

**SONJA KUFTINEC**  
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## **I. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA**

### **Education**

<b>Dartmouth College</b> BA: Summa Cum Laude with High Honors in Drama/Psychology	Hanover, NH 1984-1988
<b>Karl Marx University</b> Foreign Study through Dartmouth of politics and government	Budapest, Hungary January 1986-March 1986
<b>Dartmouth/Regents College</b> Foreign Study with Royal Shakespeare Company	London, England January 1987-March 1987
<b>Stanford University</b> PhD: Directing, Theater History and Criticism "(De)Constructing the American Cabin: Cornerstone Theater and Transactions of Community"	Palo Alto, CA 1991-1996 Advisor: Harry Elam

### **Academic Appointments**

<b>Dartmouth College</b> Assistant to Professor Lynda Boose Introduction to Shakespeare Directed students enrolled in summer theater program, led workshops in improvisation and comedy	1989 1993
<b>Stanford University</b> Lecturer: Beginning Acting, Beginning and Intermediate Directing, Alternative Forms of Theater Teaching assistant: Anna Deavere Smith (Playwriting), Alice Rayner (Introduction to Theater), Harry Elam (American Drama)	1993-96
<b>University of Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina</b> Visiting Lecturer: led workshops exploring relationship between ethnicity and identity through theater	July 1996
<b>Magdalen College, Oxford University</b> Visiting Lecturer: led workshops and seminars for students traveling to Bosnia	August 1996
<b>California State University, Los Angeles</b> Visiting Assistant Professor Undergraduate courses: research and writing, text analysis, advanced acting Graduate seminars: theater history and theory, performance and social change	1996-1998
<b>University of Minnesota, Minneapolis</b> Assistant Professor Undergraduate courses: theater history, Introduction to Theater, Performance and Social Change Graduate seminars: theater historiography, performance studies	1998-present

### **Other Professional Employment**

<b>Literary Associate</b> Actor's Theater of Louisville: read scripts, dramaturged plays, assisted directors	1988-1989
<b>Literary Manager</b> Organic Theater, Chicago: ran literary department, directed new play program, wrote development grants	1989-1991

## II. SCHOLARSHIP/CREATIVE ACTIVITY

### A. Published Work

#### **Books**

*Staging America: Cornerstone and Community-Based Theater* Southern Illinois University Press  
Spring 2003 (Refereed)

#### **Critical Essays**

1. "A Cornerstone for Rethinking Community Theater," *Theater Topics* March 1996: 91-104 (Refereed)
2. "Cornerstone's Community *Chalk Circle*," *The Brecht Yearbook* 22. 1997: 239-251
3. "Odakle Ste? (Where Are You From?) Active Learning and Community Based Theater in Former Yugoslavia and the US," *Theatre Topics* September 1997: 171-186 (Refereed)
4. "Ghost Town: Cultural *Hauntologie* in Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina," *Text and Performance Quarterly* Spring 1998: 81-95 (Refereed)
5. "Fighting Fences: Theatrical Rule-Breaking in Former Yugoslavia," *Slavic and Eastern European Performances* Summer 1999:50-57 (Refereed)
6. "Playing With the Borders: Dramaturging Ethnicity in Bosnia," *Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism* Fall 1998: 143-156 (Refereed)
7. "The Art of Bridge Building in Mostar," in *Performing Democracy: International Perspectives on Urban Community-Based Performance*, ed. Susan Haedicke and Tobin Nelhaus (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2001): 58-66 (Refereed)
8. "Staging the City with the Good People of New Haven," *Theatre Journal* May 2001: 197-222 (Refereed)
9. "Educating the Creative Theatre Artist," *Theater Topics* March 2001: 43-54 (Refereed)
10. "The Art of Bridge Building in Mostar," *YES! Magazine*, May 2002: 16-18 (Invited)
11. "Critical Relations in Community-Based Performance: The Artist and Writer in Conversation," Report for Animating Democracy Initiative, [www.americansforthearts.org](http://www.americansforthearts.org), 2002 (Invited)
12. "'Go Have Your Life!': Self and Community in Peter Schumann's Bread and Puppet Theater," article solicited for anthology on group theater edited by James Harding and Cindy Rosenthal (forthcoming 2004)

