

**Michael Malek Najjar**  
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## **EDUCATION**

- 2011 *Ph.D. Theatre and Performance Studies*, University of California, Los Angeles, Theatre and Performance Studies (Thesis Committee: Sue-Ellen Case, S.I. Salamensky (co-chair), Carol Sorgenfrei, Nouri Gana (co-chair))
- 1999 *M.F.A. Directing*, York University, Toronto, Canada, Directing (Thesis Committee: David Rotenberg, Ron Singer, Paul Lampert)
- 1993 *B.A. Theatre*, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, Theatre

## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

- 2023-Present Professor, Department of Theatre Arts, University of Oregon
- 2017-2023 Associate Professor, Department of Theatre Arts, University of Oregon
- 2011-2017 Assistant Professor, Department of Theatre Arts, University of Oregon
- 2004-2007 Instructor, Theatre Arts, Portland Community College
- 2001-2003 Adjunct Instructor, Theatre Arts, Mt. San Antonio College

## **ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

- 2023 Editorial Board Member, *Arab Stages*
- 2020 Board Member, Middle Eastern/North African Theatre Makers Alliance (MENATMA)
- 2019 National Institute for Directing & Ensemble Creation – Master Artist
- 2010 Royal Film Commission – Jordan/RAWI Screenwriters' Lab, Amman
- 2004 Directors Lab West, Los Angeles, California
- 2003 Lincoln Center Directors Lab, New York City
- 1998-1999 Professional Actor's Lab, Toronto, Canada
- 1992 British/American Drama Academy, Midsummer in Oxford Program, United Kingdom

## **AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS**

- |           |  |   |
|-----------|--|---|
| 2024      | Williams Fund Instructional Grant        | Williams Council, University of Oregon  |
| 2022      | Certificate of Merit, Directing          | Kennedy Center/American College Theatre |
| 2021      | Fund for Faculty Excellence Award        | University of Oregon                    |
| 2021      | Faculty Research Mentor Award            | University of Oregon                    |
| 2021      | Oregon Humanities Center Subvention      | University of Oregon                    |
| 2020      | Summer Stipend for Humanities            | University of Oregon                    |
| 2019-2020 | Ernest G. Moll Research Professorship    | University of Oregon                    |
| 2018      | UO Summer Teaching Institute             | University of Oregon                    |
| 2018      | Oregon Humanities Center Subvention      | University of Oregon                    |
| 2017      | NEH Summer Institute Summer Scholar      | Oregon State University                 |
| 2017-2021 | Rippee Innovative Teaching Award         | University of Oregon                    |
| 2016      | Humanities and Creative Arts Award       | University of Oregon                    |
| 2016      | Working Group/Active Teaching & Learning | University of Oregon                    |
| 2016-2017 | Rippee Innovative Teaching Award         | University of Oregon                    |

2016	Stanley B. Greenfield Faculty Award	University of Oregon
2016	Global Oregon Faculty Collaboration Award	University of Oregon
2015	Rutherford Initiative for ME Studies	University of Oregon
2014	Certificate of Merit, Directing	Kennedy Center/American College Theatre
2014	Junior Professor Development Award	University of Oregon
2014	OHC/CAS Faculty Author Subvention Grant	University of Oregon
2012-2013	Rippee Innovative Teaching Award	University of Oregon
2007-2011	Eugene V. Cota Robles Fellowship	UCLA

## **PUBLISHED BOOKS**

- 2022 *Mona Mansour: The Vagrant Trilogy*, ed. by Hala Baki and Michael Malek Najjar, Bloomsbury/Methuen Drama. 128 pp.
- 2021 *Middle Eastern American Drama: Communities, Cultures and Creators* by Michael Malek Najjar, Bloomsbury/Methuen Drama. 246 pp.
- 2021 *Heather Raffo's Iraq Plays: The Things That Can't Be Said*, ed. by Michael Malek Najjar, Bloomsbury/Methuen Drama. 192 pp.
- 2019 *The Selected Works of Yussef El Guindi*, ed. by Michael Malek Najjar, Bloomsbury/ Methuen Drama. 360 pp.
- 2019 Co-Edited: *Six Plays of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, ed. by Jamil Khoury, Michael Malek Najjar, and Corey Pond, McFarland & Company, Inc. 289 pp.
- 2015 *Arab American Drama, Film and Performance: A Critical Study, 1908 to the Present*, by Michael Malek Najjar, McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers. 288 pp.
- 2014 *Four Arab American Plays: Works by Leila Buck, Jamil Khoury, Yussef El Guindi, and Lameece Issaq & Jacob Kader*, ed. by Michael Malek Najjar, McFarland & Company, Inc., Publishers. 200 pp.

## **ARTICLES**

### **Published Peer Reviewed Articles in Print**

- 2024 "Arab American Drama: Five Books that Inspired My Journey," *Arab Stages*, June 15, 2024.  
<https://www.theseagalcenter.org/arab-stages/arab-american-drama%3A-five-books-that-inspired-my-journey>
- 2024 "Arabs/Muslims on American Stages: Foils for American Adventurism," *Arabs, Politics, and Performance*. Edited by George Potter, Samer Al-Saber, and Roaa Ali. Routledge Press. Print.  
<https://www.routledge.com/Arabs-Politics-and-Performance/Potter-Al-Saber-Ali/p/book/9780367416539>
- 2022 "Female Arab American Solo Performance and Stand-Up: A Bourgeoning Genre of Arab American Art," *Sajjilu Arab American: A Reader in SWANA Studies*. Edited by Louise Cainkar, Pauline Homsy Vinson, Amira Jarmakani. Syracuse University Press: 326-333. Print.  
<https://press.syr.edu/supressbooks/4378/sajjilu-swana/>

