

Seth Panitch
Associate Professor of Theatre
Head of MFA / BA Acting Programs
Department of Theatre and Dance
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EDUCATION

University of Washington- Professional Actors Training Program
M.F.A. in Acting, May 1993

Circle in the Square Theatre School, NYC, NY
Certificate, Summer 1990

Occidental College, Los Angeles, California
B.A. Theater, May 1990
Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude

Tufts University, Boston, Massachusetts
(Transferred to Occidental, May 1988)

**PROFESSIONAL
EXPERIENCE**

Associate Professor of Theatre (Acting/ Stage Movement)
Director of MFA, Undergraduate Acting Programs
Department of Theatre and Dance
The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

8/05 to present:

Director of MFA / BA Acting Programs

Teach MFA and BA courses in: Advanced Acting, Acting Shakespeare, Period Styles (Moliere, Shaw, Ibsen, Chekhov, Coward, Wilde, Mamet) Acting for the Camera, Comedic Styles, Directing, Careers in Professional Theatre, Rehearsal Process, Stage Movement (Tai Chi, Laban, Animal Work, Physical Stage Actions, Physical Characterization), Advanced Stage Movement (Suzuki, Clowning, Mask Work), Showcase Preparation and Stage Combat (Hand to Hand, Rapier and Dagger, Broadsword).

Direct Mainstage productions.

Faculty Guest Artist (Actor) in productions.

Senator, Faculty Senate (Two Terms)

Faculty Senate Steering Committee

Co-Chair Senate Student Life Committee

Chair, Undergraduate Scholarship Committee

Undergraduate Academic Coordinator for Department of Theatre

Co- Chair, MFA/ Senior Showcase in New York City.

Administrator, High School Scholarship Auditions.

Academic advisor to both graduate and undergraduate majors.

Advisor/ Coach to participants in the SETC, URTA and UPTA combined auditions.

11/10- 1/11

Guest Director, Teatro Nacional, Havana, Cuba- Invited to direct a Spanish language professional production of *Beyond Therapy* for the Teatro Nacional under the auspices of the Cuban Ministry of Culture (CNAE). This marks my third professional directing project in Cuba, where I had previously become the first American director to officially direct a Cuban theatre company in decades. These productions employ both professional Cuban actors and my graduate MFA acting students from the University of Alabama.

Summer, 2010

Actor, Colorado Shakespeare Festival- Performed leading and supporting roles in *Measure for Measure* and *The Fantasticks* for the 52nd Anniversary Season of the Colorado Shakespeare Festival (*Time Magazine's* third rated Shakespeare festival in the country).

11/08- 1/09

Guest Director, Teatro Nacional, Havana, Cuba- Directed a Spanish language professional production of *The Merchant of Venice* for the Teatro Nacional under the auspices of the Cuban Ministry of Culture (CNAE), becoming the first American director to officially direct a Cuban theatre company in decades. The production employed both professional Cuban actors and my graduate MFA acting students from the University of Alabama.

7/09-8/09

Guest Director, Teatro Nacional, Havana, Cuba- Directed a Spanish language professional production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for the Cuban Ministry of Culture. Production rehearsed at the University of Alabama with Cuban artists in residence before transferring to the Teatro Berthold Brecht in Havana, Cuba.

- Summer, 2009 **Director, Texas Shakespeare Festival-** Directed the Texas Shakespeare Production of Moliere’s *Tartuffe*. Texas Shakespeare Festival has been a major Shakespeare Festival for 24 seasons, hailed by the *Austin Statesman* as “indisputably the best Shakespeare Festival in Texas.”
- Summer, 2009 **Festival Fight Choreographer, Texas Shakespeare Festival-** Served as festival fight choreographer for *Romeo and Juliet* and *Love’s Labor’s Lost* at the Texas Shakespeare Festival.
- Summer, 2008 **Actor, Colorado Shakespeare Festival-** Performed leading and supporting roles in *Love’s Labors Lost*, *Macbeth*, and *The Three Musketeers* for the 50th Anniversary Season of the Colorado Shakespeare Festival (*Time Magazine*’s third rated Shakespeare festival in the country).
- 12/06, 5/07, 5/08 **Guest Director, El Instituto Superior De Arte, Havana, Cuba-** Directed fifth year graduate actors in their thesis production of *The Importance of Being Earnest* and taught multiple Acting workshops to the advanced acting class at *I.S.A.*, which is the highest level of artistic training in Cuba.
- Summer, 2008 **Guest Professor, the University of Colorado-** Taught Shakespeare in Performance for the University of Colorado Department of Theatre while performing as an actor at the Colorado Shakespeare Festival.
- 05/05 to present **Filmmaker-** Produced and wrote the documentary “*A Night in the Theatre*” published by Insight Media. Currently producing and writing narrative film “*1968*.”
- 02/97 to present **Director-** Helmed professional theatrical productions in New York, at regional theatres across the country and in Havana, Cuba. Also Faculty Director at the University of Alabama, Rio Hondo College, and Long Beach City College.
- 05/92 to present **Actor-** Performed Off Broadway, in Regional Theatre, and in nationally recognized Shakespeare Festivals, including the Utah Shakespearean Festival and the Colorado Shakespeare Festival.
- 09/93 to present **Playwright-** Plays produced Off Broadway (Westbeth Theatre Center, American Place Theatre, Urban Stages Theatre, the Raw Space), in Los Angeles (Globe Playhouse, Ventura Court Theatre, The Odyssey Theatre), Seattle, Philadelphia and Alabama.

