



Contributors

Marina J. Bergenstock is a theatre director and educator. She graduated from The University of Iowa with her MFA in Directing, working closely with the Iowa Playwrights Workshop. She continues to focus largely on new play development. Creating new worlds is something that she feels strongly about both as a director and an educator. One of Marina's primary research interests is Middle Eastern theatre, particularly related to the countries of Palestine and Israel.

D. Amy-Rose Forbes-Erickson is an Assistant Professor of African American Theatre and Dramatic Literature in the Department of Theatre and Dance at California State University, Sacramento, CA. Dr. Forbes-Erickson is the founder and artistic director of the Pan-African Theatre Ensemble. Her research includes theatre practice-as-research, theatre history, literature, text, criticism, and theory with expertise in African American, Caribbean, and Latin American theatres. Her scholarship focuses on the Black performing body, feminisms, masquerade, race and theatricality. Dr. Forbes-Erickson has taught theatre in the Department of Pan-African Studies, Kent State University in Ohio, USA, and at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. Dr. Forbes-Erickson earned her doctorate in Theatre: Performance as Public Practice from the University of Texas at Austin, USA, and holds a BA (Hons.) degree in Theatre Design from the University of the Arts, London – Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, England.

James Hesla is a performance studies scholar, teacher, and theatre artist. His research focuses on humor in contemporary clown and draws on theories from cognitive studies and humor studies. He studied sacred Hindu clowning in Bali, Indonesia as a Fulbright grantee. James lives in the Chicago area where he writes and acts in plays. He teaches theatre courses at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Joan Robbins is an Assistant Professor at Ohio Northern University where she heads the BA Theatre degree program and curates a biennial International Play Festival, producing theatre from a wide range of cultures and languages. She mentors student dramaturgs and teaches courses in a variety of subjects including: dramatic literature, theatre history, playwriting, and directing. Her theatrical practice includes dramaturgy and directing; she has published and presented on a variety of research subjects, including international theatre and modern/contemporary Irish drama. Her work has recently appeared in *Theatre Topics* and *The Mercurian*, and she has presented at ATHE, MATC, and LMDA. Joan holds MFA and DFA degrees in Dramaturgy and Dramatic Criticism from the Yale School of Drama.