- 2022 "Recreating Lost Homelands: Arab American Drama and Transnational Diasporic Loss," a journal article in *The French Review of American Studies/RFEA (Revue Française d'Etudes Américaines)*: 69-82. Print.
- 2022 "'Yo, Let's Steal Their Canons!': Arab and Arab American Canonical Multiplicities," co-authored with Dr. Samer Al-Saber in *Troubling Traditions: Canonicity, Theatre, and Performance in the US*, ed. by Lindsey Mantoan, Matthew Moore, and Angela Farr Schiller. Routledge Press: 121-133. Print.
- 2021 "2020 ATHE Conference Middle Eastern Theatre Focus Group Roundtable: Pedagogy and Absence," an article with Rana Esfandiary, Marjan Moosavi, Hala Baki, Samer Al-Saber, Bart Pitchford, and Reza Mirsajadi, in *Theatre Topics*, March, Volume 31, Number 1: 9-16. Print.
- 2021 "Re-Membering Our Pasts: Denmo Ibrahim's Theatre of Transformation," in the *Brilliant Mind* playbill, Marin Theatre Company, May-June: 12-14. Print.
- 2020 "Teaching Middle Eastern theatre: Challenges, Opportunities, and Rewards," in *Theater in the Middle East: Between Performance and Politics*, ed. by Babak Rahimi. Anthem Press: 23-41. Print.
- 2020 "Migration's Alienations: Bertolt Brecht's Mother Courage," an article co-authored with Dorothee Ostmeier, *Konturen*, Vol. 11 (2020). Online.  
<http://journals.oregondigital.org/index.php/konturen/article/view/4801>
- 2019 "Casting Middle Eastern American Theatre: Cultural, Academic, and Professional Challenges," in *Casting a Movement: The Welcome Table Initiative*, ed. by Claire Syler and Daniel Banks. Routledge: 72-81. Print.
- 2018 "Acting Arab/Arab Acting: The Phenomenology of Acting 'In Race,'" in *Arab American Aesthetics: Literature, Material Culture, Film, and Theatre*, ed. by Therí Pickens. Routledge: 99-113. Print.
- 2018 "Theater: Plays by Women Playwrights, Directors, and Producers in Islamic Cultures," co-written with Zeina Salame, in *Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures* Online Edition.  
[https://referenceworks.brillonline.com/entries/encyclopedia-of-women-and-islamic-cultures/theater-plays-by-women-playwrights-directors-and-producers-in-islamic-cultures-united-states-COM\\_002183?s.num=0&s.f.s2\\_parent=s.f.book.encyclopedia-of-women-and-islamic-cultures&s.q=theater+najjar](https://referenceworks.brillonline.com/entries/encyclopedia-of-women-and-islamic-cultures/theater-plays-by-women-playwrights-directors-and-producers-in-islamic-cultures-united-states-COM_002183?s.num=0&s.f.s2_parent=s.f.book.encyclopedia-of-women-and-islamic-cultures&s.q=theater+najjar)
- 2016 "Arab-American Theater," in *Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism (REM)*, ed. by Stephen Ross, Routledge Press. <https://www.rem.routledge.com/articles/arab-american-theater>
- 2014 "'There's Nothing Funny About Your People': Muslim American Humor in the Post 9/11 World," in *Muslims and American Popular Culture*, ed. by Iraj Omidvar and Anne Richards. Praeger/Greenwood Press: 3-17. Print.
- 2013 "Laurence Olivier," *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*, Detroit: St. James Press.  
<https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/K2419200972/UHIC?u=euge94201&sid=bookmark-UHIC&xid=b9bc545f>
- 2013 "Community Theater," *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*, Detroit: St. James Press.  
<https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/K2419200972/UHIC?u=euge94201&sid=bookmark-UHIC&xid=b9bc545f>

- 2013 "Death of a Salesman," *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*, Detroit: St. James Press.  
<https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/K2419200972/UHIC?u=euge94201&sid=bookmark-UHIC&xid=b9bc545f>
- 2013 "The Glass Menagerie," *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*, Detroit: St. James Press.  
<https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/K2419200972/UHIC?u=euge94201&sid=bookmark-UHIC&xid=b9bc545f>
- 2013 "Rent," *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*, Detroit: St. James Press.  
<https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/K2419200972/UHIC?u=euge94201&sid=bookmark-UHIC&xid=b9bc545f>
- 2013 "Hal Prince," *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*, Detroit: St. James Press.  
<https://link.gale.com/apps/doc/K2419200972/UHIC?u=euge94201&sid=bookmark-UHIC&xid=b9bc545f>

#### **Works in Progress/Peer Reviewed Articles**

- 2024 *The Selected Plays of Ismail Khalidi*. Edited by Michael Malek Najjar and Hala Baki. Bloomsbury/Methuen Drama (in progress). <https://www.bloomsbury.com/us/selected-plays-of-ismail-khalidi-9781350465497/>
- 2024 "Introduction," *The Fire in the Center: Directors on Directing & Ensemble Creation*. Routledge. (in progress).

#### **Published Non-Peer Reviewed Articles**

- 2020 "Theatre—It's Our Only Sanctuary: An Interview with Lebanese Theatre Director, Actress, and Professor Sahar Assaf," in *Arab Stages*, Volume 12 (Fall 2020). <https://arabstages.org/2020/11/theatre-its-our-only-sanctuary-an-interview-with-professor-sahar-assaf/>
- 2020 "An Interview with Michael Malek Najjar," an article as part of Pangea World Theatre's "Call & Response: A Global Conversation on Art, Culture, and Human Rights" series (2020).  
<https://www.pangeaworldtheater.org/call-response>.
- 2019 "ReOrient 2019: A Homecoming for Golden Thread Alumni," an article for Golden Thread Productions.  
<https://goldenthread.org/posts/reorient-2019-a-homecoming-for-golden-thread-alumni/>
- 2018 "What I Learned," an article that is part of the "In Your Words" series in *SDC Journal*, Spring 2018: 7. Print.
- 2016 "Yussef El Guindi's Arab Spring: Revolutions, Upheavals, and Critical Critiques," an essay in *Arab Stages*, Volume 1, Number 4 (Spring 2016). <https://arabstages.org/2016/04/yussef-el-guindis-arab-spring-revolutions-upheavals-and-critical-critiques/>
- 2015 "Yussef El Guindi and the Politics of Conflicted Allegiances," an essay included in the Portland Center Stage Resource Guide for Yussef El Guindi's *Threesome*, 2014-2015 theatre season: 5-6.  
<https://www.pcs.org/assets/uploads/resource-guides/Threesome-Resource-Guide.pdf>
- 2015 "Theatre as an Optimistic Political Act: Lebanese Theatre Artist Sahar Assaf," a profile article in *Arab Stages*, Volume 3 (Fall). <https://arabstages.org/2015/11/theatre-as-an-optimistic-political-act-lebanese-theatre-artist-sahar-assaf/>

