

# KYRA JACKSON

## CURRICULUM VITAE

www.KyraJackson.Com  
TheKyraJackson@gmail.com

### CURRENT APPOINTMENT

#### **2017- Present**

**NYU Tisch / Atlantic Theatre Company / Atlantic Acting School /**, New York, NY  
*Teacher, Director, Curriculum building and Teaching of NYU Tisch 1<sup>st</sup> years Performance Technique, and Moment Lab classes as well as serving as Director and Dramaturg for NYU Tisch and Conservatory students in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year One Acts at Atlantic Acting Theater Company's studio.*

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

#### **2017 Atlantic Acting Studio,**

Summer Intensive in Practical Aesthetics and Actor Training  
Intensive Moment Lab, Voice, Speech, Movement, Suzuki, Improv, Performance Technique and Script Analysis Training at an accelerated rate at Atlantic Theatre Company, New York, NY

#### **2014 – 2017 Arizona State University,**

M. F. A. , in Performance Studies and Practice  
Intensive Lecoq, Voice/Accent, Meisner, Stage Combat, Broad Sword, Rapier, and Dagger training, Viewpoints, and Devised Work Training at the School of Film, Dance and Theatre, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts. Tempe, AZ.

#### **2014 Bali Taksu: The Power of Clown,**

Intensive Clown, Balinese Mask, Balinese Dance, Balinese Song, and Balinese Instrument Training. UBUD, Bali.

#### **2010 - 2014 Hamilton College,**

Bachelor of Liberal Arts Degree  
Specializing in Theatre Studies, Performance, advanced Psychological Training, and foreign language studies. Studied African American Theatre, Women's Theatre, Stage Craft and building development as well as advanced Stage training through performances. Clinton, NY

2014 **London Dramatic Academy**,  
Conservatory Training for Drama  
Focused on Shakespeare, English Dialects, Character Development and in-depth Character  
Study through physicality, voice, animal work and Broad Sword training. London, UK

2010 **Lawrence Woodmere Academy**, High School Diploma  
Musical Theatre and Basic Stage training. Lawrence, NY

2009 **University of Barcelona**  
Studied Spanish Language and Spanish Cinema at the University of Barcelona with  
preparatory program Academic Studies Abroad. Barcelona, ES

2004 – 2008 **Northfield Mount Hermon Preparatory** Summer Sessions  
Studied Chemistry, Physics, Geometry, Calculus, and Statistics respectively in preparatory  
college courses over the summer in order to obtain credit and enter the honors and AP  
versions of these classes in high school during the regular school year. Northfield, MA

## **G R A N T S   A N D   A W A R D S**

*ASU Gammage Scholarship* 2014-2015: \$1,000

*Special Talent Award in Theatre* 2015-2016: \$2,500.00

*PAVE Program in Arts Entrepreneurship Grant*; Team Member of The Catalyst Collective, a  
group dedicated to bridging the gap of Arts and Sciences. Grant Award 2016: \$2,500.00

Karen Williams Theatre Prize 2013: \$50

Hamilton College Senior Theatre Award 2014: \$150

The Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF Region VII) *Irene Ryan*  
*Award* nominee for the role of Lilith Morningstar in *She Kills Monsters* 2016

*Hamilton College Dean's List*: December 2010, May 2012, December 2013, May 2014

*Lawrence Woodmere Academy Excellence in Theatre Award* 2009 and 2010

## THEATRE CONFERENCES

*Association of Theatre in Higher Education* (ATHE) , Montreal, QC. 2015

Acting Adjudicated Exercise Panel Presenter, August 2015 Presented an original exercise and research on getting out of character, entitled *Shaking Out the Spine; An Actor's Approach to Return to Self*. Inspired by the stunning lack of guidance given to actors on how to "get out of character." This study is predominantly based on Michael Chekov work and is my first step into the linking of psychology and theatre.

