

# NICOSIA SHAKES

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## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

August 2017 - Assistant Professor, Department of Africana Studies, The College of Wooster

## EDUCATION

2017 Ph.D., Africana Studies, Brown University, Providence, RI.

Dissertation Title: Women's Theatre as Activism: A Study of Sistren Theatre Collective, Jamaica and The Mothertongue Project, South Africa

Dissertation Committee: Keisha-Khan Perry (Advisor), B. Anthony Bogues, Paget Henry, Patricia Ybarra.

2016 M.A., Africana Studies, Brown University.

2003 MSc., Government, The University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona, Kingston, Jamaica.

2000 BSc., Political Science, UWI, Mona. With Honors.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters

Forthcoming "The Radical Aesthetic of Sistren Theatre Collective." In *Black Radical Thought: Pedagogy and Praxis*, Eds. Clinton Hutton, Jermaine McCalpin and Maziki Thame. Kingston: Ian Randle Publishers.

2006 "Marketing Pan-Africanism to a New Generation: The Case of Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey." In *Pan-Africanism: Strengthening the Unity of Africa and its Diaspora*, Eds. B.F. Bankie and K. Mchombu, 71-94. Windhoek, Namibia: Gamsberg MacMillan Publishers Ltd.

2005 "Legitimizing Africa in Jamaica." In *After Man: Towards the Human: Critical Essays on Sylvia Wynter*, Ed. Anthony Bogues, 200-314. Miami and Kingston: Ian Randle Publishers.

## Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2016 “The Development of *76 King Street: Journal of Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey*.” *Anales del Caribe* (December): 196-207.
- 2014 “History and Drama in C.L.R. James’ ‘Toussaint L’Ouverture’.” *The C.L.R. James Journal* 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Issue, Nos. 1 & 2: 38-60.
- 2012 “In Search of Garvey’s Genealogy: A Preliminary Analysis.” *Jamaica Journal* 33 No. 3: 30-59.

## Book Reviews

- 2016 “Wycliffe Bennett and Hazel Bennett, ‘The Jamaican Theatre: Highlights of the Performing Arts in the Twentieth Century.’” *Callaloo: A Journal of African Diaspora Arts and Letters*. 38 No. 5: 1194-1197.
- 2014 “Tina M. Campt, ‘Image Matters: Archive, Photography, and the African Diaspora in Europe’.” *Callaloo: A Journal of African Diaspora Arts and Letters* 37 No. 1: 169-171.

## Editing

- 2008-2011 *76 King Street: Journal of Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey* 1, 2.

## ACADEMIC AWARDS AND GRANTS

### Individual

- 2017 Joukowsky Family Foundation Outstanding Dissertation Award, Brown University.
- 2017 Marie J. Langlois Dissertation Prize for an outstanding dissertation in the area of feminist studies, Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women, Brown University
- 2016 George Houston Bass Award for Academic and Artistic Excellence, Rites and Reason Theatre, The Department of Africana Studies, Brown University.
- 2015 Mellon-funded Global Graduates Fellowship: “Brown in the World, the World at Brown,” Cogut Centre for the Humanities, Brown University.
- 2015 Steinhaus/Zisson Research Grant, Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women, Brown University.
- 2014-2015 Inter-American Foundation (IAF) Grassroots Development Dissertation Research Fellowship.
- 2014 Watson Institute for International Studies Summer Research Travel Grant.

2000 Premiere Award for Culture, University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston, Jamaica.

### **Collaborative**

2014 Pembroke Center Faculty Seed Grant for Collaborative and Interdisciplinary Research. Project Director: Keisha-Khan Perry.

2014 Watson Institute for International Studies Collaborative Research Grant, Brown University. Project Director: Keisha-Khan Perry.

2012-2013 Brown International Graduate Colloquium Grant for *Mobilizing Performance: Identity and Self-Making in Black Women's Aesthetic Practices*. Co-organizers: Sachelle Ford (English) and Brandeise Monk-Payton (Modern Culture and Media).

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE – TEACHING**

### **Graduate Teaching**

2014 *Gender, Political Activism and Mobilization*, Institute for Gender and Development Studies Regional Coordinating Unit, University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica. Team-taught with Verene Shepherd, Joan French and Lahoma Thomas.

### **Undergraduate Teaching**

2007-2008, 2011 *Garveyism in the Americas/Africa*, Department of Government, University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.

### **Teaching Assistance/Tutoring**

2013-2014 *Racial and Gender Politics in Contemporary Brazil* (Keisha-Khan Perry), Department of Africana Studies, Brown University.

2013 *Race, Gender and Urban Politics* (Keisha-Khan Perry), Department of Africana Studies, Brown University.

2012 *Introduction to Africana Studies* (Corey Walker), Department of Africana Studies Brown University.

