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Education

Harvard University (1984) – Interdisciplinary Doctorate in Education & Theater
(Dissertation: “Comedy & Democracy in America”)
(Play based on Dissertation: “One-Horse Show”)
Haverford College (1976) – Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
Ringling Brothers College for Clowns (1973) – Master of Buffoonery

Academic Appointments

Wesleyan University (1999-present) Professor of Theater
Emerson College (1984-1999) – Assistant, Associate, and Full Professor of Theater
Williams College (1983-1984) – Assistant Professor of Theater
Trinity College (1982-1983) – Assistant Professor of Theater

Major Fellowships

Fulbright Senior Research Fellowship (2007) – For Indonesian Translation Project
Guggenheim Fellowship (1999-2000) – For translating plays of Dario Fo & Franca Rame
Harvard University’s Sheldon Post-Doctoral Fellowship (1985) – For Study of Dario Fo
Danforth Fellowship (1980-1984) – Support for Doctoral Studies at Harvard
Watson Fellowship (1976-1977) – Support for Theater Research in Bali

Selected Grants

Indonesian Ministry of Education (2008) – Commission to write & stage new work
Rockefeller Fund’s Asian Cultural Council (2003) – Researching Performance in Bali
Massachusetts Humanities Foundation (2003) - Commission to adapt Dante’s Inferno
National Endowment for the Arts (2003) – Translating Dario Fo for production in Texas
Connecticut Arts Council (2001)-Commission for play on Italian Immigrant Oral History
Rockefeller Fund’s Asian Cultural Council (1996) – Researching Performance in Bali
Mass. Humanities Found. (1994) Writing play based on Asian Immigrant Oral History
Japan Foundation (1990) – Fieldwork in Japan on Kyogen Classical Comedy
Whiting Foundation (1990) Fieldwork in South Africa on Political Satire in Theater
U.S. Dept. of Interior (1989)-Commission for play on Oral History of Women in WWII

Books

Invisible Mirrors: Balinese Literature in Performance (with Nyoman Catra)
Translations of Modern Stagings of 15th Century Indonesian Plays (Denpasar, 2008)
Artful Laughter: Dario Fo & Franca Rame (Aperture, New York, 2001)
Winner of 2001 Theater Library Association Award for Outstanding Scholarship
Subversive Laughter (Free Press, New York, 1994)
Essays on Comic Traditions in Italy, Japan, Bali, Lithuania, and South Africa
Acrobats of the Soul (Theater Communications Group, New York, 1988)

Published Translations

- “Mistero Buffo” by Dario Fo (Theater Communications Group, NY, 2006)
“Peasants’ Bible” by Dario Fo (Grove/Atlantic Press, New York, 2005)
“Johan Padan” by Dario Fo (Grove/Atlantic Press, New York, 2001)
“We Won’t Pay!” by Dario Fo (Theater Communications Group, NY, 2001)
“Adam” by Joshua Sobol in Holocaust Drama (Syracuse University Press, NY, 1996)
“Italian Scandals” by Dario Fo (New York Times Magazine, New York, 1993)
“Underground” by Joshua Sobol (Yale/Theater Magazine, New Haven, 1991)
“Tiger Story” by Dario Fo (Yale/Theater Magazine, New Haven, 1990)
“Elizabeth” by Dario Fo (Samuel French, New York, 1989)
“Archangels Don’t Play Pinball” by Dario Fo (Samuel French, New York, 1989)
“About Face” by Dario Fo (Samuel French, New York, 1989)