## Book and Performance Reviews

- 2022 "Orientalism on the Nile: Yussef El Guindi's *Hotter Than Egypt*." A play review for *Arab Stages*, Volume 13 @ <https://arabstages.org/2022/11/performance-review-hotter-than-egypt-by-yussef-el-guindi-directed-by-john-langs/>
- 2019 "Yussef El Guindi's *Hostages*: Thirty Years Later and Still Frighteningly Relevant." Rev. of Performance, dir. David Gassner, *Arab Stages*, Volume 11 (Fall) @ <https://arabstages.org/2019/11/yussef-el-guindis-hostages-thirty-years-later-and-still-frighteningly-relevant/>
- 2018 "The Talented Ones." Rev. of Performance, dir. Jane Unger, *Theatre Journal*, Volume 70 (June 2018): 251-253. DOI: [10.1353/tj.2018.0038](https://doi.org/10.1353/tj.2018.0038)
- 2016 "Cairo in the '60's: *This Time* by the Rising Circle Theater Collective New York City, May 19, 2016." Rev. of Performance, dir. Kareem Fahmy, *Arab Stages*, Volume 5 (Fall). <https://arabstages.org/2016/10/cairo-in-the-60s-this-time-by-the-rising-circle-theater-collective-new-york-city-may-19-2016/>
- 2016 "*AB: Beit Byout* by Tahweel Ensemble Theatre in Beirut." Rev. of Performance, dir. Sahar Assaf and Raffi Feghali, *Arab Stages*, Volume 1, Number 4 (Spring 2016). <https://arabstages.org/2016/04/ab-beit-byout-by-tahweel-ensemble-theatre-in-beirut/>
- 2015 "*Inside/Outside: Six Plays from Palestine and the Diaspora*," A Book Review by Michael Malek Najjar," in *Arab Stages*, Volume 1, Number 3 (Fall). <https://arabstages.org/2015/10/insideoutside-six-plays-from-palestine-and-the-diaspora/>
- 2015 "*The Revolt of the Young: Essays by Tawfiq al-Hakim: The Gap Between Generations*," A Book Review in *Arab Stages*, Volume 1, Number 2 (Spring 2015). <https://arabstages.org/2015/04/essays-by-tawfiq-al-hakim-the-revolt-of-the-young-the-gap-between-generations/>
- 2015 "Threesome." Rev. of Performance, dir. Chris Coleman, *Theatre Journal*, Volume 67, Number 3 2015: 554-556. Print. <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/597164/pdf>.
- 2014 "Radical Compassion and the Ethics of Cultural Representation," an online essay on *Howlround: a Center for the Theatre Commons*, February 14, 2014. <http://howlround.com/radical-compassion-and-the-ethics-of-cultural-representation#sthash.eJb6VIQf.dpuf>
- 2014 "Rolf C. Hemke's *Theatre in the Arab World: Struggling Against Insurmountable Odds*," A Book Review in *Arab Stages*, Volume 1, Number 1 (Fall). <https://arabstages.org/2014/12/struggling-against-insurmountable-odds/>
- 2012 "The Immigrant Returns: *The Book of Khalid* by Ameen Rihani," a Book Review, *Al-Jadid: A Review & Record of Arab Culture and Arts*, vol. 17, no. 64 (2012): 37. <http://www.aljadid.com/content/immigrant-returns>
- 2011 "Re-evaluating the Syrio-American School: *Gibran, Rihani and Naimy: East-West*

*Interactions in Early Twentieth-Century Arab Literature* by Aida Imangulieva,” a Book Review, *Al-Jadid: A Review & Record of Arab Culture and Arts*, vol. 15, no. 62 (2011): 27.

<http://www.aljadid.com/sites/default/files/issues/Jadid%2062%202-15-11%20printer%20copy.pdf>

2011 “Understanding Who We Are: *A Country Called Amreeka* by Alia Malek,” a Book Review, *Al-Jadid: A Review & Record of Arab Culture and Arts*, vol. 16, no. 62 (2011): 38.

<http://www.aljadid.com/sites/default/files/issues/Jadid%2062%202-15-11%20printer%20copy.pdf>

2009 “Loving His Country Through ‘Metadrama’: *Alfred Farag and the Egyptian Theater*,” a Book Review, *Al-Jadid: A Review & Record of Arab Culture and Arts*, vol. 15, no. 61 (2009): 33.

[http://www.aljadid.com/sites/default/files/issues/Jadid\\_61\\_Digital.pdf](http://www.aljadid.com/sites/default/files/issues/Jadid_61_Digital.pdf)

2009 “Embracing Inbetweenness: *Race and Ethnicity in the Early Syrian American Diaspora* by Sarah M.A. Gualtieri,” a Book Review, *Al-Jadid: A Review & Record of Arab Culture and Arts*, vol. 15, no. 61 (2009): 39, 41. [http://www.aljadid.com/sites/default/files/issues/Jadid\\_61\\_Digital.pdf](http://www.aljadid.com/sites/default/files/issues/Jadid_61_Digital.pdf)

2009 “Nahda’s Children: *Conscience of the Nation: Writers, State, and Society in Modern Egypt* by Richard Jacquemond,” a Book Review, *Al-Jadid: A Review & Record of Arab Culture and Arts*, vol. 15, no. 60 (2009): 35-36. <http://aljadid.com/books/NahdasChildren.html>

