

EMMA CATHERINE WATKINS

emmacwatkins.com | (609) 578-9650 | emmacatherinewatkins@gmail.com

EDUCATION

CARDIFF UNIVERSITY, Cardiff Wales, UK 2018-2019
MA with Distinction in Welsh and Celtic Studies

- US-UK Fulbright Award for study at Cardiff University
- Dissertation: "Unbecoming: Translating Lady Charlotte Guest to the Stage"
 - Sioned Davies Award for best dissertation in the School of Welsh

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, Princeton NJ, USA 2014-2018
AB *magna cum laude* in English (Departmental GPA: 3.93)

Certificates in Theatre; Music Theatre; Environmental Studies

- Senior Critical and Creative Thesis: "Trailing Rhiannon"
 - Princeton English Dept.'s Alan S. Downer Award for a thesis of exceptional merit
 - Princeton Lewis Center for the Art's Music Theatre Award
 - Princeton Environmental Institute's Environmental Humanities Book Prize

PUBLICATIONS

- Co-Author: Watkins, Emma; Wolf, Stacy. "Feminist Musical Theatre Pedagogy." *Teaching Critical Performance Theory in Today's Theatre Classroom, Studio, and Communities*. edited by Jeanmarie Higgins (2020, Routledge)

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- "Calumniated Storytellers: The Precedent for Female Re-Telling," International Congress of Celtic Studies, Wales, Jul. 2019
- "(Re)Creating the *Mabinogï*: Performance Adaptations of the Four Branches," Cardiff University School of Welsh Research Symposium, Wales, May 2019
- "The *Mabinogï*'s Modern Environment: Re-Staging the Four Branches in Contemporary Wales," Storytelling and the Environment Symposium with George Ewart Evans Centre for Storytelling at University of South Wales, Wales, Apr. 2019
- "(Re)Creating Myth: Adapting Welsh Tales through Storytelling Performances and Playwriting," Fulbright Forum at Southampton University, England, Jan. 2019
- "Aura: Defying Reproduction in Bootlegs of Musical Theatre," New York Musical Theatre Forum at New York Public Library, NY, Apr. 2017

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant to Stacy Wolf, Prof. of Theatre, Dir. of Program in Musical Theatre, Princeton University (2017-2019)
Provided research and editorial assistance for Stacy Wolf during the creation of her book *Beyond Broadway: The Pleasure and Promise of Musical Theatre Across America* (2020, OUP), which has involved archival work, seeking out and summarizing secondary sources, transcribing and summarizing interviews with community theatre-makers from around the country, compiling bibliographies, and writing narrative summaries of the significance musical theatre in high schools across America, examining the developmental significance of high school musicals, as well as the history of censorship and controversy on high school stages

TEACHING

Teacher and Co-Founder, Humbug! Theater Co. (September 2020-Present)

Co-founder of Humbug!, a theater organization committed to providing community and theatrical opportunities to young people during the COVID-19 pandemic. Co-teacher of *The Writer's Zoom*, a playwriting and devising class for teens

Volunteer Teaching Artist, Trenton Youth Theater, Trenton NJ (October 2020-Present)

Volunteering as a Teaching Artist with Trenton Youth Theater, a theater workshop for Trenton Central High School students

Teaching Assistant, PlayPenn, Philadelphia PA (October 2019-November 2019)

Assisted Lisa Kenner Grissom during the course *Writing from the Deep*; sourced dramaturgical materials; facilitated communications

Guest Speaker, Grand Council for Young People Vision for Education, Cardiff UK (June 2019)

Presented to over 100 primary- and secondary-school students about education and theatre in the United States

GRANTS**Fulbright Postgraduate Award**, US-UK Fulbright Association (2018-2019)

£12,950 and full tuition waiver: Awarded for the pursuit of a Master's in Welsh and Celtic Studies at Cardiff University

A. Scott Berg Fellowship, Princeton University NJ (2017)\$2,000: Awarded by Princeton University's Department of English for "rigorous projects that show passion for an imaginative undertaking," to fund eight weeks of independent research in Wales, studying storytelling, myth, and folksong for *Trailing Rhiannon***Mallach Senior Thesis Award**, Princeton University NJ (2017)\$5,000: Awarded by Princeton University's Lewis Center for the Arts to support the realization of a project that "incorporates historical research and creates an alternative path to learning history" for *Trailing Rhiannon***Martin A. Dale '53 Summer Award**, Princeton University NJ (2016)

\$5,000: Awarded by Princeton's Dean of the College to fund six weeks of independent research in Norway, studying Scandinavian folk music and Norse mythology, culminated in the writing of an original music theatre piece based on a Norwegian folktale