Selected Staged Translations

- “We Won’t Pay” by Dario Fo (Underground Railway Theater, Cambridge, 2008)
“We Won’t Pay” by Dario Fo (Taipei, Taiwan, 2004)
“Accidental Death of an Anarchist” by Dario Fo (Dallas Theater Center, 2004)
“We Won’t Pay” by Dario Fo (Long Wharf Theater, New Haven, 2004)
“Peasants’ Bible” by Dario Fo (7Stages, Atlanta, 2002)
“Johan Padan” by Dario Fo (American Repertory Theater, Cambridge, 2001)
“Adam” by Joshua Sobol (Royal Shakespeare Company, London, 1992)
“Underground” by Joshua Sobol (Yale Repertory Theater, 1991)
“Tiger Story” by Dario Fo (New York Theater Workshop, 1990)
“Archangels” by Dario Fo (American Repertory Theater, Cambridge, 1987)
“Elizabeth” by Dario Fo (Yale Repertory Theater, New Haven, 1987)
“Mistero Buffo” by Dario Fo (onstage simultaneous translation for 1986 Obie Award winning tour to the Kennedy Center, Yale Rep, ART, and the Joyce Theater in NYC)

Book Chapters

- “Fratello Arlecchino” in Clowns, Fools, & Picaros (Rodopi, Amsterdam, 2007)
“Holding a Mirror to Language” in Theater Neapolitan Style (FDU Press, Teaneck, 2004)
“Sacred Laughter in Bali” Theater-Ritual-Religion (LitVerlag, Muenster, Germany, 2004)
“Ridiculing Racism in South Africa” Popular Theater (Routledge, London, 2003)
“Dario Fo in America” in Il Teatro Italiano al Mondo (Pescaro, Italy, 2003)
Finding Equilibrium in Disequilibrium” (with Nyoman Catra) in Negotiating Cultures (Manchester University Press, England, 2002)
Invisible Training in Balinese Performance (with Nyoman Catra) in Performer Training (Harwood Academic Press, Amsterdam, 2001)
“Onstage with Fo” in Dario Fo: Stage, Text, & Tradition (S. Illinois Univ. Press, 2000)
“Translating Tradition” in Franca Rame (Bordighiera, Indiana, 2000)
“Asian Masks” in International Dance Encyclopedia (Oxford Univ. Press, 1998)
“Pensar: Sacred Clowns in Bali” in Fools & Jesters (Greenwood, Westport, 1998)
“A Hunger for Hieroglyphs” in Performers’ Village (Drama Press, Copenhagen, 1996)
“Dario Fo: The Roar of the Clown” in Acting Re/Considered (Routledge, London, 1994)
“Clown, Politica, e Miracoli” in Dario Fo: Fabulazzo (Kaos, Milano, 1992)

Staged Plays & Performance Pieces

“Shakespeare/Calonarang” – Dance/Theater adaptation of Shakespeare’s “Tempest” through the prism of Balinese exorcistic ritual. Performed by a company of over 100 Balinese Master Artists, Dancers, and Musicians in Denpasar, Indonesia, 2007.

“Fragments From Dante’s Inferno” – Music/Theater adaptation of the “Inferno” performed by actors from Indonesia, Cambodia and the U.S. at the Gardner Museum, Boston, 2003.

“Over There” – Music/Theater play based on oral history collaboration with the Italian immigrant community of Middletown, Connecticut. Performed by actors and musicians from Sicily alongside local schoolteachers, students, tailors, and the city’s Mayor. Selected by the Connecticut Council of the Arts as one of the year’s outstanding arts projects, 2001.

“Winter Commedia” – Comic sketches based on scenarios from the Commedia dell’arte performed as part of the “Christmas Revels” in Sanders Theater. Cambridge, 1999.

“The Two-Faced King” – Children’s play based on a Balinese historical chronicle performed in dozens of Boston schools under the auspices of “Young Audiences.” 1996

“Journeys to the West” – Music/Theater adaptation of 16th Century Chinese Novel interwoven with oral history narratives from Boston’s Chinatown community. Performed by immigrant Chinese dancers and musicians in Chinatown, Boston, 1994.

“The Confidence Man” – Adaptation of Herman Melville’s novel performed in the style of Japanese Kyogen by Akira Shigeyama in Kyoto, 1990.

“S.W.O.N. Songs” – Music/Theater play based on oral histories of women who worked in the Charlestown Navy Yard during World War II. Selected by the Massachusetts Humanities Foundation as one of its best projects of the year. Boston, 1989.

