

NIGEL SEMAJ

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EDUCATION

MFA., Theatre, The New School for Drama, 2020

Concentrations: Theatre Directing, New Work Development.

*Thesis: *Spell Number 7* by Ntozake Shange.

B.A, Theatre, Lycoming College, 2017

Majors: Directing and Performance

Minors: Sociology/Psychology

*Thesis: *The Baltimore Waltz* by Paula Vogel.

AA. Garrett Community College, McHenry MD

Studies: Secondary Education and Fine and Performing Arts

TEACHING/INSTRUCTING EXPERIENCE

(Syllabi/lesson plans available upon request)

Long Island University. LI, NY

Adjunct Professor

Intro to Drama (First Year Undergraduates)

Directing I

Directing Independent Study

Script Analysis Independent Study

Production Lab (First Year Acting)

September 2020 – Current

Fall 2020

Fall 2020 and Spring 2021

Spring 2021

Spring 2021

Spring 2021

Lycoming College. Williamsport, PA

Visiting Guest Artist/Director

January 2021 - March 2021

The New School. New York, NY

Co-Instructor

Dance for Actors (Graduate Level)

August 2018 – January 2020

Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2020

Lycoming College. Williamsport, PA

Teaching Assistant

Acting I and II

Directing I

Intro to Dance

August 2015-May 2017

Fall 2016 and Spring 2017

Fall 2016

Fall 2015

HIGHER EDUCATION WORK EXPERIENCE

Long Island University, LI, NY

Present

*Administrative Assistant to Dean of Performing Arts
Season Selection Committee*

The New School, New York, NY

*Cultural Change Task Force Committee
Affinity Group Facilitator/Co-Coordinator
Sex Positive Health Advocate*

*April 2019 – May 2020
August 2018 – May 2020
Aug. 2017 – October 2018*

Lycoming College, Williamsport, PA

*Title IX Conduct Panel, Office of Student Life- TITLE IX
Residential Life Hiring Panel, Department of Res. Life
Resident Assistant, Department of Residential Life
Conference Assistant, Department of Residential Life
Summer Orientation Leader, Department of Student Life*

*August 2015 – May 2017
Summer of 2016
December 2013-May 2016
May 2015 – August 2015
June, 2014 and 2015*

Garrett College, McHenry, MD

*Resident Assistant, Office of Residence Life
Summer Resident Assistant, Office of Residence Life
Summer Orientation Leader*

*October 2011-May 2013
May 2012 – August 2012
May 2012- June 2012*

CURRICULUM AND PROTOCOL DEVELOPMENT

LINK TO DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Rehearsal Protocols: An In-Depth Document Outlining Expectations and Best Practices for Varying Rehearsals at The New School, **Creation 2018 – In Effect January of 2020**

Slurs Protocol: How Slurs are Used/Understood in Rehearsal Spaces, The New School, **Creation 2019 – In Effect: Ant. August 2020**

Hair and Makeup Protocols: A Guide for The Design and Handling of Students Hair (primary Students of Color). The New School, **Creation 2019 – In Effect: Ant. August 2020**

Cultural Change New Student Orientation: A Presentation For Incoming Students at The News School. **Developed and Executed in 2019 for the 2019/2020 School Year.**

DIRECTING EXPERIENCE

*indicates new play development

Asst. Director	Passing Strange	A.R.T COVID Postponed
Director/Choreographer	*Come What May (First Year Showcase)	LIU POST, 2021
Co-Director	* <i>Voices from a Pandemic</i>	Notch Theatre Co, 2021
Director/Choreographer	<i>Spell No. 7</i>	The New School, 2020
Director	Be Reasonable (Short Film)	The New School, 2020
Assistant Director	La Boheme	Mannes Opera, 2020
Director/Choreographer	*“For Hylas; a playlist”	The New School, 2019
Director	<i>a curious thing: or superheroes k’aint fly</i>	AADA, 2019
Director	<i>wolfchildren runslowly through a bruegel landscape, 1559</i>	The New School, 2019
Director/Adaptor	<i>10,000 Moor</i> (An Adaptation of <i>Titus Andronicus</i>)	The New School, 2019
Director	<i>Black Hollow</i>	Argo Collective, 2018
Director	<i>Argonautika</i>	Argo Collective, 2018
Director	<i>448 Psychosis</i>	The New School, 2018
Director	<i>Hell Is Normal</i>	The New School, 2017
Assistant Director/Choreographer	<i>Blood Wedding</i>	The New School, 2017
Director	<i>columbinus</i>	Lycoming College, 2017
Director/Choreographer	<i>The Baltimore Waltz</i>	Lycoming College, 2016
Director/Choreographer	<i>For Colored Girls</i> <i>Who Have Considered Suicide</i> <i>When the Rainbow is Enuf</i>	Lycoming College, 2015

