

# Straton Rushing

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Writer – Instructor

StratonThePlaywright.com

(325) 226 - 1263

## EDUCATION:

### **Master of Fine Arts in Theatre – Dramatic Writing (with Distinction)**

Arizona State University

Recognized as Outstanding Graduate for Excellence and Innovation in Creative Practice

### **Bachelor of Arts in Theatre & Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy (Magna Cum Laude)**

University of Texas at Arlington

## SELECTED FULL LENGTH PLAYS:

### *Happy Wright*

Production, Wichita State University - Wichita KS, October 2022

Bela Kiralyfalvi National Student Playwriting Award – 2022

Honorable Mention, William Faulkner Literary Award for Playwriting – 2022

Reading, Arizona State University's TheatreLAB – Tempe AZ, November 2021

Selection, Mid-America Theatre Conference Play Symposium – Cleveland, OH March 2022

Finalist, The Sauk's Plays-In-Progress Series – Jonesville MI, October 2021

Longlist, Best of the Bottom Drawer Prize from The Black Spring Press - 2023

Second Round, Austin Film Festival Stageplay Competition - 2023

### *Mutability*

\*Published and Licensed by Next Stage Press – February 2025

Reading, Pegasus Theatre's Fresh Reads Festival – Dallas, TX June 2023

Reading, Arizona State University's TheatreLAB - Tempe AZ , October 2022

Reading, New Deal Creative Arts Center's Hudson Valley Theatre Festival – Hyde Park, NY May 2024

Reading, College of Charleston's Piccolo Spoleto Festival – Charleston SC, May 2024

Runner Up, Todd McNerney Playwriting Award, 2024

Finalist, ATHE Judith Royer Excellence in Playwriting Award - 2023

Finalist, Kitchen Dog Theater New Works Festival – Dallas TX, 2023

Finalist, Middlebury Acting Company's American Dreaming New Play Festival – Middlebury VT, 2023

Second Round, Austin Film Festival Stageplay Competition - 2023

### *Circles & Walls (Earlier drafts entitled "Austin & Huntsville")*

Semi-Finalist, Circle in the Square Theater School Emerging Writers Residency – 2024

Reading, Arizona State University – Tempe AZ, April 2022

Reading, Outcry Theatre – Plano, TX May 2023

Online Reading, Elephant Room Productions – March 2023

Online Reading, The Digital Dramaturgs's Playshare Evolution – July 2024

Workshop, The Digital Dramaturgs – 2023

Workshop, University of Houston Dramaturgy Class - April 2024

Second Round, AACT NewPlayFest 2024

\*Denotes Upcoming Project

*Douglas: The Play*

Production, SceneShop at Fort Worth Fringe Fest – Fort Worth TX, September 2019  
Reading, Tyler Civic Theatre – Tyler TX, August 2023

*Some Sunny Day*

Published and Licensed by Silver Birchington Plays – 2019  
Production, Maverick Theatre Company – Arlington TX, November 2018  
Reading, The Aviary – Dallas TX, April 2018  
Reading, The Core Theatre - Richardson TX, May 2018

*Welcome to the Fair*

Co-Winner, The Chameleon Theatre Circle's 25th Annual New Play Contest  
Reading, Baylor University – Waco, TX January 2024  
Reading, Theatre Arlington – Arlington, TX July 2024  
Reading, The Chameleon Theatre Circle – October 2024

*TRIO (Like the Song Says)* (Co-Written with Steve Alan McGaw and Rob Bosquez)

Production, SceneShop at Fort Worth Fringe Fest – Fort Worth TX, September 2024

*Enferma*

Reading, Phoenix Theatre Co.'s New American Play Fest. - Phoenix AZ, March 2021  
Reading, Bishop Arts Theatre - Dallas TX, January 2020  
Online Reading, Arts Fort Worth Original Works Series – April 2020  
Online Reading, Arizona State University's TheatreLAB – November 2020  
Semi-Finalist, Landing Theatre Co. New American Voices Festival - Houston TX, 2020  
Semi-Finalist, Local Theatre Company's Lab – Denver CO 2022

*Nobody Leaves* (Working Title)