#### **SELECTED DIRECTING/PLAYWRITING CREDITS**

2024 Director: *Frankenstein: Playing with Fire*, University Theatre, University of Oregon

2022 Director: *She Kills Monsters*, University Theatre, University of Oregon

2022 Director: *God Said This*, University Theatre, University of Oregon

2021 Director: *Art*, Oregon Contemporary Theatre, Eugene, Oregon

2021 Director: *People of the Book*, University of Oregon, MENA Studies

2020 Director: *Pilgrims Musa and Sheri in the New World*, Minority Voices Theatre at the Very Little Theatre, Eugene, Oregon

2019 Co-Director, *Zafira and the Resistance*, New Arab American Theatre Works at the Guthrie Theatre, Minneapolis, Minnesota

2019 Director: *Scenes From 71\* Years*, Golden Thread Productions, San Francisco, California

2018 Director: *Mother Courage and Her Children*, University Theatre, University of Oregon

2017 Director: *When Farah Cries*, Golden Thread Productions, San Francisco, California

2017 Lead Director: *Semitic Commonwealth: a Staged Reading Series of Plays by Arab and Jewish Playwrights*, Silk Road Rising, Chicago, Illinois

2016 Director: *James Joyce’s The Dead*, University Theatre, University of Oregon

2016 Director: *Game of Patience*, a staged reading at the University of Oregon

2016 Director: *Scorched*, University Theatre, University of Oregon

2014 Director: *Pride and Prejudice*, University Theatre, University of Oregon

2014 Director: *Ecstasy: A Water Fable*, University Theatre, University of Oregon

2013 Director: *9 Parts of Desire*, University Theatre, University of Oregon

2012 Director: *Arabian Nights*, University Theatre, University of Oregon

2012 Director: *The Two Faced*, a staged reading at the Arab American National Museum, Detroit, Michigan

2010 Director and Playwright: *Talib*, a staged reading at Silk Road Rising, Chicago, Illinois

2007 Director: *Swanwhite*, Performing Arts Center, Portland Community College Sylvania Campus

2007 Director: *The Love of the Nightingale*, Performing Arts Center, Portland Community College Sylvania Campus

2006 Director: *The Man Who Had All the Luck*, Performing Arts Center, Portland Community College Sylvania Campus

- 2006 Director: *Urinetown: The Musical*, Performing Arts Center, Portland Community College Sylvania Campus
- 2005 Director: *The Winter's Tale*, Performing Arts Center, Portland Community College Sylvania Campus
- 2005 Director: *The Trojan Women*, Bend Theatre for Young People, Bend, Oregon 2004 Director: *Nora, an adaptation of A Doll's House*, Performing Arts Center, Portland Community College Sylvania Campus
- 2004 Director: *Medea*, Whitmore-Lindley Theatre, North Hollywood, California
- 2003 Director: *Titus Andronicus*, Tre Stage/Neoclassical Theatre Company, Los Angeles, California
- 2003 Director: *Lysistrata*, a staged reading, Lincoln Center Directors Lab, New York, NY
- 2003 Director: *Precious Stones*, world premiere, Silk Road Rising, Chicago, Illinois
- 2003 Director: *The Laramie Project*, Bend Theatre for Young People, Bend, Oregon
- 2002 Director: *USA*, Mt. San Antonio College Performing Arts Center, Walnut, California
- 2001 Director: *You Can't Take It With You*, Mt. San Antonio College Performing Arts Center, Walnut, California
- 2000 Director: *Voices in the Wind*, Waterworks Theatre, North Hollywood, California
- 2000 Director: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Mt. San Antonio College Performing Arts Center, Walnut, California
- 1999 Director: *Twelfth Night*, Bend Theatre for Young People, Bend, Oregon
- 1998 Director: *Piano*, MFA Graduate Thesis Performance, York University, Toronto, Canada
- 1997 Director: *Neruda: Amor y Dolor*, The South Broadway Cultural Center, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- 1996 Director: *Blood Wedding*, Riverside Repertory Theatre at the Kimo Theatre, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- 1995 Director: *Much Ado About Nothing*, Riverside Repertory Theatre at the Kimo Theatre, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- 1994 Director: *Road*, Riverside Repertory Theatre at the Kimo Theatre, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- 1994 Director: *A Lie of the Mind*, Riverside Repertory Theatre at the Kimo Theatre, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- 1993 Director: *Look Back in Anger*, Riverside Repertory Theatre at the Kimo Theatre, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- 1992 Director: *The Tempest*, Riverside Repertory Theatre at Rodey Theatre, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- 1991 Director: *Betrayal*, Riverside Repertory Theatre at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico

## **PUBLIC LECTURES**

### **Invited**

- 2023 Panelist: "MENA Theater in Schools and Universities" at the MENA Theatre Makers Alliance Fall 2023 Convening, October 28, 2023. <https://www.menatheatre.org/fall-2023-convening>
- 2022 Public Lecture: "Books-in-Print Talk: Middle Eastern American Theatre: A Polycultural Mosaic" at the Oregon Humanities Center (OHC), February 11, 2022. <https://youtu.be/BPyj6CpRgj0>
- 2021 Panel Chair: "Academia and the Next Generation," November 5, 2021, Middle East North Africa Theatre Makers Alliance Convening, Fall 2021. Zoom Webinar.
- 2021 Panelist: "Arab American Theater: A Live Panel with Malek Najjar, Jamil Khoury, Kathryn Haddad, and Lameece Issaq," October 7, 2021, Moise A. Khayrallah Center for Lebanese Diaspora Studies. Zoom Webinar.
- 2021 Panelist: "Reclamation and Resistance: Arab American Theater Responds to its Contexts," Thursday, August 5, 2021, Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), RE: ATHE Conference, August 5-8, 2021.