“One Horse Show” – Music/Theater play based on the life and career of the nineteenth century frontier circus clown and Shakespearean satirist, Dan Rice, one of the originators of the character of Uncle Sam. Boston, 1984

“Don Juan/Giovanni” – Adaptation of the Don Juan myth interweaving the texts of Moliere and Da Ponte with the music of Mozart (Cambridge, 1981)

Miscellaneous Circus Acts and Masked Theater Entertainments – Wrote and performed popular entertainments for clowns, dancers, and actors that were staged in dozens of venues including: Rudy Brothers Circus, Queen Elizabeth II cruise-ship, Harvard’s Peabody Museum, and the Rennes International Mask Festival in France. 1973-1980.

Articles

- “Shakespeare’s Words Resonate with ‘Thugs’” (Hartford Courant, 2008)
- “Laughter in the World’s Most Populous Muslim Nation” (SuperConsciousness, 2008)
- “Translation as a Sacred Act” (with N. Catra) (Mudra, Indonesia, 2007)
- “The Tradition of Penasar” (Mudra, Journal Seni Budaya, Indonesia, 2005)
- “Answering Terror with Art” (Mudra –Journal Seni Budaya, Indonesia, 2004)
- “In Bali All the Post-9/11 World’s a Stage” (New York Times, 2003)
- “Men are the Real Dolls in this House of Ibsen” (New York Times, 2003)
- “Adapting Dostoyevsky” (New York Times, 2003)
- “Antigone as a Protest Tactic” (Athol Fugard in South Africa) (New York Times, 2003)
- “A Starship Captain Gets to Play a Star” (Katherine Hepburn) (New York Times, 2003)
- “In Vietnam, Telling Stories about All of Us” (New York Times, 2003)
- “New American Circus Comedy” (Book Review, Theater Survey, 2002)
- “Pope vs. Parents in a Struggle for a Child and his Soul” (New York Times, 2002)
- “An Iranian Musical Spectacle that Draws Audiences In” (New York Times, 2002)
- “From History to Stage to TV: Huey P. Newton’s Story” (New York Times, 2002)
- “A Troupe Endures” (Piccolo Teatro in Milan) (New York Times, 2001)
- “Refighting Old Religious Wars” (Sicilian Puppet Theater) (New York Times, 2001)
- “Dario Fo’s ‘Johan Padan’” (American Theater, 2001)
- “Dario Fo: Comedy that Begins in the Muscles” (New York Times, 2001)
- “A Hamlet in Which Pain is No Metaphor” (New York Times, 2001)
- “Riffs to the Rhythms of Bombs in Yugoslavia” (New York Times, 2001)
- “Letting Silence Speak ... in Strindberg” (Ingmar Bergman) (New York Times, 2001)
- “Puppets at the Mercy of Tragic Fate” (Mnouchkine in Paris) (New York Times, 2001)
- “Tibetan Rituals: Metaphors for Freedom” (New York Times, 2001)
- “Jacques Lecoq: Prophet of Gesture” (New York Times, 2001)
- “A College of Clowns that Suffers Fools Gladly” (New York Times, 2001)
- “Dario Fo Paints as He Writes” (New York Times, 1999)
- “Nobel Jester: Dario Fo” (American Theater, 1998)
- “Tricks of the Trade: Dario Fo” (Playbill, 1998)
- “South Africa’s Diva in Drag: Pieter Dirk Uys” (American Theater, 1997)
- “Taming the Tourists in Bali” (Performance Research, Wales, 1997)
- “Ridere del Razzismo in Sud Africa” (Teatro e Storia, Bologna, 1996)
- “Bacchanalian Hieroglyphs” (Incorporated Knowledge, 1995)
- “Lily Tomlin & Jane Wagner” (Boston Globe, 1994)
- “Taishu Engeki” (Kyoto Journal, 1993)
- “Drawing From the Imagination: Dario Fo” (Aperture, 1993)
- “Urban Slapstick: French Circus, Archaos” (Yale/Theater, 1992)
- “Downtown Kabuki” (Village Voice, 1992)
- “Laughing Shadows of Bali” (Village Voice, 1992)
- “Nazis in Vilna” (New York Times, 1991)
- “An Old Trouper Called Resisance in Lithuania” (New York Times, 1990)
- “Reagan’s Last Laugh” (Commedia & The Comic Spirit, Louisville Festival, 1990)
- “Samuel Beckett’s Clowns” (translated to Russian, Teatp, Moscow, 1989)