Online Reading, Pipeline-Collective – May 2022

**SELECTED ONE ACTS / 10 MINUTES:**

*Round the Decay*

Production, TheatreWorks New Milford – New Milford CT, June 2019  
Production, ShowTown – Lakeville CT, November 2019  
Reading, Capital Repertory Theatre - Albany NY, June 2019  
Reading, Heal the Divide Project - Arlington TX, March 2019  
Reading, Stage Writers Festival - Dallas TX, May 2019  
Reading, Midwest Dramatists Conference – Kansas City MO, September 2019  
Publication, Bridge: The Bluffton University Literary Journal, Spring 2020 Edition  
Semi-Finalist, Here We Go Festival - New York NY, September 2019

*Hal and His Atomic Ray Gun*

Production, Manhattan Repertory Theatre – New York City NY, March 2018  
Production, SceneShop – Fort Worth TX, August 2019  
Production, Otherworld Theatre's Paragon Festival – Chicago IL, November 2019  
Online Reading, Geneva Theatre Guild – April 2021  
Finalist, Sky Blue Theatre Co.'s British Theatre Challenge – July 2021  
Publication, Silk Road Review – Fall 2022

### *Caprice*

Winner, Hear Me Out Monologue Festival Golden Ear Award - December 2022  
Production, SceneShop – Fort Worth, TX, August 2022  
Reading, SW American/Popular Culture Assoc. Conference – Albuquerque, NM, February 2023  
Publication, Apricity Magazine (The University of Texas at Austin), Spring 2023

### *Modern Art*

Production, Actor's Theatre Playhouse - West Chesterfield NH, July 2022  
Production, Savannah College of Art and Design – Savannah GA, November 2021  
Production, Camp Death Productions – Dallas TX, April 2018  
Reading, The Guinea Pig – Dallas TX, May 2018  
Semi-Finalist, Itinerant Theatre's Play's The Thing - Lake Charles LA, March 2020  
Publication, "The Best 10 Minutes Plays of 2020" - Smith & Kraus Publishing  
Tamil Translation by Hallaciyathan Sivaraj – 2023

### *Well... Y'Know (Working Title)*

Commission, Bishop Arts Theatre Center's "The Stamped Project" Banned Books Festival, 2024  
\*Production, Bishop Arts Theatre Center's Banned Books Festival – Dallas, TX, January 2025

### *Someone To Love Me*

Reading, Mid-America Theatre Conference - Madison WI, March 2024  
Reading, Tyler Civic Theatre – Tyler TX, August 2024

### *Clipped*

Online Production, Northern Arizona Playwriting Showcase - December 2020  
Online Production, University of Houston - April 2021  
Online Reading, Crafton Hills College – May 2021  
Publication, Ponder Review - Spring 2020

### *Countdown*

Production, Dallas College Mountain View – Dallas TX, May 2022  
Production, The Player's Theatre - New York City NY, February 2018  
Reading, Nouveau 47 Productions – Dallas TX, November 2017  
Reading, SceneShop – Fort Worth TX, December 2017

### *Hopes & Dreams, LLC*

Production, Short + Sweet South India - Chennai, India, September 2023  
Production, Short + Sweet Hollywood - Burbank, CA, May 2024

### *Make the Adjustment*

\*Production, Authenticity Theater – Atlanta, GA, April 2025

### *Some Sort of Animal*

Production, StageWorks Theatre Group - Pompton Lakes, NJ, July 2024

### *Hunt #109*

Reading, The Orpheus Theatre Company - Lancaster, PA, October 2021

*And You Run*

\*Production, SceneShop – Fort Worth, TX, December 2024

*Fitting Room*

Production, Flexible Gray Theatre Company – Dallas, TX July 2023

Production, SceneShop – Fort Worth, TX August 2023

*Nothing Got*

Production, Dallas College Mountain View – Dallas TX, May 2023

Reading, Mid-America Theatre Conference – Cleveland, OH, March 2022

Online Workshop, Theatrically Speaking Podcast - July 2021

Online Publication, Greatest City Collective - August 2021

Publication, Fresh Words Literary Journal – June 2022

*Ain't the Biggest City*

Production, Poochu's Productions – Chennai, India, February 2024

Online Reading, Dragon Productions – August 2022

Publication, Choeofpleirn Press – September 2021

\*Publication, Gather By The Ghostlight: Year Four – December 2024

Semi-Finalist, Eclectic Full Contact Theatre Patchwork Play Fest. – January 2023

Tamil Translation by Hallaciyathan Sivaraj - 2023

*A\*\*Hole, the Dog*

Production, Winding Road Theater Ensemble's Eight 10s in Tucson Fest. – Tucson AZ, May 2023