- 2021 Panelist: “Reclamation and Resistance: Arab American Theater Responds to its Contexts” at the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), August 5-8, 2021.
- 2021 Public Lecture: “Theatre in a Time of Pandemic: New Voices 2020” at the University of Oregon Student Success Summit, Friday, February 5, 2021.
- 2020 Public Lecture: “Middle Eastern American Theatre: A Polycultural Mosaic” at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Oregon (OLLI), October 14, 2020.
- 2020 Public Lecture: “Middle Eastern American Theatre: A Polycultural Mosaic” at the Oregon Humanities Center at the University of Oregon, February 21, 2020.
- 2020 Panel Chair: “Non-Profit Organizations and How 2020 Highlighted Their Importance,” November 7, 2020, Network 1017 @ <https://www.facebook.com/network1017/videos/non-profit-organizations-and-how-2020-highlighted-their-importance-november-7-20/363026411623530/>
- 2020 Panelist: “Rabita 2020: The Arab American Arts Scene in New York,” October 14, 2020, Lebanese American University @ <https://youtu.be/tfMLCvYmns4>
- 2020 Panelist: “The Theatre Arts,” Muslim Network TV, Thursday, October 15, 2020 @ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRmaJ2IGIPs>
- 2020 Panel Chair: “A Conversation with MENA Theater Makers with Evren Odcikin, Jamil Khoury & Tracy Cameron Francis Moderated by Dr. Michael Najjar,” American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), Thursday, August 13, 2020 @ <https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=296530098102870&ref=search>
- 2020 Panel Chair: “Arab Women Center Stage: A Conversation with Four Pioneering Female Theatre Artists: Sahar Assaf, Hala Baki, Nagham Wehbe, and Fidaa Zidan,” Saturday, June 20, 2020. <http://www.network1017.com/arab-women-center-stage-a-conversation-with-four-pioneering-female-theatre-artists/>
- 2020 Panelist: “Pedagogy and Absence” with Hala Baki, Rana Esfandiary, Sarah Fahmy, Reza Mirsajadi, Marjan Moosavi, and Bart Pitchford at the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) 2020 Virtual Conference, July 24, 2020.
- 2019 Panelist: “Directing Praxis: Lou Bellamy, Diane Rodriguez, Michael Malek Najjar, Tammy Haili’ōpua Baker and Diane Roberts” at Pangea World Theatre, Minneapolis, Monday, July 15, 2019.
- 2019 Panelist: “Arab-American Theatre: An Overview of What is Happening Locally and Nationally” for the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival, Eugene, Oregon, September 26, 2019.
- 2018 Co-Lecturer (with Professor Dorothee Ostmeier): “Bertolt Brecht’s *Mother Courage*: Migration’s Alienations,” as part of the “Writing Migrations Conference” at the University of Oregon, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
- 2018 Co-Presenter: “Migration’s Alienations: Bertolt Brecht’s *Mother Courage*,” an academic/performance presentation with Dorothee Ostmeier at the Writing Migration Conference, University of Oregon, May 4, 2018. <https://cllas.uoregon.edu/tag/writing-migration-conference/>



- 2018 Panelist: "The Druze in Film and on the Theatrical Stage: Representations, Fictions, and Inventions" for The Druze Millennium: Celebrating a Thousand Years of Diversity Conference, the American University of Beirut, October 30 and 31, 2018. <https://youtu.be/6O9kfuDdfYI>
- 2018 Panelist: "The Border and Its Meaning: Forgotten Stories featuring Laila Lalami" for UO Center for the Study of Women in Society, Wednesday, April 25, 2018.
- 2017 Working Session Participant: "Representing Muslim Bodies" Working Session, American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR) National Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, Sunday, November 19, 2017.
- 2017 Panelist: "Amplifying Our Voices: Muslim & Middle Eastern American Theatre Artists Take Center Stage" panel, Portland Institute for Contemporary Art/BoomArts, Friday, June 9, 2017.
- 2016 Presenter: "Political Theatre in the Middle East." A public lecture with American University of Beirut Assistant Professor Sahar Assaf at The University of Oregon, May 27, 2016.
- 2016 Respondent: "Beyond Orientalism & West and Central Asian American Artists Keynote Address" panel, Consortium of Asian American Theaters & Artists (CAATA) "Seismic Shifts" Conference at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, October 1, 2016. <http://howlround.com/livestreaming-the-consortium-of-asian-american-theaters-artists-national-conference-festival-ashland>
- 2016 Panel Moderator: "Middle Eastern American Theatre: Genesis, Challenges, and the Future." A group panel discussion with Kathryn Haddad, Sevan K. Greene, Armina LaManna, Danny Bryck, and Leila Ghaznavi at University of Oregon Hope Theatre, September 30, 2016.
- 2016 Co-Chair: "Roundtable on Arab and Arab-American Theater." A roundtable discussion co-chaired with Jamil Khoury at the 2016 Middle East America Convening held at The Lark, New York City, May 18-19, 2016.
- 2016 Public Lecture: "Mind the Gap: Dramatizing the Space Between the Arab and the American." A public lecture delivered at the American University of Beirut, December 2, 2015.
- 2015 Presenter: "Yussef El Guindi's Arab Spring: Revolutions, Upheavals, and Critical Critiques." A conference paper presented at the Performance Studies International Conference, Beirut, Lebanon, December 5, 2015.
- 2014 Panel Chair: "Towards Arab American Theatre." Martin E. Segal Theatre Center, The City University of New York, December 2014.
- 2014 Panel Chair: "Re/Presenting the Arab World: Arab American Playwrights Bridging the Divide." Center for Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding, Queens College, New York, December 2014: [https://youtu.be/nH-Kst\\_ChbQ](https://youtu.be/nH-Kst_ChbQ)
- 2014 Panel Chair: "Arab American Playwrights: Michael Malek Najjar, Leila Buck, Lameece Issaq, Jacob Kader, and Jamil Khoury." RAWI+MIZNA 5<sup>th</sup> National Gathering, Minneapolis, September 2014.

