

CLAIRE MASON

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EDUCATION

- 2021 **PhD, Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Theatre for Youth Specialization**
Alternative Dramaturgies in Contemporary Western European Theatre for Young Audiences
Advisor: Manon van de Water
Committee: Mike Vanden Heuvel, Michael Peterson, and Lorenzo Garcia
Proquest Dissertation Publishing: February 2021
- 2011 **MA with Distinction, Irish Studies – Queen’s University Belfast**
Myth, Memory and Manhood: The Exploration of Ulster Protestantism and the First World War in the Works of Frank McGuinness, Stewart Parker and Christina Reid
Advisor: Michael McAteer
First Class Honours
- 2010 **BA, Theatre Arts with a Minor in Music – University of Puget Sound**
Magna Cum Laude,
Mortar Board
Excellence in Theatre Arts Award
SAFD Certified Actor Combatant in Hand-to-Hand (2009)
SAFD Certified Actor Combatant in Single Rapier (2010)
- 2008 **Training, Gaiety School of Acting – Dublin, Ireland**
Devising with Antoinette Duffy
Movement with Diane Richardson
Voice with Cahill Quinn
Acting with Donal Courtney
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AREAS OF INTEREST

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|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| * Theatre for Young Audiences | * Drama for Social Justice | * Dramaturgy |
| * Contemporary Performance Studies | * Devising | * Aesthetics |
| * Intertextual/Multimodal Performance | * Popular Culture | * Spectatorship |
| * Northern Irish Theatre and Culture | * Critical Thinking | * Material Semiotics |
| * International Theatre History | * Speech and Voice | * Agency |
| * Musical Theatre History/Performance | * Design Thinking | * Liminality |
| * Theatre as Therapy/Therapeutic | * Directing | * Complexity Theory |
| * Drama for Teaching and Learning | * Implicit Bias Training | * Postdramatic Theatre |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE: HIGHER EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

- 2019-2020 **Critical Thinking and Expression (ILS 200 – Teaching Assistant)**
200 level Integrated Liberal Studies program Communications-B, speech and writing intensive course focusing on the intersections between rhetoric, philosophy, popular culture, aesthetics, persuasion, argumentation, and debate. Duties included leading discussions twice a week for two classes of 20 students, preparing educational activities, grading, and writing instruction.
- 2018 - 2019 **Western Culture: Literature and the Arts: Renaissance to Remix (ILS 204 – Teaching Assistant and Guest Lecturer)**
200 level Integrated Liberal Studies program Communications-B, writing intensive course focusing on the development and progression of Western art, philosophy, science, literature, and culture from the Renaissance period to posthumanism. Duties included leading discussions twice a week for two classes of 20 students, preparing educational activities, grading, writing instructions, and final project facilitation. (Spring)
 Guest Lectures: *“Energy is the Only Life! Romantic Passion, Romantic Poetry* (2019) and *“A Sense Sublime:” Romantic Art and Music* (2019)
- Dance and Gender (D168 - Grader)**
100 level Dance department online general studies course focusing on the intersection between gender studies, politics, cultural studies, and dance. Duties included reading and evaluating weekly journals of 80 students, consulting and grading long form essays, and consulting and grading final ethnographic video projects. (Fall, Spring)
- 2017-2018 **Drama for Teaching and Learning (TD/S/CI 362 – Instructor on Record)**
Specialized 300 level joint Theatre & Drama, Slavic, and Curriculum & Instruction department course focusing on pedagogical practices, Drama in Education, Theatre in Education, Applied Theatre, and Drama for Social Justice. Course was split between facilitating instructional workshops for undergraduate students, facilitating workshops for students and “Little Buddy” labs involving volunteers between the ages of 4-10, and supervising student-led practicums for the “Little Buddies” as well as student-led Drama for Social Justice labs for their peers. (Fall, Spring)
- 2016-2017 **Critical Thinking and Expression (ILS 200- Teaching Assistant)**
 Guest Lectures: *“From Broadcast to Binge: An Apology for Society’s Obsession with Television”* (Spring 2017) and *“Artists in Absentia: The Oakhill Prison Humanities Project”* (Fall 2016)
- Summer 2016 **Drama for Teaching and Learning (TD/S/CI 362 – Instructor on Record)**
 Summer Intensive

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON (CONTINUED)