STAGED READINGS

Director	Spell Number 7	Lycoming College, 2021
Director	Lyon’s Den	Lycoming College, 2021
Director	<i>a case for Black girls</i> <i>setting central park on fire</i>	Lycoming College, 2021
Director	<i>Collective Empathy Formation</i>	Lycoming College, 2021
Director	“The Good Cop”	Conch Shell Productions

MOVEMENT SKILLS/TRAINING

Methodologies: Choreopoem Movement/Dance, Masque – Commedia Dell’Arte, Action Through Analysis (Chekov/Dimitri Krymov)

Movement Training: Frantic Assembly, Pig Iron Theatre Company, Tectonic Theatre Company

Dance Training: Hip-Hop (Intermediate), Contemporary (Advanced), Ballet (Basic), Jazz and Musical Theatre (Advanced), Tap(Intermediate) Vogue

SAFD Certifications: Unarmed (Rec Pass- 2018), Small Sword (Rec Pass -2018),
 Knife (Basic Pass, 2019), Rapier & Dagger (Rec Pass, 2019),
 Quarterstaff (Rec Pass, 2019)

Additional Weapons: Broadsword (Beginner) Fencing (Competitive Training)
 Foam/Boffer/LARPing Weapons (Advanced) Knife Throwing (Intermediate)
 Archery (Skilled), Riflery (Advanced)

SELECT CHOREOGRAPHY

Fight Director	Minding My Business - Short Film	The New School, 2021
Fight Director	<i>As You Like It</i>	The New School, 2019
Fight Choreographer	Be A Man – Short Film	The New School, 2019
Movement Coach	<i>Hal</i>	The New School, 2019
Choreographer	<i>Ah Sweeter Lyme</i>	The New School, 2018
Assistant Choreographer	<i>Passing Strange</i>	Wilma Theater, 2018
Fight Choreographer	“Come Here, Scrawny”	The New School, 2017
Movement/Fight Choreographer	<i>The 39 Steps</i>	Lycoming College, 2017
Movement Director/Fight Coach	<i>Hansel Und Gretel Opera</i>	Lycoming College, 2017
Choreographer	<i>The Cradle Will Rock</i>	Lycoming College, 2014

WORKSHOPS AND PROGRAMS

*slides and materials available upon request

How Her Story Is *Your* Story. Lycoming College 2021

This workshop aims to discuss the history of the stereotypes of Black women in Theatre, Film and Television. Participants will explore these stereotypes, recognize their biases both conscious and subconscious, and discuss how we as a society can better uplift, support, love, and protect Black women today.

Let's Talk About Race: Hard Conversations About Race, Systemic Oppression, Inequality, and What We Can Do to Achieve Liberation. Lycoming College, 2021

This workshop will center around how to have difficult conversations on race in America. How do we have empathy for one another? How do we begin to have real conversations that propel us forward rather than hold us back.?

Dismantling the Master's Playhouse. Lycoming College, 2021

What does it mean to dismantle systems, and what are the tools to do so? In an introduction to the power of inclusive storytelling we will delve into the understanding of Audre Lorde's text "The Master's Tools" to examine ways in which we can begin to dismantle old institutions and the systems of oppression that plague the world today.

Gender, Sex, And Sexuality: Cultural Change Workshop, The New School, 2019

What is gender, what is sex, and what is sexuality? One thing they have in common is that they have the tendency to be confused for the same thing. In this workshop, students will gain the tools needed to engage in healthy conversations regarding gender, sex and sexuality.

STIS and Stigmas: Sex Positive Collective Training, The New School, 2018

How do we talk about/educate ourselves and others about STD's in a way that encourages behaviors that make the spread of disease less likely but also destigmatized?

Storytelling with the Body Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, (2016)

During this workshop, we will learn about the art of movement in storytelling, the importance of building ensemble through movement, body communication and self-awareness. Through these objectives, we will learn to develop a strong and flexible body which will ultimately lead to the development of the ability to move through space with ease and interact instinctively with scene partners. Through exploration of the human body paired with an exercise in devised storytelling, we will collectively tell a story through choreographed movement.