*Hormel Festival of New Plays and Musicals*, Phoenix, AZ, 2015

Performed in staged reading of original work *Air Drop* by Kirt Shineman

## THEATRE ACTING AND PERFORMANCE

*Ten Bone's Theatre Company : Entirely From Memory*, Improv theatre company where the show is cast blindly in front of the audience, and there are three rules. 1. The players must incorporate lines written by the audience. 2. The players must incorporate any sound effect played by the host. 3. One lucky audience member is given a horn that they may honk three times. Once honked, the performers must create a scene that makes perfect sense given where they are in the story but that has no business being in the story they are trying to tell. Performed in various shows in various venues. New York, NY, 2019 – Present.

*Midsummer Nights' Dream : Pop Up Shakespeare*, Performed as Helena and Queen Titania in Seven Leagues Boots Pop Up Shakespeare performance at The Plaxall Gallery. Long Island City, NY, February 2019.

*The New York Poet's Society: The Poetry Brothel*, Performed as Co-Host Lady M regularly for shows in various venues. New York, NY, 2018 – Present.

*The Year I Went Dark* original work written and directed by Kyra Jackson; Played starring roles Brianna, Jackson, and the several identities of Trauma in this one woman PTSD Thriller investigating a specific human journey through sexual assault. This piece captures the ego of an emotionally driven angst-y artist right brain, and a fascinated logic fueled understanding of the left brain with prerecorded pieces of a very lost and vulnerable soul struggling to find an identity that had been stolen from her through her battle with trauma. Performed at the Nelson Fine Arts Center, Tempe, AZ. 2017

*Out of Many* devised by the 2017 MFA Cohort; Played several miscellaneous characters in the 2017 MFA Cohort's show that centered around "what it means to be American." The show investigated different perspectives of identity and politics in 'post-racial America.' Performed at the Lyceum Theatre, Tempe, AZ. 2016

***The Race***; A Day's exhibition including short performances developed by on and off campus groups, live CNN feed of Election Day results, conversation with friends and strangers, and the premiere of newly devised portions of Sojourn Theatre's 2008 Washington DC production *The Race*, which the Washington Post called "a new kind of political theatre." Devised by HIDA 2017 Graduate Students. Performed at The Galvin Playhouse, Tempe, AZ. 2016

***Emergence*** devised by Catalyst Collective; the debut performance of Catalyst Collectives short plays based on scientific fact and theory. Performed at The Unexpected Art Gallery, Tempe, AZ. 2016. Performed at Arizona SciTech Festival, Tempe AZ. 2016

***She Kills Monsters*** by Qui Nguyen ; Played starring role Lilith Morningstar and Lilly Evans at the Galvin Playhouse, Tempe, AZ. 2016.

***Addison and The Black Hole*** by Jericho Thomas; performed in the debut performance as supporting role Heather Dixon at Prism Theatre, Tempe, AZ. 2015.

***The Hour We Knew Nothing of Each Other***; a Phil Soltonoff adaptation of the original script by Peter Handke. Performed at the Galvin Playhouse, Tempe, AZ. 2015

***Who Killed Lion Iron*** by Ben Tyler ; Played supporting role Lakeesha Goodhair at The Black Theatre Troupe, Pheonix, AZ. 2014

***Transfix Series***; Performed a silent, slow motion, discovery performance at the Phoenician Hotel, Scottsdale, AZ. 2014

***No Exit*** by Jean Paul Sartre; Played starring role Inez in a thirty-minute adaptation of the script for my Theatre Thesis at Minor Theatre, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY. 2014.

***Twelfth Night***; Played starring role Viola and supporting role Malvolio for an invited audience which included Ben Wishaw at London Dramatic Academy, London UK. 2013.

***La Dispute*** by Pierre de Marivaux; Played starring role Egle at Minor Theatre, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY. 2012

***Good Person of Szechwan*** by Bertolt Brecht; Played supporting role Miss Mi Tzu and Prostitute at Minor Theatre, Hamilton College, Clinton, NY. 2012

***12/21: Plays from 365 Plays in 365 Days*** A thesis adapted and devised by Kadahj Bennett; Played starring roles as Several Misc. Characters at Hamilton College Events Barn, Clinton, NY. 2011

*The Last Minstrel Show* by John D. Davidson; Played supporting roles in women ensemble as well as a sung solo of song "What's That Hanging?" at the Hamilton College Events Barn, Clinton, NY. 2011

