

NICOSIA SHAKES, PH.D.

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Africana Studies
The College of Wooster, OH 44691
Office Tel: 330-263-2054

Mobile Tel: 401-226-9806
nshakes@wooster.edu
www.nicosiashakes.com

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Department of Africana Studies, The College of Wooster, 2017 to present

Visiting Associate, Centre for African Studies, University of Cape Town, South Africa, 2015

Visiting Researcher, Institute for Gender and Development Studies Regional Coordinating Unit (IGDS/RCU), University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica, 2014-2015

EDUCATION

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

Emphases: gender and sexuality; literary, expressive and performance cultures; political thought

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

Dissertation Title: "Africana Women's Theatre as Activism: A Study of Sistren Theatre Collective, Jamaica and The Mothertongue Project, South Africa." *Winner, Joukowsky Family Foundation Outstanding Dissertation Award; *Winner, Marie J. Langlois Prize for an Outstanding Dissertation in the Area of Feminist Studies

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

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

BSc., Political Science, UWI, Mona (With Honors), 2000. Minor in International Relations

PUBLICATIONS

Book Manuscript:

Gender, Race and Performance Space: Women's Activism in Jamaican and South African Theatre. Under contract with the University of Illinois Press. * Winner of the 2017 National Women's Studies Association/University of Illinois Press First Book Prize*

Edited Publications:

76 King Street: Journal of Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey. Vols. 1 and 2. 2009, 2011.

Peer-Reviewed Essays:

"Black Women's Geographies, the Public Sphere and Sexual Violence in The Mothertongue Project's Walk: South Africa." *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society.* Forthcoming.

"The Development of *76 King Street.*" *Anales del Caribe* (2016): 196-207.

"History and Drama in C.L.R. James' 'Toussaint L'Ouverture'." *The C.L.R. James Journal 23^d Anniversary Issue*, Nos. 1 & 2 (2014): 38-60.

"In Search of Garvey's Genealogy: A Preliminary Analysis." *Jamaica Journal* 33 No. 3 (2012): 30-59.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters:

"The Radical Aesthetic of Sistren Theatre Collective." In *Caribbean Reasonings: Rupert Lewis and the Black Intellectual Tradition*, Eds. Clinton Hutton, Jermaine McCalpin and Maziki Thame. Kingston: Ian Randle Publishers, 2018.

"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, 2006.

"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, 2005.

Book Reviews:

"Bianca C. Williams, *The Pursuit of Happiness, Black Women, Diasporic Dreams and the Politics of Emotional Transnationalism*." *Anthropological Quarterly*. Forthcoming 2019.

"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 (2016): 1194-1197.

"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 (2014): 169-171.

Web-Based Publications:

"Blackness, Birthright and the Battle for Harlem: Intra-Racial Conflict in Marvel's *Luke Cage* Season Two." *The Black Scholar: Journal of Black Studies and Research*. August 2018.

"Gender-Based Violence on Campus: Holding the University of the West Indies to Account." Co-authored with Maziki Thame. *Stabroek News*. July 2015.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Individual:

Inter-American Foundation (IAF) Grassroots Development Dissertation Fellowship, 2014-2015

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, 2015

Collaborative:

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, 2014

Brown International Graduate Colloquium Grant for “Mobilizing Performance: Identity and Self-Making in Black Women’s Aesthetic Practices.” Co-conveners: Sachelle Ford and Brandeise Monk-Payton, 2012-2013

RECENT INVITED TALKS

“Mourning Space, Womanist Knowledge-Making and Violence in the Americas: An Analysis of the Letters from the Dead Project.” Diasporic Dialogues, Department of Afroamerican and African Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. April 2019.

“Black Performance, Black Legacies: African Futures: An Africana Perspective on Marvel’s *Black Panther* and *Luke Cage*.” Annual Marcus Mosiah Garvey Lecture. Liberty Hall: The Legacy of Marcus Garvey, Kingston, Jamaica. August 2018.

RECENT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“Black Performance, Gender and Transnational Emancipatory Thought.” Roundtable. Caribbean Studies Association Conference. Havana, Cuba. June 2018.

“Africana Feminist Aesthetics in the Work of Sistren Theatre Collective, Jamaica and the Mothertongue Project, South Africa.” Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD), Seville, Spain. November 2017.

“Staging Their Purpose: Women’s Theatre and the Power of Performance.” Research Matters! Brown University Graduate School. November 2016.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xMClkn5OAzM&t=12s>

“‘Wi Oun Laif Inna Wi Han’: Race, Class and Gender in Sistren’s *A Slice of Reality*.” Caribbean Studies Association Conference. Port-au-Prince, Haiti. June 2016.