- 2015- 2016 **Critical Thinking and Expression (ILS 200 – Teaching Assistant)**
Drama for Teaching and Learning (TD/S/CI 362 – Teaching Assistant)
- 2013-2014 **Introduction to Theatre- Teaching Assistant (TD 120 – Teaching Assistant)**
100 level Theatre & Drama department Communications-B writing intensive course focusing on theatre, script analysis, production analysis, and criticism. Duties included leading discussions twice a week for two classes of 20 students, preparing educational activities, designing quizzes, instructing students on the fundamentals of writing a long-form research project, and facilitating creative projects. (Fall, Spring)

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

- Spring 2013 **Beginning Acting (THEA 1100 – Teaching Assistant)**
Introductory practical acting course for non-majors focusing on various acting styles, scene work, and character development. Duties included facilitating workshops, scene coaching, selecting sides, and grading performances.
- Spring 2013 **Directing I (THEA 4820 – Teaching Assistant)**
Introductory practical directing course for BFA theatre majors focusing on various directing styles, blocking, script analysis, casting, and coaching. Duties included supervising student director scene work, lectures on blocking and scene study, and assisting Professor Rebecca Hilliker with grading.
- Spring 2013 **Backgrounds of Dramatic Literature II (THEA 2020- Guest Lecturer)**
Theatre history and criticism course for BFA theatre majors covering contemporary theatre history. Guest lecture series on Irish Theatre and assisted Professor Rebecca Hilliker with the second half of the semester.

UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND

- 2009- 2010 **Theatrical Experience (THTR 200 – Teaching Assistant)**
Introductory course on theatre, style, and performance. Duties included assisting Professor Marilyn Bennet in class, guest lecturing/leading discussion classes on August Wilson's *Fences* and contemporary Black Theatre in the US, grading quizzes, coaching scene work, guiding design projects, and dramaturging new work.
- Fundamentals of Acting (THTR 215)**
Introductory acting course for Theatre majors focusing on contemporary acting styles in the United States, scene study, monologues, duets, and character development. Duties involved assisting Professor John Rindo with lectures, coaching scene work, and grading performances.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE: ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

OAKHILL PRISON HUMANITIES PROJECT

- Spring 2021 **Science Fiction as Social Commentary (Co-Creator/Instructor)**
Eight week correspondence course for inmates at the minimum security men's prison of Oakhill Correctional Institution, focusing on contemporary Science Fiction short stories and plays from around the world. Class reads primary sources and accompanying academic material, journal based on a series of prompts, and finishes the course by writing/designing/creating their own piece of science fiction in the medium of their choice.
- 2015-2020 **Theatre, Drama, and Performance (Co-Creator/Facilitator)**
Eight week in-person workshop series for inmates at the minimum security men's prison of Oakhill Correctional Institution, focusing on acting techniques, voice work, movement, devising, script writing, and literary criticism. Due to a combination of returning and new participants over the course of five years, the class combined introductory and advanced techniques, often ending in a final performance compiling several original one acts written by the participants.
- Summer 2015 **Dramatic Literature (Co-Instructor)**
Eight week in-person workshop series for inmates at the minimum security men's prison of Oakhill Correctional Institution, focusing on dramatic literature, criticism, reading a play, and philosophical inquiry into classic Russian, Shakespearean, and Modern USA texts.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE: YOUTH

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF ASIA-KARUIZAWA / UWC-ISAK JAPAN

- 2017-2019 **Culture, Identity, Diversity (Summer School - Creator/Facilitator)**
Two-week intensive workshop series for the students of the International Summer School (usually 90 or so students between 12-16 from around the world) which uses Drama for Social Justice, philosophy, devising, movement, theatre as therapeutic techniques, and social argumentation to explore students' connections with their own identity, explore and expand understanding of cultures from around the world, and delve into implicit bias, leadership by design, and project-based learning. Course also includes training/facilitating undergraduate and postgraduate teaching assistants in DEI practices.
- 2015 **Drama (Summer School – Co-Instructor)**
Two-week intensive drama class for the students of the International Summer School (usually 90 or so students between 12-16 from around the world) focusing on character development, movement, introductory theatre techniques, and acting which culminates in a student-led performance series.

LARAMIE CHILDREN'S THEATRE

Summer 2008 **Drama for Youth (Summer School - Teaching Assistant/Assistant Director)**
Short course exploring drama and introductory acting and staging techniques for Early Years Theatre with participants between 3-5 culminating in a final performance.