*Our Lady of 121st Street* by Stephen Adly Guirgis; Played starring role Inez at Hamilton College Events Barn, Clinton, NY. 2010

*Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*; Played supporting role Step Sister Joy at Lawrence Woodmere Academy Theatre, Lawrence, NY. 2009

*You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*; Played starring role Snoopy at Lawrence Woodmere Academy Theatre, Lawrence, NY. 2008

*The Princess and The Pea*; Played supporting role Queen Aggravain at Lawrence Woodmere Academy Theatre, Lawrence, NY. 2005

*The Butler Did It*; Played supporting role Charlotte Haze at Lawrence Woodmere Academy Theatre, Lawrence, NY. 2004

*Little Shop of Horrors*; Played starring role Audrey at Lawrence Woodmere Academy Theatre, Lawrence, NY. 2003.

*1776* by Sherman Edwards and Peter Stone; Played supporting role Richard Henry Lee at Lawrence Woodmere Academy Theatre, Lawrence, NY. October 2002.

*Alice in Wonderland*; Played starring role Alice at Fantasy Playhouse, Lynbrook, NY. August 2000.

## **T H E A T R E   D I R E C T I N G   C R E D I T S**

*Cleopatra Underwater*; Directed Atlantic Acting Studio Conservatory Students in One Act Evening Performance of *Cleopatra Underwater* written by G. Escobar. Performed at Atlantic Acting School, New York, NY. 2017

*76,000!! / Paradox of Desire* directed NYU Tisch 2nd Year students in two One-Act plays in fulfillment of their One-Acts Performance Technique class and performance requirements. Directed pieces *Work It B\*tch* by Monet Hurst Mendoza and *Elizabeth and Shooley Sit On A Park Bench And Worry About Their Lives* by Halley Feiffer. Performed at Atlantic Acting School, New York, NY. 2017

*Inmates Running the Asylum / Stranded*, directed NYU Tisch 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Students in five One-Act plays in fulfilment of their One Acts Performance Technique class and performance requirements. Directed pieces *What a Pill* by Chiara Atik, *Inauguration* by Jenny Lyn Bader, *A Person Thing* by Christina Quintana, *Cuddle* by Bekah Brenstetter, and *Something Like Loneliness* by Ryan Dowler. Performed at Atlantic Acting School, New York, NY. 2017

*The Year I Went Dark* original work written and directed by Kyra Jackson; Played starring roles Brianna, Jackson, and the several identities of Trauma in this one woman PTSD Thriller investigating a specific human journey through sexual assault. This piece captures the ego of an emotionally driven angsty-artist right brain, and a fascinated logic fueled understanding of the left brain with prerecorded pieces of a very lost and vulnerable soul struggling to find an identity that had been stolen from her through her battle with trauma. Performed at Nelson Fine Arts Center, Tempe, AZ, 2017.

*The Race*; Co-Directed with Michael Rohd. A newly devised portion of Sojourn Theatre's 2008 Washington DC production *The Race*. Devised by HIDA 2017 Graduate Students. Performed at the Galvin Playhouse, Tempe, AZ. 2016

*Out of Many* a show devised by the 2017 MFA Cohort; Co-Director. Gender and Race politic consultant. 2017 MFA Cohort's show that centered around "what it means to be American." The show investigated different perspectives of identity and politics in 'post-racial America.' Performed at the Lyceum Theatre, Tempe, AZ. 2016

## **T H E A T R E   D E S I G N   C R E D I T S**

*Orestes 2.0* by Charles Mee; Assistant Sound and Media Design for two week run at Minor Theatre, Clinton, NY. 2012

*12/21: Plays from 365 Plays in 365 Days*; Sound Designer for performance at Minor Theatre, Clinton, NY. 2012

*Heads*; Stage Manager and Assistant Sound Designer for performance at Minor Theatre, Clinton, NY. 2012

## **F I L M E D   A C T I N G**

*CBS' FBI*, from executive producer Dick Wolfe a new hit series FBI. Acted as "Ultra Cool Club Goer" background work in Season 2.