- 10/03 to present **Screenwriter-** My script *Restoration* is under option with Affinity Films, Los Angeles, California. *That's Life* contracted to Joel Zwick Productions, Los Angeles California. *Damn Nation* contracted to Erik Bergquist Productions, Los Angeles, California.
- 03/08 **Presenter, Southeastern Theatre Conference-** Presented the workshop "A Night in the Theatre," a lecture / discussion of my approach to filming and selling a Theatrical documentary.
- 03/07 **Presenter, Southeastern Theatre Conference-** Presented the workshop "Physicalising the Action," an improvisational approach to bridging text analysis and scene study at SETC in Atlanta, Ga.
- 01/99 – 12/03 **Lecturer, Department of Theater, Rio Hondo College-** Los Angeles, California. Taught advanced acting, Shakespeare, Shaw, Comedic Styles, mask work, stage combat, audition technique, Introduction to Theatre, produced New Play Festival, directed mainstage productions, advisor to Theater majors.
- 01/02 – 12/03 **Lecturer, Department of Theater, Long Beach City College-** Long Beach, California. Taught beginning and intermediate acting, directed departmental productions, and produced Repfest (festival of short plays in repertory).
- 09/95 – 06/97 **Artistic Director, Poor Yorick Productions-** Theatre company in Los Angeles, California.
- 04/97 – 05/97 **Guest Director, Rio Hondo College,** Los Angeles, California.
- 01/97 – 03/97 **Senior Comprehensives Director, Occidental College-** Los Angeles, California.
- 05/89 – 07/90 **Instructor, Chadwick Academy, Arts Unlimited-** Los Angeles, California. Taught acting, directed festival productions.

CREATIVE ACTIVITY

DIRECTING

***Member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers**

- 2010 *Beyond Therapy*, Teatro Berthold Brecht, Havana, Cuba
- 2010 *An Enemy of the People*, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

2010 *Saint Joan*, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
*Also, Fight Choreographer

2009 *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, El Teatro Nacionale, Havana, Cuba

2009 *Tartuffe*, Texas Shakespeare Festival
*Also, Festival Fight Choreographer

2009 *Henry V*, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa AL
*Also, Fight Choreographer

2008 *The Merchant of Venice*, El Teatro Nacionale, Havana, Cuba

2008 *The Heiress*, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa AL

2008 *Into the Woods*, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa AL

2007 *The Importance of Being Earnest*, El Instituto Superior De Arte,
Havana, Cuba

2007 *The Government Inspector*, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa AL

2007 *Romeo and Juliet*, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
*Also, Fight Choreographer

2006 *Dammit, Shakespeare!*, Urban Stages Theatre, NYC
*Also, remounted at the University of Alabama

2006 *Fifth of July*, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

2005 *The Merchant of Venice*, Whittier Civic Theater, Whittier, Ca.

2005 *Don Juan in Hell*, Whittier Civic Theater, Whittier, Ca.

2005 *Speed the Plow*, Long Beach City College, Long Beach, Ca.

2005 *Taming of the Shrew*, Rio Hondo College, Ca.

2004 *The Hypochondriac*, Samuel Becket Theater, NYC

2004 *Measure for Measure*, The Raw Space, NYC

2003 *Beyond Therapy*, Long Beach City College

2003 *The Seagull*, Rio Hondo College

- 2003 *Moliere One Acts*, Long Beach City College
- 2002 *Hamlet*, Rio Hondo College
- 2001 *What's Taking Moses So Long?*, The Wooden O Theater, L.A., Ca
- 1999 *Of Mice and Men*, Complex Theater, Los Angeles, Ca.
- 1999 *My Left Feet*, Theatre Geo, Hollywood, Ca.
- 1997 *Sister Mary Ignatius*, Guest Senior Comprehensives Director, Occidental College, L.A., Ca.