Musical Theatre (Summer School - Teaching Assistant/Assistant Director)
Short course in musical theatre techniques, staging, choreography, acting, and singing for participants between 7-15, culminating in a final performance. Duties also included choreographing the final performance, scene work, and vocal coaching.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

ACADEMIC

- 2021 **Inaugural Geesche Wartemann Emerging Scholar Award**
International Theatre for Young Adults Research Network (ITYARN)
- 2020 **Graduate School Fellowship**
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2017 **Jim Rye Fellow**
International Performing Arts for Youth (IPAY)
- 2015 **Ronald Mitchell Scholarship**
University of Wisconsin-Madison
- 2011 **International Student Bursary**
Queen's University Belfast

TEACHING

- 2016 **Integrated Liberal Studies Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award**
University of Wisconsin-Madison

PERFORMANCE

- 2018 **Next Generation Artist**
International Association of Theatre for Young People (ASSITEJ)
- 2016 **The Margaret Emma Williams Award for Excellence in Theatre**
University of Wisconsin-Madison

RESEARCH

PROPOSALS IN PROGRESS

Complexity in Performance

Co-edited volume with Dr. Daniel Galbreath and Gavin Thatcher, drawing together interdisciplinary approaches to how complexity theory engages, inspires, and interacts with various forms of performance and performance scholarship. **Key authors confirmed for involvement.**

NON-PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Mason, Claire and Bridgett Vanderhoof. "IPAY 2017: Unpacking Can't." ASSITEJ Newsletter (2017): 6-7.

CONFERENCES

- 2021 **ITYARN/ASSITEJ: Towards the Unknown World Congress** - Tokyo, Japan (virtual)
Inclusivity and TYA Virtual Panel
Experts of Their Own Experience: Inclusive Participation and the Legacy of Geesche Wartemann
- 2020 **Resistance and Reimagination: Gender, Change, and The Arts** - Madison, WI
Interrupting Ableism Across Space and Ways of Being Panel (Cancelled, Covid-19)
Femininity in Extremis: Performativity, Youth, and Ability in The Hamilton Complex
- 2019 **ASTR: Theatre's Many Publics**– Washington DC
Monsters in the Public Sphere Working Group
"A Girl Remembers: " Emancipated Spectatorship and the Power of Agency in Dystopian Young Adult Narratives
- 2017 **ITYARN/ASSITEJ: Cradle of Creativity World Congress** - Cape Town, South Africa
Talk to Me: Engaging the Young Male Spectator Through Melodrama
- 2016 **AATE: Boston Conference**
Activism in Theatre for Young People: Northern Ireland, Brazil, Canada Panel
"The normality of all this extraordinary experience: " Navigating the New Normal in Northern Irish Theatre for Young Adults
- 2016 **Theatre, Youth, Trauma and Europe in Crisis Symposium**, Bath Spa University
"Everybody knows a fella like COMET: " The violence of adolescence in post-conflict Belfast
- 2016 **AATSEEL-Wisconsin Conference**
Gender Transformations in Contemporary Arts Panel
"A man is a beast: " Contemporary Russian Masculinity and the New Russian Drama in 21st Century Russian Theatre for Young Adults
- 2015 **ACIS: Midwest Conference**
"and the whole brain begging... something begging in the brain: " A Performative Exploration of Samuel Beckett's Not I

CONFERENCES (CONTINUED)

- 2015 **TDGSO** Conference
We Didn't Start the Riot: Production, Performativity, and Promotion, Riot Dramaturgy in the Twenty-First Century
- 2014 **ACIS-CAIS**: Dublin Conference
The Orangeman Out: Identity, Otherness, and 'The Northern Irish Question' in Jonathan Lewis' Our Boys
- 2014 **TDGSO** Conference
Just a Piece of Cloth? Performances of British Identity in the Belfast Flag Riots
- 2013 **ACIS**: Chicago Conference
Perception, Representation, Neglect: Altering the Role of the Ulster Protestant in Northern Irish Drama
- 2011 **Common Ground**: Queen's University Belfast Symposium
Surrendering Silence: The Role of Contemporary Northern Irish theatre in Perceptions of Protestant Identity
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ACADEMIC SERVICE

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

- 2020 **DEI Consultant**
Project Wayfinder
Consulted and provided feedback for the Project Wayfinder Feedback and Belonging Toolkit and their Beyond the Labels lesson guide.
- 2018 **German, Nordic, and Slavic Department Diversity Liaison**
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Created content, gathered articles for the newsletter, and led a workshop on diversity in the GNS Department as well as inclusive pedagogical practices.
- 2015-2019 **Diversity Workshop Co-Facilitator**
UWC-ISAK Japan
Collaborated with UWC-ISAK Japan Summer School councilors to facilitate annual four-hour Diversity Workshops for the Summer School students, faculty, and staff.

