



WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

Lindquist College of Arts & Humanities

Name: Dr. Jenny Kokai

Title: Associate Professor

Department: Department of Performing Arts

Courses:

THEA 1013 Introduction to Theatre

THEA 2330 Dramaturgy and Criticism

THEA 3505/ENGL 3350 Playwriting

THEA 3303 Theatre History I

THEA 3313 Theatre History II

THEA 3323 Contemporary Theatre

THEA 4230 Performance Seminar

THEA 4713 Theatre in Secondary Education

THEA 4860 Advanced Playwriting

Awards and Honors:

ATHE and KCACTF Region 8 Innovative Teaching Award, 2017.

BIG Award, Institutional Research, 2015

Education:

The University of Texas at Austin (2008)

PhD, Theatre

Washington University in St. Louis (2003)

AM, Theatre

Butler University (2001)

BA, Theatre/Philosophy

Magna cum Laude with Highest Honors in Theatre and High Honors in
Philosophy

Selected Directing:

“Just a Game” KCACTF 10 Minute 2017 (Won “Director Who Best Served a New Work”)
“Six Characters in Search of an Author” Weber State University 2016
“Arcadia” Weber State University 2015
“My First Love” KCACTF 10 Minute 2015
“Of Myth and Mud” Weber State University 2013
“The Comedy of Oedipus” Weber State University 2013
“Tartuffe” Weber State University 2012
“Last Slice” KCACTF 10 Minute 2012
“Boom Town, Ghost Town” Co-Op Cohen NWF-UT 2006
“The Ladies of the Corridor” First Year Players- UT 2004
“Into the Woods” Cast ‘n’ Crew Washington U 2002

Selected Playwriting:

“Zombie Thoughts,” co-written with Oliver Kokai-Means, Plan B 2018
“Janine,” Utah Citizen’s Summit 2018
“Mitch/Janine,” (in)Divisible, Plan B Dir: Jerry Rapier, 2017
“The Art of Floating” Plan B Theatre Reading Salt Lake, UT 2017
“Bird Brains,” Rose Exposed, SLC Dir: Cheryl Cluff 2016
“Girl of Glass” Lark PDC New York, NY Dir: Jose Zayas 2014 (also a 2015 Eugene O’Neill semi-finalist)
“Lost Land” Good Co. Theatre Ogden, UT FronteraFest Austin, TX Dir: J. Kokai 2011

Publications:

Book:

Swim Pretty: Aquatic Spectacles and the Performance Race, Gender, and Nature (Carbondale, IL: Southern University Press, 2017).

Essays:

“Shamu the (Killer) Whale and an Ecology of Commodity” in *Showing Off, Showing Up: Studies of Hype, Heightened Performance, and Cultural Power* edited by Laurie Frederik, Kim Marra, and Catherine Schuler. (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2017), 81-106.

Articles:

“A Kind of Magic: Theatre and Moral Persuasion” co-authored with Mary Beth Willard. *Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism* (Vol. 28, No. 2 2014), 7-27.

“Weeki Wachee Girls and Buccaneer Boys: The Evolution of Mermaids, Gender, and ‘Man versus Nature’ Tourism.” *Theatre History Studies*. (Vol 31 2011): 51-66.

“Molding a Heroine: Patience Wright and Transatlantic Notions of American Female Patriotism.” *The Journal of American Drama and Theatre*. (Vol. 29, No. 2 Spring 2009): 49-66.

Book Reviews:

“Cultivating National Identity Through Performance: American Pleasure Gardens and Entertainment By Naomi J. Stubbs.” *Theatre Journal*, (Vol. 66, No. 3 October 2014): 482-483.

“Sisters in Sin by Katie N. Johnson.” *Ecumenica*. (Vol. 2, No. 2 Fall 2009): 99-100.

Memberships:

Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival New Play Program Region 8
Co-Vice Chair
Association for Theatre in Higher Education
American Theatre and Drama Society
American Society for Theatrical Research
Dramatists’ Guild

Website: <http://www.jenniferkokai.com/>