ACTING

- 2010 *The Fantasticks* (El Gallo), Colorado Shakespeare Festival
- 2010 *Measure for Measure* (Provost), Colorado Shakespeare Festival
- 2008 *Love's Labors Lost* (Don Armado), Colorado Shakespeare Festival
- 2008 *Macbeth* (Mentieth/ Lennox), Colorado Shakespeare Festival
- 2008 *The Three Musketeers* (Grimaud), Colorado Shakespeare Festival
- 2008 *Moon Over Buffalo* (George Hay) Faculty Guest Artist, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Al.
- 2007 *Blithe Spirit* (Charles) Faculty Guest Artist, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Al.
- 2006 *Dammit, Shakespeare!* (Richard Burbage) Urban Stages Theatre, N.Y.C.
- 2005 *A Flea in her Ear* (Chandebise/ Poche), Faculty Guest Artist, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Al.
- 2003 *Hamlet* (Hamlet), Farnsworth Playhouse, Los Angeles, Ca.
- 2002 *Hell: Paradise Found* (Lucifer), The American Place Theater, Second Space, NYC, New Comics Festival
Measure for Measure (Angelo), Samuel Becket Theatre, NYC
- 2000 *The Eyes Have It* (Indep. Film, Lead), Benson Productions
Holly Powers (Indep. Film, Featured), Parabolic Productions

- 1999 *Improvisation* (Ionesco), Dramatic New Arts Theater, L.A., Ca.
- 1998 *Dammit, Shakespeare!* (Burbage), Westbeth Theater Center, NYC.
- 1996 *Romeo and Juliet* (Mercutio), Hillside Repertory Theater, L.A., Ca
Charlie's Aunt (Brasset), Hillside Repertory Theater
- 1994 *Violence and the Sacred* (Paul), Seattle Fringe Festival, Wa.
Doctor Doolittle (Long Arrow), Seattle Children's Theater, Wa.
- 1993 *Julius Caesar* (Lepidus), Utah Shakespearean Festival
King Lear (Herald), Utah Shakespearean Festival
Cyrano de Bergerac (Gascon), Utah Shakespearean Festival
Don Juan in Hell (Don Juan), Penthouse Theater, Seattle, Wa.
Bartholomew Fair (Quarrelous), Meany Theater, Seattle, Wa.
- 1992 *The Imaginary Invalid* (Dr. Diafoirous), Idaho Repertory Theatre
Shadowland (Peck), Idaho Repertory Theatre
Story Theatre (Robber Bridegroom), Idaho Repertory Theatre
A Doll's House (Torvald), Glen Hughes Playhouse, Seattle, Wa.
The Merchant of Venice (Morocco), Glen Hughes Playhouse
- 1991 *Three Sisters* (Tuzenbach), University of Washington,
Professional Actors Training Program, Seattle, Wa.
The Sea (Hatch), University of Washington PATP
La Valse (Paul Claudel), University of Washington PATP
- 1990 *Comedy of Errors* (Balthazar), Hillside Repertory Theater, Ca

DRAMATIC WRITING

- 2010 *1968*, screenplay, in development, to be filmed at Meharry
Medical College, Nashville, Tennessee.
- 2008 *A Night in the Theatre*, a documentary.
- 2007 *Restoration*, screenplay, optioned by Affinity Films, Ira
Besserman, producer.
- 2006 *Dammit, Shakespeare!*, play, re-written for productions in
Alabama and Off Broadway at Urban Stages Theatre
- 2006 *That's Life*, screenplay, optioned by Joel Zwick Productions.

- 2005 *Damn Nation*, screenplay, co-written with Erik Bergquist (*The Fast and the Furious*), property of Limelight Productions
- 2003 *The Hypochondriac*, play, originally produced at The Complex Theater, Los Angeles, Ca.
- 2002 *The Lemmon*, play, originally produced at the Raw Space, NYC.
- 2001 *Hell: Paradise Found*, play, originally produced at the Ventura Court Theater, Hollywood, Ca.
- 1998 *Dammit, Shakespeare!*, play, originally produced at the Westbeth Theater Center, NYC.
- 1997 *What's Taking Moses So Long?*, play, originally produced at The Wooden O Theater, Los Angeles, Ca.
- 1993 *The Waltz of the Iron Maidens*, play, produced at The Seattle Fringe Festival, Wa, Summer 2003.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- 2007 Grant Writing Workshop, *Cultural Alliance*, Birmingham, Al.
- 2005 "Story" *Script Structure Intensive*, Robert McKee, L.A., Ca.
- 2000-2001 *TVI Actor's Studio*, Acting for the Camera, Hollywood, Ca.
- 1998-2000 *The Actor's Workshop*, Joel Asher Studio, Los Angeles, Ca.
- 1993 *Clowning/ Mask Workshop*, Arne Zaslove, Seattle, Wa.
The Society of American Fight Directors and Choreographers, certification by David Bouche, University of Washington
- 1990 *Circle in the Square Theater School*, NYC
Acting- Alan Langdon, Jacqueline Brookes
- 1989 *Commedia Intensive*, Thomas Leabhardt, Pomona College, Pasadena, Ca.