Invited Lectures

Underground Railway Theater (Cambridge, 2008) Translating Dario Fo
International Fulbright Award (Washington, 2007) Sacred Dance & Secular Law
Indonesian University of The Arts (Denpasar, 2007) – Theater in Service of Peace
Petra University (Surabaya, Java, Indonesia, 2007) – Dario Fo, Comedy & Christianity
The Public Theater (New York, 2006) – Joshua Sobol’s Documentary Theater
Indonesian University of the Arts (Denpasar, 2006) – Traditions of Translation
Indonesian University of the Arts (Denpasar, 2004) – Shakespeare & Terrorism in Bali
Nordic Institute for Asian Studies (Copenhagen, 2004) – Clowns and Bombs in Bali
Queen’s University (Belfast, Northern Ireland-2003) – Dario Fo’s Theater of Paradox
Getty Museum (Los Angeles, 2003) – Dario Fo & Aristophanes
World Conference on Italian Theater (Pescaro, Italy, 2003) – Italian Theater in America
Symposium on Theater & Religion (Hannover, Germany-2002) – Sacred Theater in Bali
Asia Society (New York, 2002) – Iranian Taziyeh Theater
Cambridge University (England, 2002) – Translating Dario Fo
Getty Museum (Los Angeles, 2002) – Balinese Acting Techniques in Ancient Greek Drama
Dah Theater Symposium (Belgrade, Yugoslavia-2001) – Documentary Performance
Harvard University’s Project Zero (Cambridge, 2001) – Dario Fo & the Creative Process
International School of Theater Anthropology (Germany-2000) – Comic Dramaturgy
Cambridge University (England, 2000) – Dario Fo & St. Francis of Assisi
Boston University Translation Seminars (Massachusetts, 2000) – Translating Dario Fo
Columbia University Seminar on Modern Italy (New York, 1999) – Artistry of Dario Fo
Brown University Humanities Series (Providence, 1999) – Fo’s Literature of Laughter
International Conference on Carnival (Trinidad, 1999) – Balinese Temple Festivals
Haverford College’s Desjardin Seminar (Pennsylvania, 1999) – Dario Fo in America
Delphi Theater Symposium (Greece, 1998) – Balinese Theater & “The Bacchae”
International School of Theater Anthropology (Portugal, 1998) Anatomy of the Grotesque
Bucknell University Humanities Series (Pennsylvania, 1997) Balinese Comic Masks
Center for Performance Research (Wales, 1996) Taming the Tourists in Bali
Museum of Natural History (New York, 1995) Sacred Clowns in Bali
National Civil Rights Museum (Memphis, TN, 1995) South African Satire & Apartheid
Asia Society (New York, 1995) Performing the Chinese Immigrant Experience

Selected Professional Directing Projects

Center for the Arts (Bali, Indonesia, 2007)
Adapted & directed “Shakespeare/Calonarang” Elizabethan & Balinese tales of witchcraft
LaMama E.T.C. (New York, 2004)
Adapted & directed Shakespeare’s “Tempest” in collaboration with Indonesian actors,
dancers, and musicians with support from the Indonesian Consulate in New York
7 Stages Theater (Atlanta, 2002)
Translated and directed the American premiere of Dario Fo’s “Peasants’ Bible”
American Repertory Theater (Cambridge, MA, 2001)
Directed and translated the American premiere of Dario Fo’s “Johan Padan”
Later transferred to the Provincetown Playhouse in New York
Lithuanian National Theater (Vilnius, 1989)
Directed Lithuanian Premiere of Dario Fo’s “Tiger Story”