- 2014 Presenter: "Reclaiming Arab American Theatre History: The Dramatic Works of Rihani, Gibran, and Naimy," a conference paper presented at the Comparative Drama Conference, Baltimore, MD, April 2014.
- 2012 Presenter: "Real" and "Fake" Arabs: Intra-Arab Conflict Among Arab-American Literati from Gibran to El Guindi," a conference paper presented at the Radius of Arab American Writers (RAWI) Conference, Arab American National Museum, Dearborn, MI, June 2012.
- 2010 Presenter: "War, the Hyperreal, and Its Bloody Consequences: Jonathan Holmes' *Fallujah* and Gregory Burke's *Black Watch*," a working session paper, the American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR) Conference, Seattle, WA, November 2010.
- 2010 Presenter: "Going It Alone: Arab American Drama and the Politics of Performance," presented at the Radius of Arab American Writers (RAWI) Conference, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, June 2010.
- 2010 Presenter: "Defying or Reifying Stereotypes: Jackie Salloum's *Planet of the Arabs*," presented at the Comparative Drama Conference, Culver City, CA, March 2010.
- 2010 Presenter: "Recasting Hollywood: Arab American Films and Filmmakers," presented at the Southwest/Texas Popular and American Cultures Association Conference, Albuquerque, NM February 2010.
- 2009 Participant: "Re-Patriotical Acts: Arab and Muslim American Playwrights Reclaiming Democracy," a working session paper presented at the American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR) Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, November 2009.
- 2009 Presenter: "(Mis)Representing Arabness: Transposing Wajdi Mouawad's *Littoral/Tideline* from Stage to Screen," presented at the Staging the Middle East Conference, University of California, Riverside, April 2009.
- 2008 Presenter: "Colonial and Post-Colonial Tragedies in British Occupied Egypt and American Occupied Iraq," presented at the Comparative Drama Conference, Culver City, CA, March 2008.

#### **Other**

- 2023 Arabic Language Consultant. Berkeley Repertory Theatre production of POTUS. August 28-September 1, 2023.
- 2022 Writer. National Institute for Directing and Ensemble Creation Peer Exchange & Writers' Laboratory, Minnesota, December 1-9, 2022.
- 2022 Facilitator: "Affinity Spaces: MENATMA/MENA Theater Makers Alliance," Tuesday, June 14, 2022. Theatre Communications Group (TCG) National Conference Hybrid, Pittsburgh @ <https://circle.tcg.org/2022pittsburgh/agenda/speakers>
- 2021 Facilitator: "NO SUMMARY: Bridging the Past to a New Era with Golden Thread Productions," Friday, May 28, 2021 @ <https://howlround.com/happenings/no-summary-bridging-past-new-era>

- 2021 Facilitator: "Empowered Spaces-a Panel Discussion with BIPOC Artists and Advocates," Thursday, July 22, 2021 @ <https://lanearts.org/roundtables/>
- 2020 Interviewee: "Arab American Performing Arts and Film," February 22, 2020, Network 1017 @ [https://www.podbean.com/media/share/pb-a3eqh-d47b06?utm\\_campaign=u\\_share\\_ep&utm\\_medium=dlink&utm\\_source=u\\_share](https://www.podbean.com/media/share/pb-a3eqh-d47b06?utm_campaign=u_share_ep&utm_medium=dlink&utm_source=u_share)
- 2019 Interviewee: "In-Dialogue: a Podcast Dedicated to the Lively Exchange of Ideas and Experiences." A nine-episode podcast with Co-Executive Artistic Director of Silk Road Rising, Summer 2019. <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/in-dialogue/id1531496079>
- 2019 Panel Organizer: "MENA in the Academy: How Can Academics and Practitioners Partner to Increase MENA Productions and Publications in Academia?" at the MENA Theatre Artists' Convening, ReOrient Festival 2019, Golden Thread in San Francisco, November 9, 2019.
- 2017 Co-Moderator: "Middle Eastern and Muslim American Theatre Artists: Now More Than Ever" Identity Affinity Group Session, Theatre Communications Group (TCG) National Conference, Thursday, June 8, 2017.
- 2015 "Love and Information: Directing and Performing Churchill in the Digital Age." An acting and directing workshop to be held at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon, December 3, 2015.

#### REVIEWS OF NAJJAR PUBLICATIONS

- 2022 Baki, Hala, "Michael Malek Najjar, *Middle Eastern American Theatre: Communities, Cultures, and Artists*" in *Modern Drama*, Vol. 65, No. 3, September: 459-462. <https://moderndrama.utpjournals.press/doi/abs/10.3138/md-65-3-br05>
- 2021 Mehdi Kimiagari, Mohammad, "Theater in the Middle East: Between Performance and Politics ed. by Babak Rahimi (review)" in *TDR: The Drama Review*, Vol. 65, No. 2, Summer 2021 (T250): 189-191. <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/795724>
- 2021 Payne, Detra, "Casting a Movement: The Welcome Table Initiative ed. by Claire Syler and Daniel Banks" in *Theatre Topics*, Vol. 31, No. 3, November 2021: 273-274. <https://doi.org/10.1353/tt.2021.0054>
- 2021 Moosavi, Marjan, "Theater in the Middle East: Between Performance and Politics, ed. by Babak Rahimi (review)" in *Modern Drama*, Vol. 64, No. 4, Winter 2021: 513-516. <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/841102>
- 2021 Baki, Hala, "Theater in the Middle East: Between Performance and Politics, ed. by Babak Rahimi (review)" in *Asian Theatre Journal*, Vol. 38, No. 2, Fall 2021: 601-603. <https://doi.org/10.1353/atj.2021.0042>
- 2021 Vorbeck, Collin, "Casting a Movement: The Welcome Table Initiative. Edited by Claire Syler and Daniel Banks," in *Theatre Research International*. 46: 1: 103-104. doi:10.1017/S0307883320000693
- 2021 Jaffe-Berg, Erith, "Casting a Movement: The Welcome Table Initiative," in *The Journal of American Drama and Theatre (JADT)*. Vol. 33, No. 2 (Spring 2021): 266-267. <https://jadjournal.org/2021/04/08/casting-a-movement-the-welcome-table-initiative/>