GRANTS

- 2007 Cultural Alliance, Birmingham Alabama (Applied 7/07)
- 2006 Research Advisory Committee Grant, University of Alabama

SERVICE

2009-2010

Faculty Senator
Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Co-Chair Senate Student Life Committee
Equal Opportunity Committee
Undergraduate Coordinator, Dept. of Theatre and Dance
Chair, Scholarship Committee
Co- Chair Showcase Committee
Director, Senior Actor Showcase, Theatre Row Theatre, NYC
Search Committee- Dance Assistant Professor
Active Member- Acting/ Directing Committee; Movement
Committee, *Southeastern Theatre Conference*.
Respondent, Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival
Director/ Advisor- "*Paper Moon Players*," Student group that
performs at local Convalescent Hospitals.
Recruiter/ Interviewer for "V.I.P." undergraduate prospective
students, University of Alabama.
Speaker, *Stepping Stones*- Black Belt recruitment day
Speaker, Strode Program: Shakespeare in Performance
Faculty Mentor, *Creative Oral/ Poster Presentations*
Speaker, Capstone Scholars Day
Speaker, Honors College Recruitment Day
Co-operative teaching relationships with:
Laurie Arizumi (Nozomi Daiko Drumming Collective)
African Dance Ensemble
Andrew Dewar, New College
Participant, Phi Beta Kappa functions, University of Alabama

2008-2009

Faculty Senator 07-09 (re-elected for 09-11)
Senate Representative- Equal Opportunity Committee
Senate Sub Committee- Student Life Committee
Outstanding Senior Awards Committee
Arts Bridge Committee (Creative Campus)
Undergraduate Coordinator, Dept. of Theatre and Dance
Chair, Scholarship Committee
Co- Chair Showcase Committee
Co-Director Senior Showcase, Theatre Row Theatre, NYC
Active Member- Acting/ Directing Committee; Movement
Committee, *Southeastern Theatre Conference*.
Director/ Advisor- "*Paper Moon Players*," Student group that
performs at local Convalescent Hospitals.
Recruiter/ Interviewer for "V.I.P." undergraduate prospective
students, University of Alabama.
Recruiter, *Mississippi High School Acting Festival*, Mississippi

Further developed co-operative teaching relationships with:
Beth Todd (Engineering) – *Henry V* battle effects
Laurie Arizumi (Nozomi Daiko Drumming Collective)
Chris Kozak (Music) - Musical Improvisation in Acting
Judge, *Creative Oral/ Poster Presentations*, University of Alabama
Speaker, *Stepping Stones*- Black Belt recruitment day
Faculty Mentor, *Creative Oral/ Poster Presentations*
Speaker, Capstone Scholars Day
Speaker, Honors College Recruitment Day
Participant, Phi Beta Kappa functions, University of Alabama

2007-2008

Dean Olin's Special Committee on the Historian of Old Havana
Dean Olin's Special Committee on Culture Builds
Faculty Senator 07-09
Senate Representative- Equal Opportunity Committee
Senate Sub Committee- Student Life Committee
Arts Bridge Committee (Creative Campus)
New College Search Committee
Chair, Scholarship Committee
Co- Chair Showcase Committee
Co- Chair Audition Day Committee
Co-Director Senior Showcase, Theatre Row Theatre, NYC
Active Member- Acting/ Directing Committee; Movement
Committee, *Southeastern Theatre Conference*.
Director/ Advisor- "*Paper Moon Players*," Student group that
performs at local Convalescent Hospitals.
Director/ Advisor for Student Group teaching at Akron Elementary
Produced production of *1776* for the Department of English
Lectured for School of Music Convocation
Recruiter/ Interviewer for "V.I.P." undergraduate prospective
students, University of Alabama.
Recruiter, *Mississippi High School Acting Festival*, Mississippi
Co-operative teaching relationships with:
Beth Todd (Engineering) – *Henry V* battle effects
Laurie Arizumi (Nozomi Daiko Drumming Collective)
Aaron Greer (T.C.F.) – Acting for the Camera
Chris Kozak (Music) - Musical Improvisation in Acting
Judge, *Creative Oral/ Poster Presentations*, University of Alabama
Faculty Mentor, *Creative Oral/ Poster Presentations*
Participant, Phi Beta Kappa functions, University of Alabama