Reading, SceneShop – Fort Worth, TX, August 2022

Reading, KCACTF Region 8 Festival – Las Vegas, NV, February 2023

Reading, Theater Southwest – Houston, TX, February 2023

*RIF (Co-Written with Bianca Folgar)*

Online Production, Festival De La Bête Noire – February/March 2021

*The Parker Report*

Online Production, SceneShop – August 2020

Online Production, Heal the Divide Project – October 2020

(2 KCACTF Honors for Meritorious Achievement)

*A Simple Trip to the Airport*

Reading, SceneShop – Fort Worth, TX August 2024

*Ms. Delight*

Production, SceneShop at Fort Worth Fringe – Fort Worth TX, September 2018

Production, Emerging Artist's Theatre – New York NY, March 2019

*The Only Reason to Quit Smoking*

Online Production, Scribe Stages, September 2020

Online Production, Talking Horse Productions, May 2021

Publication, Nine Cloud Journal Volume 2, 2021

*Thank You Sean Dolinski*

Reading, Heal the Divide Project – Arlington TX, March 2018  
Reading, Focal Theatre Lab – Ames IA, March 2018

*The Best Tennessee Williams Play*

Reading, The Mississippi University for Women – Columbus MS, September 2022  
Third Place, Tennessee Williams Tribute's 10:4:TENN Play Competition, 2022

*Bridge Club*

Semi-Finalist, Town and Country's Signature Series - Buckingham PA, February 2019

### **AUDIO DRAMA / PODCASTS:**

*Icaro, Texas* (Full Length)

Production – Arizona State University - April 2023  
Participant – Atlanta Fringe Festival Audio – May 2024 (Named “Producer's Pick”)

*The Magic Shop* (Adapted from the H.G. Wells short story) (Half Hour)

Semifinalist - Eclectic Full Contact Theater Company's Crashbox! Festival – September 2024

*Hal and His Atomic Ray Gun* (Radio Version) (Half Hour)

Production - Missing Link's Between Acts Podcast – February 2021  
Production - Garden of Voices Podcast – December 2021

*Someone To Love Me* (Radio Version) (Half Hour)

\*Production - Eclectic Full Contact Theater Company's The Half Hour Audio Hour – February 2025

*Ain't the Biggest City* (Radio Version) (15 Minutes)

Production – Gather by The Ghostlight – September 2023

*We Are With You* (15 Minutes)

Production – Garden of Voices 24 Hour Radio Play Festival - August 2022

### **FILM WRITING:**

*Mindware* (Co-Written with Fati Fox) – (Short)

\*In Development, Fati Ventures LTD (London, UK) – 2024

*Some Sort of Animal* – (Short)

\*In Development, Arc Productions (Los Angeles) - 2024

*Both Of Us* – (Short)

Finalist - Dallas Filmmakers Alliance Flash Films, January 2024

## **TV WRITING:**

*Home Brew* - (Half Hour Comedy Pilot)

Finalist - Dallas International Film Festival Texas Pilot Competition, 2024  
Semifinalist - David and Lynn Angell College Comedy Award (Humanitas), 2023  
Top 100 - Launch Pad Pilot Competition, 2024

*Shippers* - (Half Hour Comedy Pilot)

Second Place – Ivy Film Festival TV Pilot Competition (Brown University), April 2023

*Reclaimed* – (One Hour Drama Pilot)

Semifinalist - The Script Lab's Free Contest, August 2021  
Quarterfinalist - Dallas International Film Festival Drama Pilot Competition, October 2021  
Selection - Script Summit 2022

## **RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT:**

Administrative Coordinator – Kitchen Dog Theater – Dallas, TX (May 2024 - Present)

Staff member at a professional non-profit theater company specializing in contemporary plays and elevating diverse voices. Oversaw all day-to-day administrative operations, served as primary organizational contact for outside vendors, season subscribers, funding organizations, and sponsors. Managed the box office and front of house production staff. Kept all records for donations, educational programs, and grants. Managed all social media pages, email blasts, mail outs, print collateral and donor lists. Established and maintained all files and records for productions.