- 2020 Bergenstock, Marina J., "The Selected Works of Yussef El Guindi edited by Michael Malek Najjar," in *Ecumenica: Performance and Religion* (2020), Vol. 13, No. 2: 217-221. <http://www.ecumenicajournal.org/ecumenica-13-2/>
- 2020 Ibrahim, Areeg, "Review of the Selected Works of Yussef El Guindi edited by Michael Malek Najjar" in *Arab Stages*, Volume 12, <https://arabstages.org/2020/11/review-of-the-selected-works-of-yussef-el-guindi-edited-by-michael-malek-najjar/>
- 2018 Ali, Roaa, "Reviewed Work: Arab American Drama, Film, and Performance: A Critical Study, 1908 to the Present by Michael Malek Najjar" in *Ecumenica: Performance and Religion*, (2018), Vol. 11, No. 2: 79-81. [www.jstor.org/stable/10.5325/ecumenica.11.2.0079](http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.5325/ecumenica.11.2.0079)
- 2015 Ellis, Angele, "Ghostly Performances: Arab-American 'Otherness' and Haunted Stereotypes" in *Al Jadid: A Review & Record of Arab Culture and Arts*, Vol. 19, No. 69, 2015. <https://www.aljadid.com/content/ghostly-performances-arab-american-%E2%80%98otherness%E2%80%99-and-haunted-stereotypes>
- 2014 Freij, Maysoun, "Michael Malek Najjar, ed., *Four Arab American Plays: Works by Leila Buck, Jamil Khoury, Yussef El Guindi, and Lameece Issaq & Jacob Kader*," in *Mashriq & Mahjar: Journal of Middle East and North African Migration Studies*, Vol. 2, No. 2 (2014). <https://lebanesestudies.ojs.chass.ncsu.edu/index.php/mashriq/article/view/47>
- 2020 Qutait, Tasnim, "Review of Michael Malek Najjar: *Arab American Drama, Film and Performance: A Critical Study, 1908 to the Present*" in *Studia Neophilologica*, 87: sup 1, 136-137. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00393274.2015.1026143>
- 2020 Spearman, Peter, "The Selected Works of Yussef El Guindi" in *TDR: The Drama Review*, Vol. 64, No. 2, Summer 2020 (T246), [https://direct.mit.edu/dram/article/64/2%20\(246\)/185/96227/More-Books](https://direct.mit.edu/dram/article/64/2%20(246)/185/96227/More-Books)
- 2019 Wathington, Priscilla, "Cultural Criticism As Comedy in El Guindi's 'Selected Works'," in *Al Jadid: A Review & Record of Arab Culture and Arts*, Vol. 23, no. 76: 29. Print.
- 2016 Ziter, Edward, "Arab American Drama, Film and Performance: A Critical Study, 1908 to the Present by Michael Malek Najjar (review)," in *TDR: The Drama Review*, Volume 60, Number 4, Winter 2016 (T232), 167-169. <https://muse.jhu.edu/article/638838/pdf>

## TEACHING

### Courses

- HC 221H: Middle Eastern American Theatre (W 21)
- TA 199: College Connections (F 14)
- TA 324: Production (S 14 W 15)
- TA 325: Performance (S 12, W 13, W 14, S 14, F 14, W 16)
- TA 364: Play Direction (S 16, S 18, S24)
- TA 367: Theatre History I (F 11, F12, F 14, F 15, F 19, F 21, F22, F23, F24)
- TA 369: Theatre History III (S 11, S 12, S 14, S 15, S 20, S 21, S 22, S23, S24, S25)
- TA 403H: Thesis (S 15)
- TA 490: Playwriting (F 13, F 14, F 15, F 18, F 19, F 20)

- TA 470: Theatre Futures (F 11, F 12, W 13, W 19)
- TA 472: Arab American Theatre (W 12, S 14)
- TA 472: Israeli-Palestinian Theatre (F 18)
- TA 472: Middle Eastern Theatre (S 16, S 18)
- TA 472: Theatre of Exile (W 13)
- TA 472: Minority Theatre (W 21)
- TA 490: Playwriting (W 24, F23, F24)
- TA 490: Dramaturgy (W 22)
- TA 510: Advanced Playwriting (W 15, W18)
- TA 572: Arab American Theatre (W 12, S 14)
- TA 572: Middle Eastern Theatre (S 16)
- TA 572: Theatre of Exile (W 13)
- TA 572: Minority Theatre (W 22)
- TA 601: Research (W 14)
- TA 603: Dissertation (W 14, S 14, W 15, S 15, F 15)
- TA 607: Intercultural Theatre (S 12, W 14, W 16, W 18, W20)
- TA 607: Theatre Historiography (S 13)
- TA 609: Practicum (W 13, W 14, F 15)
- TA 651: Theatre Historiography (S 15)

#### Doctoral Dissertation Committees

Active	Joseph Rondeau, School of Music and Dance, PhD, in-progress (Core Member)
Active	Peyman Shams, Theatre Arts, PhD, in-progress (Chairperson)
2024	Anna Dulba-Barnett, Theatre Arts, PhD (Core Member) [graduated]
2023	Daniel Daly, Music Composition, PhD (Institutional Representative) [graduated]
2021	Waylon Lenk, Theatre Arts, PhD (Chairperson) [graduated]
2020	Zeina Salame, Theatre Arts, PhD (Co-Chairperson) [graduated]
2019	Jessica Rogers, Theatre Arts, PhD, (Chairperson) [graduated]
2019	Olga Sanchez Saltveit, Theatre Arts, PhD (Core Member) [graduated]
2018	Michelle Yeadon, Theatre Arts, PhD, (Chairperson) [graduated]
2014	Tricia Rodley, Theatre Arts, PhD (Core Member) [graduated]
2013	Kathleen Thomas, Theatre Arts, PhD (Core Member) [graduated]