PLAYS – FULL LENGTH

<i>Unbecoming</i>	Production	Princeton Lewis Center of the Arts, 2021
	Reading	PlayPenn Education, 2020
	Workshop*	Savannah College of Arts and Design, 2020
	Workshop*	Princeton Lewis Center for the Arts, 2020
	Reading	Princeton Lewis Center for the Arts, 2020
	Developed	Cardiff University, UK, 2019
<i>Trailing Rhiannon</i>	Workshop	Chapter Arts Centre, UK, 2019
	Reading	Cardiff University, UK, 2019
	Showcase Reading	McCarter Theatre LAB, 2018
	Production	Princeton Lewis Center for the Arts, 2018

PLAYS – ONE ACTS & SHORTS

<i>You Must Be This Tall To Enter</i>	Production	Theatre Intime, Princeton, NJ, 2017
<i>East of the Sun, West of the Moon</i>	Developed	Princeton Lewis Center for the Arts, 2017
<i>Ophelia on the Bank of the River Styx</i>	Production	Princeton Lewis Center for the Arts, 2016

PLAYWRITING HONORS

Barry and Bernice Stavis Award (Nominee)	National Theater Conference	2020
The Foundry (Finalist)	PlayPenn New Play Development, PA	2020
INKubator New Play Program (Finalist)	Art House Productions, NJ	2020
Outstanding Work in Theatre Award	Princeton University	2015, 2016, 2017

SELECTED THEATRICAL EXPERIENCE**Dramaturgy**

- *Into the Woods*, dir. Ethan Heard, Princeton University Lewis Center for the Arts, 2017
- *When Dawn Breaks*, devised and directed by Nico Krell, Princeton University Theatre Intime, 2017

Literary Assistant

- *Goodnight Nobody*, by Rachel Bonds, dir. Tyne Rafaeli, McCarter Theatre Center, 2020
- *Sleuth*, dir. Adam Immerwahr, McCarter Theatre Centre, 2020
- *Mary Shelley's Frankenstein*, written and dir. by David Catlin, McCarter Theatre Center, 2019
- *Gloria: A Life*, written and dir. by Emily Mann, McCarter Theatre Center, 2019
- *The Refuge Plays* Workshop, by Nathan Alan Davis, dir. Patricia McGregor, McCarter Theatre Center, 2019

Selected Acting

- Miranda in *Picnic at Hanging Rock*, dir. Nico Krell, Princeton University Players, 2018
- Gelsey in *Ghost Quartet*, dir. Nico Krell, Princeton University Players, 2017
- Lucia in *Mad Forest*, dir. Nico Krell, Princeton University Lewis Center for the Arts, 2017
- Louise in *Gypsy*, dir. Suzie Agins, Princeton University Lewis Center for the Arts, 2017

* Postponed due to COVID-19

SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Princeton University Glee Club, Princeton University NJ (September 2014-June 2018)

- International Tour Manager (2017-2018): coordinated international and domestic tours for 80-person choir
- Vice President (2016-2017): spearheaded comprehensive website overhaul and creation of new merchandise

Peer Academic Adviser, Princeton University NJ (September 2016- June 2017)

Built an academic and social support system for 20 freshmen, offering individualized strategies and weekly study breaks

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Literary Apprentice, McCarter Theatre Center, NJ (August 2019-May 2020)

Served as literary assistant for four mainstage plays, directly assisting playwright and director by providing dramaturgical support, conducting production-specific research, and tracking and implementing script changes; read and analyzed scripts, maintained McCarter's script database and provided artistic staff with detailed script reports; crafted articles and interviews for programs; wrote and moderated post-show discussions of *Goodnight Nobody* with cast and audience members; composed and presented 20-minute pre-show talks for audiences; covered readings on behalf of the artistic staff; assisted in creating virtual programming materials for the launch of McCarter@Home (the virtual platform McCarter created in response to COVID-19)

Producing Fellow, Adverse Camber Storytelling Productions, UK (February 2019-March 2019)

Spearheaded the public-facing 'Story Hub' at Adverse Camber's *Leeds Storytelling Takeover*; engaged with national storytelling organizations to design and facilitate a space for aspiring storytellers to network during the festival

FURTHER TRAINING

Playwriting: Nathan Alan Davis, R.N. Sandberg, L M Feldman, R. Eric Thomas, Lisa Kenner Grissom

Music Composition: Randall Eng, Robert Lee, Dan Trueman, Shawn Jaeger

Voice: Zach Krieger, Martha Elliot, Diana Corliss

Acting: John Doyle, John Rando, Suzanne Agins

ADDITIONAL SKILLS & INTERESTS

General: public speaking; group facilitation; strong writing skills (creative, research based, grant-writing); can read music; voice lessons (7 years); basic piano (5 years); choral training in Princeton University Glee Club (4 years) and Cardiff University Chamber Choir (1 year); NJ Driver's License; valid US passport; scuba-certified

Language: conversational French and basic Welsh

Computer: ArtsVision (artistic management software); Microsoft Office; Adobe Acrobat; G Suite; Sibelius