s Pick, *Time Out New York*, April 25, 2016.

Amelia Parenteau, “*Empathy School and Love Story*,” Review, *Culturebot.org*, May 2016

Claudia LaRocco, “*Construction Sites*,” Review of *Running Away From The One With The Knife* on ArtForum.com, March 24, 2015.

Elena Light, “*Running Away From The One With The Knife*,” Review, *Culturebot.org*, March, 2015

Helen Shaw, “*Running Away From The One With The Knife*,” theater review, *Time Out New York*, March 19, 2015.

Alexis Soloski, “*In Running Away From The One With The Knife*, A Suicide Pondered,” theater review, March 22, 2015.

Kate Taylor, “*The Public May Now Comment*,” Profile on *City Council Meeting* in New York Times, above the fold in Theater section, May 12, 2013.

Helen Shaw, *City Council Meeting*, theater review, *Time Out New York*, May 15, 2013.

Nancy Wozny, “*Mayor for 60 minutes: Audience members are the actors in thought-provoking City Council Meeting*” CultureMap Houston, November 1, 2012.

Roxanne Myslewski, "Power Play: Portland City Council Meeting Inspires Performance Art," *Portland Monthly Magazine*, August 23, 2012. Article on the origins of *City Council Meeting*.

Felicia Lee, "Up Close And Personal: Theater For Audiences Of One," *The New York Times*, July 28, 2010. Article on theater for single audience members, including *Appointment*.

Simi Horowitz, "Conflicts and Interests: Theater Artists Explore Their Humanity in Global Hotspots," *Backstage Magazine*, November 19, 2009, Article on artists in conflict zones.

Andrea Kleine, "Aaron Landsman's *Appointment*," *NYFA Current*, Oct. 2009.

David Krasnow (producer) "Post-Soviet Bloc Party," *Studio360, WNYC Radio*, October 10, 2008, radio story on Aaron Landsman's work with dissident group Free Theater Belarus.

Bertie Ferdman, CUNY, Martin Segal Graduate Center in Theater, "Contemporary Site-Specific Theatre: Performance, the City, and Spatial Politics," Chapter of PhD Dissertation on Aaron Landsman's site-specific theater works. Publication TBA.

Charles Isherwood, "Angst In A Living Room Near You," *New York Times*, Review, Feb 18, 2008

David Cote, "Open House," Review, *Time Out New York*, March 4, 2008

Claudia LaRocco, "New York, Theater and Real Estate," Review, *WNYC Radio*, February 15, 2008

Mark Blankenship, "The Foundry Gets Literal With 'Open House,'" *Variety Magazine*, Feb 7, 2008

Cara Joy David, "Open House Is A Journey Through Both Romance And Real Estate." Preview Article. *The New York Sun*, February 4, 2008.

Alexis Soloski, "The Price Is Wrong," Critic's Pick, *Open House, The Village Voice*, March 4, 2008

Steven Devadanam, "Trouble At Home: Aaron Landsman's *What You've Done* Has Some Real Drama In The House." Article, *The Houston Press*, October 20, 2005

Jason Zinoman, "Desk," Review, *Time Out New York*, November 10, 2001

Lisa Jo Sagallo, "Wreckage," Review, *Backstage Magazine*, May 15, 1998

Christopher Reardon, "American Gothic: A Cheeky Young Trio Waltzes Through A Minefield of Prejudice," Critical Preview, *The Village Voice*, Mach 26, 1996

Elizabeth Zimmer, "New Stuff at PS122," Review, *The Village Voice*, November 13, 1994