#### Masters Thesis Committees

2021	Mica Pointer, Theatre Arts, MA (Chairperson) [graduated]
2017	Joze Moreno Pelayo, International Studies, MA (Committee Member) [graduated]
2015	Leslie Gray, Theatre Arts, MA (Committee Member) [2014-2015]
2012	Christine Madzik, Theatre Arts, MA (Committee Member) [2011-2012]

#### Honors College Faculty Advisor

2024	Ethan Kemper, "The First Lebanese Diaspora" (in progress).
2023	Fausto Corral, "The Love de una madre: a Play on Bilingualism in American Theatre."
2020	Jessica Jaszewski, "Four Encounters: An Exploration of <i>Los Vendidos</i> ."
2020	Alex Mentzel, "Rehearsing the Revolution: Franz Kafka's Minor Literature and the 'Other' Bertolt Brecht in an Original Translation and Anti-Authoritarian Adaptation of Kafka's <i>The Trial</i> ."
2019	Cosette Adamson, "Critical Theory of Theatre: On Risk Taking and Socially Active Theatre." (Passed with Honors)

- 2018 Kelsey Tidball, "Documentary and Verbatim Theatre: The Practice and Performance of Non-Fiction Drama." (Passed with Distinction)
- 2016 Nick Maurer, "The Abject in Science Fiction Theatre and *Marked: A Play in Two Acts.*" 2016. (Passed with Distinction)
- 2015 Ariella Wolfe, "The Western Genre and Gun Violence in United States Culture: Using Theatre as a Laboratory for Social Critique." 2015. (Passed with Distinction)
- 2015 Grant Thackray, "Apartment 111: A Play About Our Culture's Oldest Imaginal Guardians." 2015. (Passed With Distinction)
- 2014 Michael Sugar, "Learning to Direct a Play: An Applied Investigation of Play-Script Analysis and Foundational Directing Techniques." 2014. (Passed with Distinction)

### PREVIOUS TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2004-2007 **Portland Community College**, Portland, OR Chair, Theatre Arts  
Served as the main acting/directing/playwriting instructor.  
Directed two of the three mainstage productions for the college.  
Hired directors for the theatrical season.  
Oversaw the five-year accreditation for the department.  
Directed and toured a production to all three of the PCC Portland campuses.
- 2001-2003 **Mt. San Antonio College**, Walnut, CA Adjunct Instructor of Theatre Arts  
Instructor of Theatre History and Acting classes.  
Directed several mainstage productions for the college.
- 1999-2006 **Bend Theatre for Young People**, Bend, OR Instructor/Director—High School Campus  
Oversaw the high school campus, curriculum, and taught acting classes.  
Directed multiple productions during the summer seasons.  
Assisted Artistic Director Gary Bowne with the day-to-day operations of the summer conservatory.

### RELATED EXPERIENCE

- 2007-Present **Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival** Respondent  
Volunteer respondent for the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival.  
Responded to plays and musicals in Portland and Eugene.  
Attend plays, provide verbal and written responses, and nominate students for regional and national festivals.
- 1992-1997 **Riverside Repertory Theater/Tricklock Company** Founding Artistic Director  
Founded theatre company and directed the first five years of growth.  
In charge of choosing seasons, budgeting, educational outreach programs.  
Director, designer, and actor, mainstage productions.

### SYMPOSIUMS/OBSERVERSHIPS

- 2002 "Building the American Musical" SSDC Symposium, New York City, New York.
- 2003 Television Directing Observership with James Burrows, *Will & Grace*, KoMut Entertainment, Los Angeles, California in coordination with the Society of Stage Directors & Choreographers (SDC).

### UNIVERSITY OF OREGON SERVICE AFFILIATIONS

- 2023-2024 Committee for Organizing Educational Events on Current Crisis in the Middle East.
- 2022-2023 Diversity Committee Chair, Theatre Arts.

- 2022 Reviewer: "Reclaiming our Time IDEAL Grants: COVID19 Recovery Awards," University of Oregon Division of Equity and Inclusion.
- 2011-Present Theatre Arts Department: Regular participation in season selection, policy revision, search committees (since 2011), New Voices Student Playwright Coordinator (2015, 2016, 2020).
- 2020 Graduate Diversity Council (2020-Present).
- 2017-2019 Library Committee (2017-2019).
- 2016-2019 Transforming Education Design Team (trED) (2016-2019)
- 2011-Present Member: Arabic Program Advisory Committee (2011-Present)
- 2011-Present Participating Faculty: Ethnic Studies
- 2012-Present Freshman Interest Group Faculty (2012-2017)
- 2011-2017 Member: Canadian Studies @ UO (2011-2017)

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2018-Present Steering Committee Member, Middle Eastern/North African American Theatre Makers Alliance (MENATMA), 2018-Present. Nominated. ([www.menatheatre.org](http://www.menatheatre.org))
- 2014-2021 Advisory Board, *Arab Stages*, Martin E. Segal Theatre Center of New York/Arabic Theatre Working Group of the International Federation for Theatre Research. Nominated. (<http://www.arabstages.org/>)
- 2016-2019 Advisory Board, New Arab American Theatre Works, Minneapolis, MN. Nominated. (<http://www.newarabamericantheaterworks.org/>)

### COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2023 Voluntary Peer Reviewer, Bloomsbury/Methuen Drama.
- 2023 Voluntary Peer Reviewer, *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History*.
- 2020 Voluntary Peer Reviewer, *Modern Drama*, July 2020.
- 2019 Volunteer: Director, *Pilgrims Musa and Sheri in the New World*, a fully staged production, Minority Voices Theatre at the Very Little Theatre, February 2019.
- 2019 Volunteer: Reader/actor for Khalil role, *We Are Neighbors*, a touring play, Community Alliance of Lane County (CALC): May 7 and June 5, 2019.
- 2018 Volunteer: Director, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, Far Horizons Montessori, Eugene, Oregon.

### PRIOR AND CURRENT PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)  
 Arab American Studies Association (AASA)  
 American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR)  
 Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC)  
 Dramatists Guild (DG)

### LANGUAGES

Arabic-Eastern Arabic/Levantine dialect, Modern Standard Arabic.