“Mobilizing Women through Performance in Jamaica: A Study of Sistren.” Inter-American Foundation (IAF) Grassroots Development Program Mid-Year Conference. San José, Costa Rica. February 2015.

“Black Women, Violence and the Transnational State: Radical Research Methods in the Americas.” Roundtable. National Women’s Studies Association Conference. San Juan, Puerto Rico. November 2014.

SELECTED THEATRE PRODUCTIONS

Producer, “*Beyond Lesbian: An Evening with Staceyann Chin*.” The College of Wooster, April 2019. Transnational Performance Series, Depts. of Africana Studies and Theatre and Dance

Producer, *Resident Alien*, performance by Rosamond S. King. The College of Wooster, April 2018. Transnational Performance Series, Depts. of Africana Studies, Religious Studies, Theatre and Dance

Playwright, *Afiba and Her Daughters*, directed by John Emigh. Rites and Reason Theatre, Brown University, Providence, RI. May 2016. Part of the *Afiba Cycle* by Nicosia Shakes ** Recipient of the

George Houston Bass Award for Academic and Artistic Excellence, Rites and Reason Theatre, The Department of Africana Studies, Brown University, 2016

Performer, *Song for the Beloved*. Curated by Honor Ford-Smith, Anique J. Jordan, Kara Springer and Camille Turner. *Encuentro eXcéntrico: "Cuerpos, soberanías y disidencias."* Tenth Annual Encuentro of the Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics, Santiago, Chile. July 2016

Project Coordinator, *Song for The Beloved: Memory and Renewal at the Margins of Justice*. Curated by Honor Ford-Smith, Anique J. Jordan and Kara Springer. Kingston, Jamaica. May 2015

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE – TEACHING

Undergraduate Teaching:

Department of Africana Studies, The College of Wooster, 2017 to present:

- Feminism, Gender and Sexual Politics in the Caribbean
- Africana Women's Theatre in the Twenty-First Century
- Critical Readings in Africana Studies: African Womanhood
- Africana Popular Culture
- Introduction to Africana Studies

Department of Government, University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona, Jamaica:

- Garveyism in the Americas/Africa, Semester II 2007-2008, 2011

Graduate Teaching:

Institute for Gender and Development Studies Regional Coordinating Unit (UWI) Mona, 2014:

- Gender, Political Activism and Mobilization, Semester I
(Team-taught with Verene Shepherd, Joan French and Lahoma Thomas)

Teaching Assistance:

Department of Africana Studies, Brown University, 2012-2014:

- Teaching Assistant, Racial and Gender Politics in Contemporary Brazil (Keisha-Khan Perry), Spring 2013 to 2014
- Teaching Assistant, Race, Gender and Urban Politics (Keisha-Khan Perry), Fall 2013
- Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Africana Studies (Corey Walker), Fall 2012

Department of Government, University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica, 2000-2005:

- Tutor, Garveyism in the Americas/Africa (Rupert Lewis), Semester II, 2001 to 2005
- Tutor, Caribbean Political Thought (Rupert Lewis), Semester I, 2000 to 2002

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE – RESEARCH AND ADMINISTRATION

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

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Digital Clusters Leader, Leadership Alliance Mellon Initiative (LAMI), Brown University, May to July 2017

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora, 2017 to present
Board Member, Friends of Liberty Hall (Marcus Garvey) Foundation, Jamaica, 2015 to present
National Women's Studies Association, 2014 to present
Caribbean Studies Association, 2001 to present

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Peer Reviewer. National Women's Studies Association Conference. 2019.

Peer Reviewer. *Genealogy*. 2019

Convener, Roundtable: "Black Performance, Gender and Transnational Emancipatory Thought."
Caribbean Studies Association Conference. Havana, Cuba. June 2018

Peer Reviewer. *Caribbean Studies*. 2017.

Convener, Panel: "Collaborative Performance-making and Black Women Artists' Practices of Liberation." Biennial Conference of the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD). Seville, Spain. November 2017

Convener, Panel: "Women's Radicalism and Caribbean Futures." Caribbean Studies Association Conference. Port-au-Prince, Haiti. June 2016

DEPARTMENTAL/COLLEGE SERVICE

Member, Faculty Search Committee. Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, The College of Wooster. 2018/2019

Member, Curricular Committee. Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, The College of Wooster. 2018/2019

Co-chair, Cultural Events Committee. The College of Wooster. 2018/2019

Co-presenter, "Transnational Queer Pedagogies." Feminist and Queer Pedagogies Faculty Workshop. Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies. The College of Wooster. September 2018

Co-producer/co-creator, Transnational Performance Series. Departments of Africana Studies, Religious Studies and Theatre and Dance. The College of Wooster. Spring 2018 to present