

LEAH WALTON

EDUCATION

Temple University, MFA Acting
Philadelphia, PA. Graduate Spring 2015.

Ithaca College, BA Drama
Ithaca, NY. Graduate Spring 2001, Magna Cum Laude.

Moscow Art Theatre School, with Vakhtangov School of Movement
Moscow, RUSSIA. Fall 1999.

National Theater Institute at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center
Waterford, CT. Spring 1999.

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Visiting Assistant Professor
University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA
Fall 2015-Present:

Acting Techniques I & II

- Creating new Sophomore Acting Studio Program;
- Teaching Michael Chekhov and Constantin Stanislavski techniques;
- Training actors in ensemble building, devising, and professional development;
- Leading actors in character and script-analysis skills;
- Coaching scenes and monologues from contemporary and classical American plays;
- In-person and remote.

Poetic Realism

- Developing new curriculum for Junior Acting Studio;
- Leading actors in deepening script-analysis skills;
- Emphasizing vocal production and dramatic "reach;"
- Coaching actors in scenes and monologues from plays with heightened language (including Henrik Ibsen, Tennessee Williams, Maria Irene Fornes, Suzan-Lori Parks, and others;)
- In-person and remote.

Contemporary Scene Study Womxn Playwrights

- Developing new curriculum for Senior Acting Studio;
- Preparing students for the demands of professional auditions and rehearsal process;
- Coaching actors in scenes and monologues from plays by emerging and established Womxn writers;
- Honing self-directed and self-motivated skills for young actors;
- In-person and remote.

Independent Study: The Theatre Teaching Artist

- Creating new course in pedagogy for the Senior level theatre artist;
- Training the beginning teacher in a variety of pedagogical styles and histories;
- Honing the student's practice of building lesson plans and syllabi;

- Developing practical skills for coaching a range of ages and abilities;
- Cultivating understandings of inclusive teaching;
- Remote.

Laboratory Hours

- Developing new curriculum for Interdepartmental course with the School of Film;
- Pairing Acting/Musical Theatre majors with Student-Directors;
- Integrating learned acting techniques to film performance;
- Coaching young film directors in basic acting techniques;
- Managing schedules for rehearsing, filming, and casting across schools;
- In-person and remote.

Production Hours

- Developing new curriculum for School of Theatre;
- Integrating learned acting techniques to theatre performance;
- Leading post-production actor self-assessments;
- Corresponding with professional guest Directors, Choreographers, Music Directors to develop students' professional practice;
- In-person and remote.

Committees/Appointments:

- University Curriculum Committee (2020-present)
- University of the Arts Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (2019-present)
 - Policies & Communities Working Group
 - Curriculum Working Group
 - Student Fellow Applicant Review
- Academic Advisor: Brind School of Theatre (2019-present)
- Prospective Student Auditor (2018-present)
- Curated Season Selection Committee for Plays & Musicals (2019-2021)
- Faculty Advisor: Sketch-Comedy Club (2015-2016)

Adjunct Assistant Professor

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

Fall 2012-Spring 2019:

Acting I

- Creating and implementing syllabus developed for beginning actors in the School of Theatre;
- Instructing actors using Uta Hagen technique;
- Training actors in character and script-analysis skills;
- Coaching actors in ensemble building and improvisation;
- Directing actors in Object Exercises, contemporary American scenes, and monologues.

Acting IV

- Creating and implementing syllabus developed for advanced actors in the School of Theatre;
- Training actors in Psycho-Physical techniques;
- Directing actors in scenes and monologues by Anton Chekhov and contemporary American playwrights.

Art of Acting

- Creating and implementing syllabus developed for non-major beginning actors;
- Instructing actors in Uta Hagen and Constantin Stanislavski techniques;
- Training actors in character and script-analysis skills;

- Coaching actors in ensemble building and improvisation;
- Directing actors in scenes and monologues from contemporary American playwrights.

Speech for the Actor

- Creating and implementing syllabus developed for intermediate actors;
- Training actors in the fundamentals of speech;
- Building students' familiarity with the International Phonetic Alphabet.

Dramatic Imagination

- Assisting in the implementation of a syllabus for non-theatre majors;
- Encouraging understanding of the world of theatre;
- Educating on styles, history and basic acting techniques.

ADDITIONAL TEACHING

Guest Professor

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
Fall 2012-Spring 2019:

Graduate Acting II Workshop

- Coaching MFA actors in Michael Chekhov Technique for monologue performance.

Acting III Workshop

- Leading advanced actors in Shakespeare performance, with a focus on scansion, "liaisons," and interpretation, while integrating voice and movement.

Voice I Workshop

- Coaching beginning actors in voice theories including Catherine Fitzmaurice, and Roy Hart, while integrating movement theories of Laban and yoga.

Co-Director Young Professional Theatre Company

Saratoga Shakespeare Festival, Saratoga Springs, NY
Summers 2018, 2019:

Acting & Education Training

- Directing advanced actors in Shakespeare performance;
- Coaching in scansion, "liaisons," and interpretation;
- Integrating voice and movement with Catherine Fitzmaurice, Roy Hart, Michael Chekhov, Constantin Stanislavski, and Andrei Droznin techniques;
- Training interns in pedagogical methods, culminating in intern-lead classes for school-aged children.