#### **Interviews and Reviews**

1. Interview with Playwright Constance Congdon *Studies in American Drama* Spring 1990: 35-43
2. "Beyond Brecht: An Interview with Bill Rauch," *Theater Insight* Fall 1996: 35-41
3. Performance Review of *Pax Bosnensis* for *Theatre Journal* Winter 1996: 495-496 (Refereed)
4. Review of 18th International Theater of Youth Festival in Mostar, *Theater Journal* April 1998: 111-113 (Refereed)
5. Performance Review *Broken Hearts: A BH Mystery*, *Theater Journal* October 2000: 397-399 (Refereed)
6. Book Review "Festive Revolutions," *Theater Journal* March 2000: 143-144 (Refereed)
7. "Critical Relations: The Artist and Critic in Conversation," forthcoming in *Theater* Summer 2003 (Invited)

## **B. Conference Presentations**

### ***Individual and Panel Presentations***

1. "In Our Own Backyards: Performing Urban Communities"  
paper presented at the Association of Theatre Education (ATHE) Conference, San Francisco, 1995 (Juried)
2. "Towards an Interactive Curriculum: Conversations in the Fringes"  
paper presented at the ATHE Conference, San Francisco, 1995 (Invited)
3. "*Odakle Ste* (Where Are You From?): Performance and Re-Presentation of Culture and Identity in Croatia"  
paper presented at the Central Slavic Conference, Columbia, Missouri, 1996 (Invited)
4. "Negotiating Borders: Cornerstone Theater's Resident Performances in Watts, Los Angeles"  
selected as part of seminar, American Society of Theatre Research (ASTR) conference, Pasadena, CA, 1996 (Juried)
5. "Contemporary Shake-scenes: Cornerstone Theater's Shakespearean Adaptations"  
paper presented at the annual California State Shakespeare Symposium, Los Angeles, 1996 (Juried)
6. "Re-membering Mostar" paper presented at the National Communications Association, Chicago, 1997 (Juried)
7. "An Ideal Historical Reconstruction" selected for seminar, ASTR conference, San Antonio, TX, 1997 (Juried)
8. "Ethics in Community-Based Theater" paper presented at ATHE conference, San Antonio, TX, 1998 (Juried)
9. "Theatrical Rule-Breaking in Former Yugoslavia"  
paper presented at the ASTR Conference Washington, D.C., 1998 (Juried)
10. "Community Theater" public lecture presented in Belgrade and Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, August, 2000 (Invited)
11. "Re-Membering Mostar" paper presented at the Performance Studies Conference, Wales, 1999 (Juried)
12. "Expanding Roles of Theater in Education" paper presented at the ATHE plenary session Toronto, 1999  
(Invited by Association President)
13. "Pop Goes the World" paper presented at the Walker Arts Center on popular culture in Bosnia  
Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2000 (Invited)
14. "Interactive Theater in Bosnia" paper presented at the ATHE conference, Washington D.C., 2000 (Juried)
15. "Introducing Theater in a Different 'Why'" paper presented as part of a seminar on "Teaching the Introduction  
to Theater Course," ASTR conference, New York, 2000 (Juried)
16. "The Place of Performance: Enabling Theater in Former Yugoslavia" paper presented as part of a session on  
"Community and Activism" at the Performance Studies International Conference, Mainz, Germany 2001 (Juried)
17. "Interculturalism, Identity, and the Arts," invited to present as part of Macalaster College International Week, St.  
Paul, Minnesota February 2002 (Invited)
18. "Critical Relations with Cornerstone," panel presentation at the annual Alternate ROOTS (Regional  
Organization of Theaters South) conference, Lexington, KY April, 2002 (Invited)
19. "Critical Relations: The Artist and Scholar in Conversation," symposium presentation with Bill Rauch of  
Cornerstone Theater, University of Minnesota, April 2002 (also coordinated symposium)
20. "Theater and Reconciliation," invited to speak as part of *Afternoons with the Liberal Arts*, Elder Learning  
Institute, University of Minnesota, May 2002 (Invited)
21. "Talking Stage," panel discussing Cornerstone Theater in New Brunswick, NJ, May 2002 (Invited)
22. "Horseplay in the House of Culture," invited to participate in seminar as part of annual ASTR conference, Philadelphia,  
PA, November 2002 (Invited)
23. Presented selections from *Staging America* Disney Hall, Los Angeles Dec. 10, 2003. (Invited)

### ***Workshops and Roundtables***

1. "Boundaries and Bridges: Creating Theater with Refugees from Boston to Bosnia"  
Workshop presentation, Pedagogy of the Oppressed conference, Omaha, 1996 (Juried)
2. "Beyond Violence: Creating Theater and Community" Workshop, ATHE conference, New York, 1996 (Juried)
3. Roundtable on teaching performance studies at the Performance Studies Conference, Wales, 1999 (Juried)
4. "Debating Activism/Activating Debate" a paper presented for a roundtable at  
Women and Theatre Conference Washington D.C., 2000 (Invited)
5. "The New Student." roundtable for ATHE conference, Chicago, 2001 (Invited)  
panelists featured Oscar Brockett, Paul Jackson, and Shannon Jackson
6. Scholar Animateur for Urban Estates, CIVIC Centre Conference, London, England, April 12-16 2003. (Invited)
7. "Imaging Change with Basic Boal," Educational Theater Association Conference Minneapolis, MN, October 4, 2003.  
(Invited)
8. Invited participant on Critical Perspectives panel, Animating Democracy Initiative Conference Flint, Michigan, Oct. 10-12  
2003. (Invited)