ACADEMIC NETWORKS

- * ITYARN *ASSITEJ *ASTR
* ACIS * ATHE * TYA/USA

- 2021 **Board Member**
ITYARN
Incoming member of the International Theatre for Young Audiences Research Network board (upcoming position, duties not yet assigned).

ADMINISTRATIVE WORK

- 2019 **Interim Website Administrator**
ITYARN
Duties included reorganizing, updating, and maintaining the website, adding new members, organizing the listserv, maintaining the Google members chat functions, compiling and distributing emails, and updating membership information.
- 2017-2019 **Assistant to the Editors**
Diversity, Representation, and Culture in TYA: 4th ITYARN Book.
Originally edited by Manon van de Water, Geesche Wartemann, and Veronica Baxter. Final publication edited by Manon van de Water and published by ASSITEJ South Africa, 2020.
Communicated with potential authors, organized submissions, kept track of editor comments, created and sent letters of acceptance/rejection, and assisted editors with other various tasks.
- 2018-2019 **Conference Co-Organizer**
Theatre and Drama Graduate Student Organization (TDGSO)
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Annual Graduate Student conference. Duties included communicating with panelists from across the USA, fundraising, securing and funding the guest speaker, securing and funding the venue, PR, and panel organization.
- 2015 – 2018 **Oakhill Prison Humanities Project Volunteer Coordinator**
Oakhill Correctional Institution and University of Wisconsin-Madison
Worked with the Department of Corrections to organize classes, submitted materials, gained approval for courses and supplies, recruited volunteer instructors, facilitated PREA training, and communicated with OCI staff regarding all education needs pertaining to the project.
- Summer 2017 **ASSITEJ World Congress and Cradle of Creativity Festival Intern**
Cape Town, South Africa
Assisted with the ASSITEJ International Festival and Congress through house management, technology support, providing microphones, assisting ballot counting, front of house duties, and other general personal assistant duties when needed.
- 2015- 2016 **Producer and Tour Director**
University of Wisconsin-Madison TYA Program
Duties included organizing venues, securing transport, maintaining funding streams, and recruiting schools for touring productions for UW-Madison's TYA show *The Dragon*.
- 2015-2016 **Ten Minute Play Festival Co-Producer**
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Recruited playwrights, organized and ran auditions, scheduled rehearsal spaces, and acted as liaison with the performance venue
- 2014-2015 **Artists in Absentia Co-Organizer**
Oakill Prison Humanities Project and The Bubbler (Madison Central Library)
Assisted with curating and implementation of the Artists in Absentia installation for the Madison Central Library.

PRODUCTION EXPERIENCE

INTERNATIONAL CREDITS

- 2018 **Actor**, Ensemble, *Yeh Shen*, Towards the Unknown Festival
ASSITEJ Next Generation Artists devised production– Beijing, China
- 2012 **Production Assistant**, *Beelzebub*, National Arts Festival
Makhanda (Grahamstown), South Africa
- 2011 **Director**, *Evita*, Irish Amateur Premiere
Queen’s University Players at The Waterfront– Belfast, Northern Ireland
- 2011 **Director**, *Pirate Radio*, Fast and Loose Festival 5
Accidental Theatre Company – Belfast, Northern Ireland
- 2010 **Actor**, Joanne Jefferson, *Rent*
Queen’s University Players – Belfast, Northern Ireland
- 2010 **Actor**, Monica Smith, *Fools and their Followers*, Fast & Loose Festival 4
Accidental Theatre Company – Belfast, Northern Ireland