Director of Sales & Marketing – Theatre Arlington – Arlington, TX (April 2023 – May 2024)

Staff member at a professional non-profit theater company with an average of 8 mainstage shows per season, an all-ages theater academy, and dozens of other performances in the annual Club Series. Managed all social media pages, email blasts, mailing and donor lists, created all ad copy, created or oversaw all graphic designs, solicited and maintained relationships with all sponsors, and managed the theater's webpage and smartphone app. Also served as primary creative producer for the new works series, Theatre Arlington Play Reader Club.

## **HIGHER EDUCATION TEACHING:**

Adjunct Assistant Professor – The University of Texas at Arlington (August 2024 - Present)

Courses: THEA 1342: *Theatre & Film Appreciation*

Adjunct Instructor – Dallas College Mountain View (January 2024 - Present)

Courses: DRAM 1310: *Theatre Appreciation* (Including Dual Credit High School sections)  
DRAM 2366: *Film Appreciation* (Online)

Graduate Instructor – Arizona State University (August 2021 – April 2023)

Courses: THP 394: *Writing for Horror, Sci-Fi & Fantasy*  
THP 260: *Introduction to Dramatic Writing* (Co-Taught with Robert Farid Karimi)  
THP 393: *Horror on Stage and Screen* (Original Course)

Recipient of the Arizona State University GPSA Excellence in Teaching Award (Fall 2022)

Teaching Assistant – Arizona State University (August 2020 – May 2021)

Courses: THF 160: *Introduction to Storytelling*

FMP 250: *Sex & Violence in Film & TV*

THF 126: *Professional Development: Communication and Collaboration*

Course Grader – Arizona State University Department of English Online (August 2021 – March 2023)

Undergraduate Courses: ENG 305: *Interpretive Theory*

ENG 394: *The Art of Popular Literature – Stephen King*

ENG 327: *English Studies Research*

ENG 471: *Fiction for Young Adults*

Graduate Courses: WWS 567: *World War Two in Film*

WWS 568: *World War Two in Literature*

ENG 501: *Approaches to Research*

ENG 598: *Teaching Literacy for Action and Change*

### **TEACHING ARTISTRY:**

Teaching Artist – Mesa Arts Center (January 2022 – May 2023)

Courses: *Genre Writing*

*Dramatic Writing*

*Arts In Service: Screenwriting* (Grant-Funded initiative, provided free classes for Veterans)

Teaching Artist - Arts Mission Oak Cliff (January 2020 – March 2020)

Text Coach - Bare Bones Shakespeare Company (January 2018 – March 2018)

### **INVITED LECTURES / MASTER CLASSES:**

\*University of Texas at Arlington - THEA 3320: Playwriting (November 2024)

Concord University – Guest Lecturer for THEA 102: Introduction to Theatre (September 2024)

Baylor University – Playwriting (January 2024)

Baylor University – Guest Lecturer for THEA 1306: Introduction to Theatre (September 2023)

Arlington Public Libraries - Playwriting (August 2018)

Muse Theatre Workshop – Acting/Directing (June 2016)

### **DRAMATURGY:**

Production Dramaturg - *Safe at Home* by Gabriel Greene & Alex Levy

Dir. Jack Reuler, Arizona State University, February 2023

Production Dramaturg - *Avenue Q* music and lyrics by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx and book by Jeff Whitty

Dir. Bryan Stevenson, Theatre Arlington, August & September 2023

Production Dramaturg & Media Designer - *Safe at Home* by Gabriel Greene & Alex Levy