*The New York Christmas Wedding*, Feature film directed by Otoja Abit and starring Chris Noth, Tyra Ferrel, Cooper Koch, and Nia Fairweather. Performed Background work in surprise wedding church scene and reception as part of the dream sequence.

*The Reunion*, an Independent Film directed by Phil Donlon and starring Austin Pendleton, Jim Norton, and Masha King. Performed as Featured Background actor in a gallery scene.

*Pew Pew*, a comedic parody short film about a New Hartford Comic Con. Performed as an action background extra.

*ATAATA takes on GDPR*, a fun and educational Rap-Style video explaining General Data Protection Regulation designed as a public service announcement.

*MIMECAST*, a security awareness training program designed to reduce human error in the workplace. Performed as series regular Jada in **Season 2, Season 3, and Season 4** of a series of short, comedic corporate industrial videos.

*Clean*, Independent Film written and directed by Alex Blumentritt. Performed as supporting role Lilly in Action Drama. 2017

*Finding Eugene*, Independent Film written and directed by Alfredo Enriquez. Performed as featured role Charlotte in Drama. 2016

*The Infected*, Independent Film written and directed by Kyle Steeno. Performed starring role Olivia in Action Thriller. 2015

## **VOICE OVER WORK**

*Stay in The Room*, Featured role as Denise in the TV pilot Stay In The Room as the voice of a disgruntled customer over a phone conversation. 2019

*Uncle Henry is Wrong, There's A Lot You Can Do With an Arts Degree*, a promotional video created to debunk the myth behind the "useless arts degree." Based off of an article about the value of arts education written by Dean Tepper. 2015

*Feathers and Teeth*, guest starred in the production as the voice of Elle, dead mother to protagonist, in a recording played throughout the run of the production. 2017

## **RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE**

**Atlantic Theatre Company / Atlantic Acting School / NYU Tisch**, New York, NY  
*Teacher, Director*, Curriculum Building and Teaching NYU Tisch 1<sup>st</sup> years Performance Technique, and Moment Lab classes as well as serving as Director and Dramaturg for NYU Tisch and Conservatory students in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year One Acts at Atlantic Acting Theater Company's studio. 2017

**Arizona State University School of Film, Dance and Theater, Tempe, AZ**

Graduate Teaching Assistantship. Instructor of Record to Introduction to Acting for majors and non-majors and the Undergraduate Level. Schedule daily detailed lesson plans ensuring in-depth monologue and scene work specified for each new group of students every semester. School of Film, Dance and Theatre, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts. 2014-2017

**The Actors' Gang, Culver City, CA**

Intern. Assisted with the Education's Department in Grant Proposals as well as general marketing, aided the Prison Project Department in their final performance with halfway house members as they use theatre as a transitional tool, facilitated the Afterschool Program in their efforts to teach the skill to younger generations as well as their adult classes, and various administrative duties around the office including but not limited to: assistance with phone calls, online promotions, box office work and live media for Harlequino Onto Freedom written and directed by the theatre's Artistic Director, Tim Robbins. 2016

**Hamilton College Theatre Department, Clinton, NY**

Teaching Assistantship. Lead first fifteen minutes of every class with a warm up and took half the class for scene and monologue work as main instructor. 2013- 2014

**Creative Arts NYC, New York, NY**

Assistant Teacher. Facilitated lessons of Dance, Art, and Musical Theatre classes to children ages 6-8. Assisted with lesson plans as well as general care of the students. 2012

## **GENERAL WORK EXPERIENCE**

**Hamilton College Career Center, Clinton, NY**

Administrative Intern. Schedule appointments, Use FileMakerPro to input the related data of students, entrusted to unlock in the morning and lock up at closing, answer phones, file sensitive documents and advise students with resume construction and interview prep as well as extensive administrative duties. 2011 – 2014

**Hamilton College Events Staff, Clinton, NY**

Manager. Responsible for employee scheduling and payroll as well as shifts overseeing all social gatherings on campus and ensuring safety. 2011-2014

**East End Pizza, Long Beach, NY**

Waitress. Catered to general public in restaurant setting. Responsibilities include running food from kitchen to costumers, cleaning of premises, preparing silverware, and light bar work. 2011