

IPTD END-OF-YEAR NEWSLETTER

2018-2019



IPTD EVENTS

What a great year!

IPTD celebrated its 30th anniversary with a two-day alumni-graduate student reunion and symposium last fall. The community gathered at various talks, professional development workshops, and other events on- and off-campus throughout the year. Highlights included Dr. Esther Kim Lee's distinguished annual IPTD lecture, More Soon: A Symposium Honoring Joe Roach, and book discussions with Analola Santana and Dassia Posner.

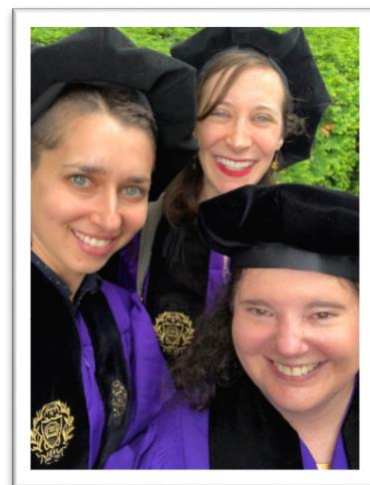


IPTD 30th Anniversary Reunion and Symposium

NEWS

Congratulations to Dr. Lisa Kelly, Dr. Jim Lasko, Dr. Grace Kessler Overbeke, and Dr. Amy Swanson! Best of luck to Amy and Grace who are starting new positions: Amy as an assistant professor of Dance at Colgate University and Grace as a postdoctoral fellow in Jewish Studies at Duke University (and then as an assistant professor of Theatre at Columbia College Chicago the following year).

Welcome to Dr. Danielle Bainbridge who is officially joining the Theatre faculty and IPTD EC this fall. Read on for more exciting updates!



Congrats to our newly minted PhDs!

Maria De Simone

Maria will be next year's Graduate Assistant at the Northwestern Office of Fellowships. She will also work as the Global Cafe Undergraduate Mentor for the International Studies Program. Look out for Maria's article, "Sophie Tucker, Racial Hybridity and Interracial Relations in American Vaudeville" in *Theatre Research International* this month!



Hayana Kim

Hayana spent her last quarter in Gwangju, South Korea, interviewing many of the key survivors, activists, and artists regarding the Gwangju Uprising. Meeting with them is her way of wrapping up her year-long on-site research, and she is also excited to be back in town this summer. Photo: Hayana and Maria in Shanghai for IFTR

Alicia Hernández Grande

Alicia spent the spring quarter writing a peer-reviewed article about the use of the German Holocaust memorial project *Stolpersteine* in Manresa, Catalonia, a part of which she presented at the 2019 North American Catalan Society conference in Chicago. She also spent the quarter organizing the pilot program "Job Market Materials Working Group," held in August 2019 that will help a group of Northwestern students draft and revise their academic job market materials.



Amy Swanson

Amy filed her dissertation and graduated in June!

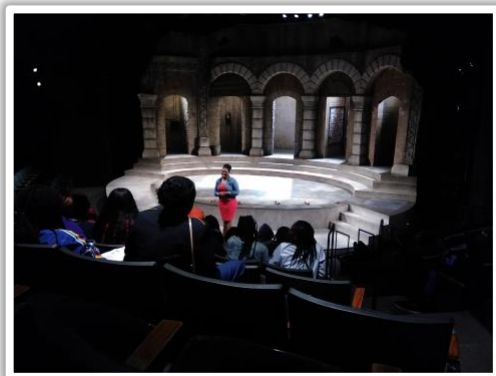
Keary Watts

Keary passed his quals, taught two very different classes on the contemporary American theatre, and received research support from the Graduate Research Grant. He looks forward to spending the fall working in archives around New York City and D.C. for the first chapter of his dissertation.



Tova Markenson

Tova was awarded a graduate fellowship from Northwestern's Crown Center for Jewish Studies and was named a finalist for the Association for Jewish Studies Dissertation Completion Fellowship. In April, she participated in a Digital Yiddish Theatre Project workshop at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and she took part in a summer institute on "Migrations" at Harvard University's Mellon School of Theatre and Performance Research. She also completed a draft of her dissertation's introduction and received her first revise and resubmit; let the revisions begin! Photo: Tova with members of the Digital Yiddish Theatre Project



Gabby Randle

Gabby was dramaturg on Court Theatre's *for colored girls who have considered suicide / when the rainbow is enuf* in the spring quarter, after closing *We Are Proud to Present* at Steppenwolf. She also taught "Feminisms on the 20th Century American Stage" with Susan Manning, and performed at the University of Chicago's "Experiment in Critical Silliness." Photo: Gabby at Court Theatre

Matt Bent

Matt taught 140-2 on the subject of theatre and globalization. He also wrote his first dissertation chapter (on the history of the idea of “performance” at the Shiraz Arts Festival), and presented on a further chapter at the Per(form)ance symposium at Harvard.

Rachel Moss

Rachel is thrilled to have been granted a Fulbright extension, so she will be staying in Poland a while longer. Rachel presented a paper in April at the British Association for Slavonic and Eastern European Studies conference in Cambridge, and in June in Zagreb at the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies Summer Convention, and had lovely IPTD visitors Amy and Laura in the meantime! Rachel will be attending the Leonid Nevzlin International Forum for Young Scholars on East European Jewry in New York in July and NU Dissertation Bootcamp in August.