Dir. Jack Reuler, Kitchen Dog Theatre, December 2023 (D Magazine's "Best Theater Production of 2023")

New Play Dramaturg – *Helios 24/7* by Natalie Gaupp

Dr. Libby Hawkins, Theatre Arlington's Play Reader's Club, March 2024

New Play Dramaturg – *The Ticket* by Franky D. Gonzalez

Mid-America Theatre Conference Playwriting Symposium, March 2024

New Play Dramaturg – *For Your Eyes Only* by Season Ellison  
Mid-America Theatre Conference Playwriting Symposium, March 2024

### **SELECTED THEATRE DIRECTING CREDITS:**

#### **Full Length Plays:**

*Some Sunny Day* – Maverick Theatre Company - Arlington TX, October 2018

*Douglas: The Play* – SceneShop - Fort Worth TX, September 2019

*RIF* (Digital Production) (Co-Directed with Bianca Folgar) – Festival De La Bête Noire - January 2021

*Last Days Of Judas Iscariot* (Asst. Director) – Muse Theatre Workshop - Canyon TX May 2016

#### **One Act Plays:**

*The Couch* – Rod Wilson 24 Hour Play Festival – Dallas TX May 2024

*Guinness Kong* – Arts 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue - Fort Worth TX August 2017

*Capturing The Fort* – University of Texas at Arlington - Arlington TX April 2018

#### **Staged Readings:**

*Waste* – Stage Writers - Carrollton TX May 2019

*Killing Art* – Stage Writers - Carrollton TX May 2019

### **ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:**

*Dramaturg as Narrative Designer: Worldbuilding, Immersion, and Collaboration in “Safe at Home”*  
Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Dramaturgy Debut Panel – Austin, TX (2023)

*Unchallenged Ideas: Uncovering What a Play is Not Grappling With*  
Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association – Los Angeles, CA (2022)

*Conflict-Based Analysis: What Formalism Can Learn from Game Theory*  
International Conference on American Drama and Theater – Madrid, Spain (2022)

*Teaching Story Structure*  
Arizona Thespian Festival – Phoenix, AZ (2022)

*Introduction to Playwriting and Genre*  
Arizona Thespian Festival – Phoenix, AZ (2021)

### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

Dramatists Guild of America (2017 - Present)

Playwright’s Center (2020 - Present)

Association for Theatre in Higher Education (2023 – Present)

Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas (2023 - Present)



## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CERTIFICATIONS:**

Dallas College's CETL Adjunct Online Teaching Certificate (BrightSpace) (2024)  
Trained in Critical Response Process under Elizabeth Lerman and John Borstel (2020)  
Kennedy Center Playwriting Intensive Alumnus (2019)  
Dramatists Guild Institute's Architecture of Musicals Class (with John Dietrich)  
Dramatists Guild Institute's Storytelling for Video Games & New Technologies (with Ross Berger)  
Writer for Kitchen Dog Theatre's One Minute Play Fest (2019)  
Arizona State / CITI Program – Human Research IRB – Social & Behavioral Research Registration  
Registered in Unarmed Combat with Dueling Arts International  
Certified ESL Instructor (Premier TEFL)  
"Mastering Grants and Pledges" Course from Patron Manager (SalesForce)  
"How to Advocate for Arts Education" from Americans for the Arts

## **SCHOLARSHIPS:**

ASU Graduate Professional Student Organization Travel Grant (2022)  
PAMLA Graduate Travel Scholarship (2022)  
Maverick Theatre Scholarship Recipient (2016-2019)  
Sonora Lion's Club George Dee Wallace Memorial Scholarship (2015)

## **SERVICE:**

UT Arlington – Dept. of Theatre Arts - Alumni Engagement Committee (Fall 2024)  
  
Reader for Playwright's Center Fellowships (2024 Cycle & 2025 Cycle)  
Reader for Scholastic Art & Writing Awards – Harris County 2024 (Poetry, Flash Fiction, Short Story & Essay)  
Script Reader for Amphibian Stage (2020)  
Script Reader for New Deal Creative Arts's Hudson Valley Theatre Festival (2025)  
Theatre Arlington 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Safety Marshal (2023 & 2024)