Guest Artist

Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA
January 2015:

Creating a Character Through Movement Workshop

- Leading intermediate actors in the Michael Chekhov technique;
- Coaching actors in character building;
- Integrating vocal production and speech.

Lead Faculty

Walnut Street Theatre School, Philadelphia, PA

Fall 2005-Fall 2016:

Russian Masters

- Creating and implementing syllabus developed for advanced actors around the works of famous Russian theatre artists;
- Leading acting exercises in Michael Chekhov, Constantin Stanislavski, Andrei Droznin, and Vsevolod Meyerhold techniques;
- Directing actors in scene and monologue work from classic Russian playwrights.

Introduction to Michael Chekhov Workshop

- Creating and implementing syllabus developed for actors of all levels;
- Training in Michael Chekhov technique.

Introduction to Acting

- Creating and implementing syllabus developed for beginning actors;
- Training in Uta Hagen and Constantin Stanislavski techniques;
- Directing actors in scene and monologue work from contemporary American playwrights.

Advanced Acting

- Creating and implementing syllabus developed for advanced actors;
- Training in Jerzy Grotowski and Michael Chekhov techniques;
- Directing actors in scene and monologue work from contemporary American playwrights.

Scene Study

- Creating and implementing syllabus developed for intermediate actors;
- Training in the Constantine Stanislavski technique;
- Directing actors in scene and monologue work from contemporary American Playwrights.

Comedy Performance and Sketch Writing

- Creating and implementing syllabus developed for advanced actors;
- Training in improvisation and sketch-writing;
- Facilitating the “writer-room” for original works of comedic theatre;
- Directing actors in performances of self-generated materials.

Lead Faculty of Acting Track

Delaware Theatre Company, Summer on Stage, Wilmington, DE

Summers 2014, 2015:

Voice and Movement

- Creating and implementing syllabus developed for young actors;
- Exploring Alexander, Michael Chekhov, Catherine Fitzmaurice, Jacques Lecoq, and Andrei Droznin techniques;
- Leading daily exercises in yoga, modern dance, singing, and ensemble building;
- Directing actors in writing, and final performance of ensemble-generated play.

Visiting Artist

Cherry Hill Jewish Community Center, Cherry Hill, NJ

Summer 2012:

Introduction to Drama for Actors with Autism

- Creating and implementing lesson play for young actors on the Autism Spectrum;
- Exploring “red-nose” clown;
- Directing actors in final performance of ensemble-generated play.

Visiting Artist

Dreuding Center Women’s Shelter, Philadelphia, PA

Summer 2012:

Dramatic Therapy

- Creating and implementing syllabus developed for young actors;
- Exploring a variety of voice and movement techniques;
- Leading workshops in costume and set design;
- Directing actors in final performance of ensemble-generated play.

Cast Faculty Artist

Arden Theatre Company, Philadelphia, PA

Winter 2012, Winter 2018:

Introduction to Drama “Arden for All”

- Implementing lesson plans developed for young actors;
- Leading workshops in design and playwriting techniques;
- Training in voice and movement exercises.

Lead Instructor

HMS School for Children with Cerebral Palsy, Philadelphia, PA

October 2006-July 2010:

Introduction to Drama

- Creating and implementing lesson plans for youth with Cerebral Palsy;
- Designing activities for script and monologue writing;
- Training actors in improvisation and character building;
- Directing actors in final performance of ensemble-generated play.

ON-GOING SCHOLARSHIP

Mental Health First Aid Certified, National Council for Mental Wellbeing

Online-Synchronous. Fall 2021.

FastTrack Coaching, International Coach Federation

Online-Synchronous. Spring 2021.

Jen Waldman Studio Teacher’s Cohort for Online Theatre Education

Online-Synchronous. Summer 2020.

Columbia University/EdX Inclusive Teaching in the College Classroom

Online-Asynchronous. Summer 2020.

Theatrical Intimacy Education

USA. Fall 2019

Teaching and Learning Center, Temple University, Certification

Philadelphia, PA. 2012

Michael Chekhov Association

USA. 1999-Present

SELECTED ACTING CREDITS**AEA Member****Off-Broadway:**

THE LAPSBURGH LAYOVER Zelda Ars Nova, NYC

Workshops:

BLOOD PLAY Gail Playwrights Horizons SuperLab

Podcast:

NOSEJOB Narrator *Lightening Rod Special, Sound Break*

Regional:

FORGING FAITH Faith Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center
THE WOLVES Soccer Mom Philadelphia Theatre Co., Philadelphia, PA
2.5 MINUTE RIDE Lisa Theatre Horizon, Norristown, PA
INDECENT Halina, etc. Arden Theatre Co., Philadelphia, PA
CHARLOTTE'S WEB Mrs. Arable/Goose Arden Theatre Co.
THE STINKY CHEESE MAN Little Red Hen, others Arden Theatre Co.
PETER PAN Smee/Nibs Arden Theatre Co.
THE ODD COUPLE Cecily Pigeon Walnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia, PA
LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR Carol Walnut Street Theatre
KING LEAR Goneril Saratoga Shakespeare Fest, Saratoga, NY
A PEOPLE Overwhelmed, others Orbiter 3, Philadelphia, PA
THE THREE MUSKETEERS Henrietta People's Light & Theatre Co., Malvern, PA
NOISES OFF Poppy People's Light & Theatre Co.
BUNNY BUNNY Gilda Radner 1812 Productions, Philadelphia, PA
A PASSING WIND Elizabeth Philadelphia International Fest. of the Arts
THREE CHRISTS... MANHATTAN Dr. Posner InterAct Theatre Co., Philadelphia, PA
JIHAD JONES... Peggy InterAct Theatre Co.
SKIN IN FLAMES Hanna InterAct Theatre Co.
...TRAILERPARK MUSICAL Betty 11th Hour & Montgomery Theatre, PA
FIELD HOCKEY HOT Pugnatia Thatcher 11th Hour Theatre Co., Philadelphia, PA
SCAPIN Argante, Zerbinetta, others Lantern Theatre Co., Philadelphia, PA
NERVE Susan Azuka Theatre Co., Philadelphia, PA
ACT A LADY Dorothy Azuka Theatre Co.
TALK RADIO Female Voices New City Stage, Philadelphia, PA
10% OF MOLLY SNYDER Molly Snyder Montgomery Theatre Co., Souderton, PA
VIEUX CARRE Mrs. Wire EgoPo Classic Theater, Philadelphia, PA
SPRING AWAKENING Frau Gabor/Thea EgoPo Classic Theater
RHINOCEROS Mrs. Boeuf, others Mum Puppettheater, Philadelphia, PA
...VIRGINIA WOOLF? Honey Curtain Call Theatre Co, Albany, NY
COMEDY OF ERRORS Courtesan Colonial Theatre, Westerly, RI
MACBETH Lady Macbeth Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
THE CRUCIBLE Elizabeth Proctor Temple University

Original/Ensemble Generated:

PAY UP The "Narc" Pig Iron Theatre Co., Philadelphia, PA
ECHO Nemesis Tribe of Fools, Philadelphia, PA
THE GIANT SQUID Anna Berserker Residents, Philadelphia, PA
VICTORY/DEFEAT Leah Self-Produced, Philadelphia, PA

DIRECTING/COACHING

Director/Writer, *THE TEMPEST PROJECT*

Saratoga Shakespeare Festival, Young Professional Theatre Company, Saratoga Springs, NY
Summer 2019

Co-Director, *SHAKESPEARE FOR ALL*

Saratoga Shakespeare Festival, Young Professional Theatre Company, Saratoga Springs, NY
Summer 2018

Intimacy Choreographer, *TL;DR*

University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA
Spring 2020

Intimacy Coordinator, *REVOLT SHE SAID REVOLT AGAIN*

University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA
Spring 2020

Dialect Coach, *FIELD HOCKEY HOT*

11th Hour Theatre Company, Philadelphia, PA
Winter 2015

Russian Language Consultant, *QED*

Lantern Theatre Company, Philadelphia, PA
Fall 2014

Dialect and Vocal Coach, *DEATH OF A SALESMAN*

EgoPo Classic Theater, Philadelphia, PA
Fall 2014

Director, *LIVE FROM THE 'NUT!*

Walnut Street Theatre School, Philadelphia, PA
Fall 2011

AWARDS AND HONORS

President's Fund for Excellence University of the Arts, Award Recipient 2019

Philadelphia Barrymore Award

Best Supporting Actress in a Musical, *FIELD HOCKEY HOT* Season 2015

Philadelphia Barrymore Nominations

Best Leading Performance in a Play, *INDECENT* Season 2019

Best Ensemble in a Play, *INDECENT* Season 2019

Best Leading Performance in a Play, *2.5 MINUTE RIDE* Season 2018

Best Ensemble in a Musical, *FIELD HOCKEY HOT* Season 2015

Best Actress in a Musical, *TRAILER PARK MUSICAL* Season 2011

Best Ensemble in a Musical, *TRAILER PARK MUSICAL* Season 2011

Best Ensemble in a Play, *SPRING AWAKENING* Season 2007

Best Ensemble in a Play, *PAY UP* Season 2006

Philadelphia Theatre Initiative, Award Recipient 2007, 2008

Dean's List, Ithaca College 1997-2001

ADMINISTRATION AND OUTREACH

Barrymore Awards, Philadelphia, PA
Seasons 2010/2011, 2015/2016:
Nominator

Walnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia, PA
January 2004-July 2011:
Assistant to the Controller

Shakespeare in Clark Park, Philadelphia, PA
Summers 2009, 2010:
Props Designer

National Theatre Institute, Waterford, CT
February 2002-December 2002:
Intern

Hedgerow Theatre, Rose Valley, PA
May 2001-August 2001:
Intern

Michael Chekhov Association
Summers 1999-2001:
Intern

REFERENCES

Available With Application