Rachel is also excited to be co-convening the ASTR Working Session “Performing a People’s Public: Theatre’s New Publics in Central and East Europe and Russia” - hoping to see many of you in Arlington in November! Photo: Rachel’s research presentation in March at the Fulbright Berlin Seminar



Laura Ferdinand

This year Laura received the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Fellowship from Emory University and the Hargrett Research Stipend from the University of Georgia, which she will use to support a research trip this fall. She was named the official alternate for the Franke Fellowship, and she accepted a fellowship position with the Graduate Writing Place. She presented research at MATC and ATHE and has two forthcoming publications: “How Georgia Women Made Southern History” in *Beyond the Pages*, Vol. 30 and “Following the Fellows: Laura Ferdinand” on the Emory Libraries & Information Technology Scholar Blog. She will be giving a public talk in Atlanta this fall regarding the “lost” play of Joel Chandler Harris that she uncovered in the archives last summer. She recently returned from the Prague

Quadrennial where she presented an occult performance piece as a student of Mary Zimmerman and Ana Kuzmanic. Next year she is excited to serve as the Graduate Assistant for Northwestern University Press as she continues to write her dissertation.

ALUM UPDATES

Sheila Moeschen

Sheila's book *The League of Extraordinarily Funny Women: 50 Trailblazers of Comedy* was published in April by Running Press, a division of Hachette Book Group.

Elizabeth Hunter

This fall Elizabeth will join the faculty at San Francisco State University as an Assistant Professor in the Theatre and Dance Department. All are invited to the roundtable she's co-leading at ATHE, "Beyond YouTube: Transitioning Digital Performance to the Archive."

Lauren Beck

Lauren was the 2018 winner of the Johnson Family Award in Excellence in the Teaching of First-Year Writing at the University of New Haven. This year, she was promoted to Lecturer in the English Department and Assistant Director of the Common Course at her institution. Her article, "Ototheatre: Summoning Theatricality" is forthcoming in *Performance Research* (Volume 24, no. 4). And her son, Kieran, was born in October!

Lizzie Leopold

Lizzie has been hired as the first Executive Director of the Dance Studies Association. She will also lecture in screendance at the University of Chicago next year.

Emily Sahakian

Emily earned the Michael F. Adams Early Career Scholar Award in the Arts and Humanities from her university (University of Georgia) in 2018.

Bethany Hughes

Bethany served on the ATHE Nominating Committee for 2018-2019 and was recently elected as Conference Planner for the Latinx, Indigenous, and the Americas Focus Group at ATHE.

Ira Murfin

Ira will be a Mellon/ACLS Public Fellow and has been appointed as Program Manager for the Chicago Humanities Festival.

FACULTY UPDATES

Ariel Rogers

Ariel's article "Screen Practices and Hollywood Cinema in the 1930s" has just been published in the Summer 2019 issue of *Screen*, and her new book *On the Screen: Displaying the Moving Image, 1926-1942* came out earlier this month.



Dassia Posner

Dassia had a wonderful year in residence at Northwestern's Kaplan Institute. She is looking forward to returning to IPTD as DGS in the fall. Highlights of her spring included holding a signing for her book, *The Director's Prism*, at the Prague Quadrennial (see photo) and being elected ATHE's next Vice President of Awards.



Liz Son

Liz enjoyed her term as interim director of IPTD. She will be on leave in the upcoming academic year as an inaugural recipient of the Mellon/ACLS Scholars & Society fellowship. She'll be working on her next book titled *Possessing History* and will be in residence at KAN-WIN: Empowering Women in the Asian American Community. She looks forward to partnering with this local women's advocacy organization doing tremendous work in the lives of survivors of gender-based violence. Photo: Liz giving the keynote speech at KAN-WIN's spring benefit dinner

Masi Asare

Masi's dissertation "Voicing the Possible: Technique, Vocal Sound, and Black Women on the Musical Stage" received an Honorable Mention (2nd place) in the university-wide Outstanding Dissertation Prize competition, humanities category, at New York University. She also received the Stacey Mindich "Go Write A Musical" Lilly Award from the producer of *Dear Evan Hansen*, and her one-act play about Muslim superhero Kamala Khan a.k.a. Ms. Marvel was published by Marvel and Samuel French.



Susan Manning

With the assistance of Lizzie Leopold (Ph.D. 2017), the newly appointed Executive Director of the Dance Studies Association (DSA), Susan is hosting the **DSA annual conference on campus August 8-11**. As part of the conference, Amy Swanson (Ph.D. 2019), Tara Rodman (Ph.D. 2017), and Mlonzi Zondi (current graduate student in Performance Studies) will attend a preconference for emerging scholars, funded by Mellon Dance Studies. Amy and Mlonzi also assisted the curator of the Africana Collection in putting together a special exhibit for DSA, while Danielle Ross (current graduate student in Performance Studies) assisted the curator of the John Cage Collection in doing the same. Other IPTD alum presenting papers at the conference include Elliot Mercer (Ph.D. 2018), Ira Murfin (Ph.D. 2017), Rebecca Rossen (Ph.D. 2005), Anthea Kraut (Ph.D. 2002), and Catherine Cole (1997) along with Pepe Alvarez (current student in Performance Studies), Pam Krayenbuhl (Screen Cultures 2017), Kareem Khubchandani (Performance Studies 2015), Mario LaMothe (Performance Studies 2014), Victoria Fortuna (Performance Studies 2013), Mecca Zabriskie (Sociology 2013), James Moreno (Performance Studies 2012), Munjulia Tarah (Performance Studies 2012), and Meida McNeal (Performance Studies 2007). Incoming IPTD student Jessica Friedman also will present, as will faculty Ramon Rivera-Servera, Joel Valentin-Martinez, and Brendan Fernandes.

Have a wonderful rest of the summer!!