2000-2005 *Garveyism in the Americas/Africa* (Rupert Lewis), Department of Government, University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.

2000-2002 *Caribbean Political Thought* (Rupert Lewis), Department of Government, University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE – RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION

- 2003-2011      Research Officer, Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey, Institute of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica.
- 2009-2010      Acting Director, Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey, Institute of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica.

## RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2016              “Staging Their Purpose: Women’s Theatre and the Power of Performance.” *Research Matters!* Brown University Graduate School, November.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xMClkn5OAzM&t=12s>
- 2016              “Specters of Slavery and Colonialism in Jamaican Theatre.” *Specters, Hauntings, Presences*. Northwestern University Department of Religious Studies Graduate Student Conference, Evanston, Illinois. October.
- 2016              “ ‘Wi Oun Laif Inna Wi Han’: Race, Class and Gender in Hannah Town Cultural Group’s /Sistren’s *A Slice of Reality*.” Annual Conference of the Caribbean Studies Association, Port-au-Prince, Haiti. June.
- 2015              “Mobilizing Women through Performance in Jamaica: A Study of Sistren Theatre Collective.” *Inter-American Foundation (IAF) Grassroots Development Program Mid-Year Conference*, San José, Costa Rica. February.
- 2014              “Black Women, Violence and the Transnational State: Radical Research Methods in the Americas.” Annual Conference of the National Women’s Studies Association, San Juan, Puerto Rico. November.
- 2014              “Karl Williams’ ‘The Black That I Am’: Race, Sexuality, Gender and Nation in Jamaican Theatre.” Annual Conference of the Caribbean Studies Association, Mérida, Mexico. May.
- 2013              “Composing the Second Emancipation: Black Radical Intelligence in Garvey’s Aesthetic.” *Black Radical Thought: Pedagogy and Praxis: A Conference in Honour of Prof. Rupert Lewis*, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica. October.
- 2012              “Voicing the African Descendant in Jamaican Theatre: Black Subjectivity and Performance.” *Africa and the Diaspora in the New Millennium*. Center for Black and African Arts and Civilization (CBAAC), Nigeria and Office of International Studies, University of Missouri, St. Louis, MO, October.

## THEATRE PRODUCTIONS (ABRIDGED)

### Writing, Directing, Coordinating

- 2016 Playwright, *Afiba and Her Daughters*, directed by John Emigh. Rites and Reason Theatre, Brown University, Providence, RI. May.
- 2015 Project Coordinator, *Song for The Beloved: Memory and Renewal at the Margins of Justice* (an exhibition and performance), Kingston, Jamaica. Principal Researcher: Honor Ford-Smith, York University, Canada. May.
- 2004 Director/Performer, *Slave Narratives from the Caribbean and the United States*. SANKOFA: A Symposium on Slavery and its Impact on Contemporary Jamaica. Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey, Kingston, Jamaica. February.
- 2000 Author, Best New Poem, *Black Pearl*. Tallawah Drama Festival, Kingston, Jamaica. November.
- 1999 Playwright, Best New Play Script, *Two Stories*, Tallawah Drama Festival, November.
- 1999 Playwright, *Lost Son*. Tallawah Drama Festival, Kingston, Jamaica. November.

### Performances

- 2016 *Song for the Beloved*, directed by Honor Ford-Smith. Encuentro eXcéntrico: "Cuerpos, soberanías y disidencias." Tenth Annual Encuentro of the Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics, Santiago, Chile, July.
- 2010 *Appropriate Behavior*, by Barbara Gloudon, directed by Brian Heap. The University Players. Phillip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts (PSCCA), Kingston, Jamaica. May.
- 2009 *Hurricane Stories*, by Olive Senior, directed by Brian Heap. The University Players. PSCCA, Kingston. March.
- 2007 *Maharani's Misery: Narratives of a Passage from India*, by Verene Shepherd, adapted and directed by Brian Heap. The University Players. PSCCA, Kingston. May.
- 2005 *The Black that I Am*, by Karl Williams, directed by Brian Heap. The University Players. PSCCA, Kingston. May to November.

### AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICE

- 2015-present Board Member, Friends of Liberty Hall (Marcus Garvey) Foundation, Kingston, Jamaica.

- 2015 Visiting Associate, Centre for African Studies, University of Cape Town, South Africa, September to December.
- 2015 Visiting Researcher, Institute for Gender and Development Studies Regional Coordinating Unit (IGDS/RCU), University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica.
- 2014-present Member, National Women's Studies Association (NWSA).
- 2001-present Member, Caribbean Studies Association (CSA).

### **NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGES**

Jamaican Patwa: Native fluency.

Spanish: Intermediate speaking, reading, writing and understanding.

## REFERENCES

Prof. Keisha-Khan Perry (Dissertation Advisor)  
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