2006-2007

Faculty Senator
Senate Representative- Equal Opportunity Committee
Senate Sub Committee- Student Life Committee
Remounted NYC production of *Dammit, Shakespeare!* for the
Department of Theatre and Dance, University of Alabama

Faculty Performer in *Blithe Spirit*, University of Alabama
Performed as *U.A. President George H. Denny* for Capstone 06
Alumni Gala, University of Alabama
Judge, *Creative Oral/ Poster Presentations*, University of Alabama
Judge, *Miss Corolla Pageant*
Active Member- Acting/ Directing Committee; Movement
Committee, *Southeastern Theatre Conference*.
Director/ Advisor- "*Paper Moon Players*," Student group that
performs at local Convalescent Hospitals.
Director/ Advisor for Student Group teaching at Akron Elementary
Taught master class for School of Music Convocation (3/07)
Formed co-operative teaching relationship with Laurie Arizumi
(Nozomi Daiko Drumming Collective)
Search Committee, New College
Search Committee, Technical Director
Search Committee, Temporary Directing Replacement
Co-Director of Actor's Showcase, University of Alabama
Chair, Scholarship Committee
Audition Day Committee
Recruiter/ Interviewer for "V.I.P." undergraduate prospective
students, University of Alabama.
Recruiter, *Trumbauer Acting Festival*, Alabama

2005-2006

Performed as *U.A. President George H. Denny* for Capital
Campaign Kick Off Gala, University of Alabama
Judge, *Creative Oral/ Poster Presentations*, University of Alabama
Faculty Performer in *Flea in her Ear*, University of Alabama
Adjudicator/ Organizer Scholarship Day, University of Alabama
Recruiter- MFA Acting/ Pedagogy, University of Alabama
Co-Director of Actor's Showcase, University of Alabama
Recruiter/ Interviewer for undergraduate prospective students,
University of Alabama.
Formed co-operative teaching relationship with Professor Chris
Kozak, Department of Music, University of Alabama
Search Committee, Assistant Professor in Acting/ Voice
University of Alabama
Participant, Learner Centered Initiative, University of Alabama
Participant, Phi Beta Kappa functions, University of Alabama

2000-2003

Faculty advisor to Theater Club, Rio Hondo College, L.A, Ca.
Performer, Faculty Arts Series, Rio Hondo College, L.A, Ca.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2010 Official Commendation, Cuban Ministry of Culture. Direction of Shakespeare's "*Midsummer Night's Dream*," for the Teatro Nacionale at the Teatro Berthold Brecht.
- 2010 American College Theatre Festival. Special Recognition for Meritorious Achievement: Director of "*Saint Joan*"
- 2009 Leadership Board Faculty Fellow, University of Alabama
- 2009 Official Commendation, Cuban Ministry of Culture. Direction of Shakespeare's "*Merchant of Venice*," for the Teatro Nacionale and the Sala Adolfo Llauro.
- 2009 Appointed Associate Member of the *Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers*, a professional union.
- 2008 Official Commendation, Cuban Ministry of Culture. Lecture / Master Class on Shakespearean Acting for the Teatro Nacionale, Havana Cuba.
- 2008 Best Production "Into the Woods." The AL Awards, University of Alabama
- 2007 Official Commendation, Cuban Ministry of Culture. Direction of "*Importance of Being Earnest*." Instituto Superior de Arte, Havana Cuba.
- 2007 Best Director, "*Romeo and Juliet*." The AL Awards, University of Alabama and Tuscaloosa
- 2007 Keynote Speaker, Phi Beta Kappa Induction, University of Alabama
- 2006 Best Director, "*Fifth of July*." The AL Awards, University of Alabama and Tuscaloosa
- 2006 American College Theatre Festival. Special Recognition for Meritorious Achievement: Director of "*Fifth of July*"
- 2004 Finalist, *Academy of Motion Pictures and Sciences Screenwriting Festival (29 and Holding)*.

- 2004 Finalist, *Open Door Screenwriting Festival (The Gondolier)*.
- 2003 Included in “*America’s Best Teachers.*” Nominated by students from Rio Hondo College, L.A., Ca.
- 1998 *Hell: Paradise Found* – “Best of the Weekend” L.A. Times
- 1990 *Phi Beta Kappa*
Summa Cum Laude – Occidental College, L.A, Ca.

CV updated May 2010