### ***Session Chair***

1. Chair session on Nation, Identity and Feminism ATHE Conference, Toronto. 1999 (Invited)
2. Chair roundtable on Community-Based Theater Training ATHE Conference, Toronto, 1999 (Juried)
3. Chair and coordinator of Seminar "Rethinking Public Space" ASTR Conference, Minneapolis. 1999 (Juried)
4. Chaired roundtable, presented on Ethics and Education at ATHE Conference, Washington D.C. 2000 (Juried)
5. Chair "Performative Activism: Intersections of Theory and Practice" ATHE Conference, Chicago 2001 (Invited)
6. Chair "The Geo-Historical Real, Placing the Real" ASTR Conference, San Diego 2001 (Juried)  
(Also on program committee)
7. Moderator of roundtable on Howard Barker in Production, Howard Barker Symposium, Minneapolis, 2002

### **Related Production Experience**

<b>Varazhdin, Croatia</b>	<b>1995</b>
<i>Odakle Ste, Gdje Ste, Gdje Idete</i> (Where Are You From, Where Are You Now, Where Are You Going) original theater piece created with Bosnian refugees	
<b>Zhuljana, Croatia</b>	<b>1996</b>
Created original theater project with Bosnian and German teenagers exploring issues of home and family	
<b>Mostar, Bosnia and Hercegovina</b>	<b>1996-1997</b>
International Days of Youth Theater Festival <i>Pisma or Where Does the Postman Go When All the Street Names Change?</i> (festival prize for ensemble work) <i>Mladi Most Carol</i> - interactive bi-lingual adaptation of Charles Dickens' <i>Christmas Carol</i>	
<b>Heart Project: Los Angeles, CA</b>	<b>1998</b>
Developed theater piece with continuance high school students	
<b>Bringing (Di)Visions to Life</b>	Developed international multi-lingual theater piece for Mostar Youth Festival <b>1999</b>
<b>Mesta/Places</b>	Developed original theater piece with Serbian and ethnic Slovakian youth in Belgrade, Yugoslavia <b>2000</b>

<b>Between The Lines</b>	<b>2001</b>
Co-directed and developed original theater piece with Balkan youth from seven countries Presented at Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany	
<b>There is a Field</b>	<b>2002-03</b>
Collaborative production responding to the Middle East developed with University of Minnesota students Rarig Center Minneapolis, Minnesota	
<b>He Who Says Yes/He Who Says No (Bertolt Brecht)</b>	<b>2003</b>
Developed with facilitators at Seeds of Peace International Camp	

### **III. TEACHING**

#### **Courses at University of Minnesota**

TH 5950 Performance and Social Change Fall 1998, Fall 1999, Fall 2003  
 TH 3112 Theatre History Winter 1999  
 TH 8120 Performing America/ns Winter 1999  
 TH 8116 Western Theater History and Theory-Contemporary Spring 1999, 2002  
 TH 1101W Introduction to Theatre (Writing Intensive) Fall 1999, F 2000, Spring 2001, Spring 2002, Fall 2002, Fall 2003  
 TH 1111 Introduction to Theatre: Condensed Spring 2000  
 TH 8112 Western Theater History and Theory Medieval Through Renaissance Spring 2000, 2003  
 TH 5950 Community-Based Theatre Fall 2000  
 TH 8114 Western Theatre History and Theory Enlightenment to Naturalism Spring 2001  
 TH 4901 Senior Seminar, Advisory Committee Fall 2001-Spring 2002  
 TH 5950 Collaborative Performance Fall 2002

#### **Graduate Advising**

*Advisor:* Charles Adams, Lisa Arnold, Richard Barber, Tom Lynch, John Fletcher, Maija Brown, Lauren Love,  
 Karen Martinson

*MA Committee Member:* Jeanne Willcoxon-Rebhan

*PhD Preliminary Committee:* Natalya Baldyga, Jeffrey Bleam, Eric Severson, Michael Schurter

*Completed PHD Committee Member:* Megan Sanborn Jones, Anja Klock, Scott Magelssen, Alan Sikes, Matthew Wagner,  
 Patricia Ybarra