REGIONAL CREDITS

- 2021 **Dramaturge**, Playwrights Voiced Festival
Relative Theatrics – Laramie, WY
- 2021 **Actor**, Darla Miller, *Tight End*
Relative Theatrics - Laramie, WY
- 2021 **Production Support**, *The Care and Feeding of Small Animals*
Relative Theatrics – Laramie, WY
- 2020 **Actor**, Chorus. *AJAX*
Relative Theatrics – Virtual Programming
- 2019 **Actor**, Reader, *I Do Not Care*, various Staged Readings
TAPIT/New Works, and Playwrights Ink – Madison, WI
- 2018 **Actor/Dramaturge**, *The Peasant, Imogen(s)*, World Premiere
Broom Street Theatre – Madison, WI
- 2017 **Sound Designer**, *Not Yet*. The Indy Fringe
Indianapolis, IN
- 2015 **Sound Designer**, *Death of a Salesman*
Stroller’s Theatre- Madison, WI
- 2015 **Sound Designer**, *Sunday on the Rocks*
InterMission Theatre – Madison, WI
- 2014 **Sound Designer**, *Speech and Debate*
Relative Theatrics – Laramie, WY
- 2014 **Director**, *PolicyLand*, World Premiere
Pepperdog Productions at the Fair Oaks Warehouse – Madison, WI
- 2014 **Actor/Collaborator**, Ensemble, *Reunion* (environmental theatre/devised piece)
In House Theatre – Madison, WI
- 2013 **Actor**, Frieda Three, *Light’s Out* (environmental theatre production)
In House Theatre – Madison, WI
- 2013 **Director**, *Brilliant Traces*
Relative Theatrics – Laramie, WY
- 2012 **Dramaturge**, *The Celtic Cross*, World Premiere and Tour
Wanderweg Production – Tacoma, WA and National Tour

UNIVERSITY CREDITS

- 2019 **Actor**, Rangini, *One Day in the Season of Rain* (Staged Reading)
New Translation by Aparna Dharwadker and Vinay Dharwadker
TDGSO at the Play Circle – Madison, WI
- 2019 **Actor**, Umm Naji *Gorodish*, (Staged Reading)
TDGSO Open Stages / University of Wisconsin-Madison – Madison, WI
- 2016 **Actor**, The Donkey, *The Dragon*
University of Wisconsin-Madison– Madison, WI and Taliesin, WI
- 2015 **Dramaturge/Assistant Director**, *The Beaux Stratagem*
University Theatre – Madison, WI
- 2015 **Director**, *Bobby*, Ten Minute Play Festival
TDGSO / Univeristy of Wisconsin-Madison – Madison, WI
- 2014 **Assistant Director/Assistant Sound Designer**, *Helen*
University Theatre – Madison, WI
- 2014 **Assistant Director**, *'dentity Crisis, A Night of One Acts*
University Theatre – Madison, WI
- 2013 **Dramaturge and Assistant Director**, *Dancing at Lughnasa*
University Theatre – Madison, WI
- 2010 **Actor**, Claire/Heidi, *The Secret in the Wings*, Senior Theatre Festival
University of Puget Sound – Tacoma, WA
- 2010 **Assistant Director**, *Anything Goes*
University of Puget Sound Main Stage – Tacoma, WA
- 2010 **Director/Writer/Producer**, *Elektra*, (Environmental theatre production)
Independent Project – Tacoma, WA
- 2008 **Director/Writer/Producer**, *College Musical: A Parody*
Independent Project – Tacoma, WA

REFERENCES

Manon van de Water, Professor Emeritus

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies and
Department of German, Nordic, and Slavic
mvandewa@wisc.edu
608-262-2192

*PhD Advisor and mentor; Supervisor for
Diversity Liaison, Drama for Teaching and
Learning, Education Director, and OPHP
positions; Co-Instructor at OPHP; Taught
TYA and New Russian Drama courses*

Michael Peterson, Professor

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies and
Department of Art
michael.w.peterson@wisc.edu
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*Dissertation Committee; Taught my
Performance Studies specialty courses*

Mike Vanden Heuvel, Professor

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Interdisciplinary Theatre Studies and
Classical and Near Eastern Studies
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608-513-9746

*Dissertation Committee; Supervisor for
Western Culture: Arts and Literature, From
Renaissance to Remix position; Taught my
Postdramatic Theatre course*

Jason Kido-Lopez, Assistant Professor

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Department of Communication Arts
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*Supervisor for Critical Thinking and
Expression position for my first three
semesters; Taught my Ethics in
Entertainment Media course.*