*Completed MA Committee Member:* Pam Joyce

#### **Curriculum Development**

Reworked General Education class on Creative Experience at California State University, Los Angeles 1997

Revised Masters program in theater at California State University, Los Angeles 1996-1997

Revision of Introduction to Theater as Writing Intensive interactive course, University of Minnesota 1999

Developed four courses in performance and social change, University of Minnesota 1998-2002

## IV. SERVICE

### University Service

1. Graduate representative Stanford PhD selection committee 1994-1995
2. Committee to review community-based programs and outreach at California State University, Los Angeles 1997
3. Committee to review graduate program at California State University, Los Angeles 1996-1998
4. Search Committee, Visiting Assistant Professor of Directing, University of Minnesota, 1999
5. Writing Consultant, University of Minnesota 1998-2000; 2003-04
6. Center for Advanced Feminist Studies at University of Minnesota, Affiliated Faculty member since May 2000
7. Member Research Development Advisory Committee, University of Minnesota 2000-2003
8. Honors Representative, University of Minnesota 1999-2003
9. Center for Advanced Feminist Studies Advisory Committee, University of Minnesota 2000-2002
10. Moderator New Works Series Crisis Point Theater and Experimental Theater 2001-2003
11. Search Committee, Assistant Professor in Theater Historiography, University of Minnesota 2002-2003
12. Respondent to new Native American plays at Jungle Theater, Minneapolis, April 2002
13. Member Austrian Studies Center Advisory Board 2003
14. Guest Lecturer, Hillel Center "There is a Field" January, 2003
15. Consultant Borderlands Project through Center for Holocaust Studies 2003
16. Advisory Member Social Actors in Transformation 2001-2003
17. Co-coordinator History/Theory lecture series 1999-04
18. Co-chair Space/Place Research Group 1998-2004
19. Arts Quarter advisory collective 2003-04

### Professional Service

1. Newsletter Editor for Theater and Social Change (ATHE) focus group 1995-1996
2. Focus Group Representative Performance Studies 1998-2000
3. Performance Studies International Conference Steering Committee 1998-1999
4. Chair ATHE Task Force Expanding Roles and Advocacy 1998-2001
5. Coordinated panels for Black Theatre Association 2001
6. Program Committee American Society of Theatre Research 2001
7. Associate Reader *Theatre Topics* and *Theater Journal* 2002-2004
8. Workshop leader syllabus development Penumbra Theater May 2003
9. Consultant Playwright's Center reading *Small Tragedy* by Craig Lucas Spring 2003
10. Participant BAT cable television "Civic Conversations" addressing war in Iraq

## V. GRANTS and AWARDS

1. General Fellowship for study from Dartmouth College awarded 1988-1989	\$2,000
2. Jacob K. Javits four year fellowship for study awarded 1990-1995	\$ 100,000
3. Artslink National Fellowship for work in Eastern Europe 1995	\$6,000
4. Mellon Foundation award for European study 1995	\$500
5. Centennial Teaching Award, Stanford University 1995	\$300
6. Donald Kennedy Fellowship for community service 1995, 1996	\$2,000
7. Bush Faculty Development Fellow 1998-1999	\$400
8. University of Minnesota Writing Consultant 1998-2000	\$2,000
9. Department Funds for research over 3 years 1998-2001	\$5,000
10. CLA small grant awards (awarded 5 between 1998-2002)	\$500
11. Grant-in-Aid of research in Bosnia, University of Minnesota 1999	\$3,000
12. Space and Place Research group funds through Humanities Institute (co-writer) 1999-2001	\$14,000
13. CLA Scholarly Events Fund Grants (co-writer) awarded 3 between 2000-2002	\$5,000
14. Office of International Study for Performance Studies Conference in Mainz, Germany 2001	\$500
15. Single Semester Leaves, Fall 2001, Spring 2004	
16. Grant-in-Aid of research for completion of book 2001-2002	\$13, 304
17. Arts Quarter grant for collaboration among faculty (co-writer) 2002	\$2,000
18. Arts Quarter grant for year-long theater and social responsibility project 2002	\$7,650
19. Humanities Institute funding for Symposium on Arts and Reconciliation in Israel/Palestine 2002	\$1,000
20. Institute for Global Studies funding for Symposium on Arts and Reconciliation in Israel/Palestine 2002	\$1,500
21. CLA Scholarly Events Fund for workshop associated with <i>There is a Field</i> 2002	\$500
22. Undergraduate Research Grant for Katie Herron's research on collaborative performance	\$2500
23. Writing Consultant for CLA 2003-04	\$1500
24. Space and Place IGS proposal 2003-05	\$16,000