

Curriculum Vitae

Thomas C.J. Prior

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*Associate Chair / Associate Professor
Department of Theatre and Dance
College of Fine Arts & Mass Communication
Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas*

Degrees Earned

M.F.A., Acting / Directing, University of Houston
Houston, Texas. May 2000
3.96 Cumulative GPA

B.F.A., Acting / Musical Theatre Carnegie-Mellon University
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. May 1988
Graduated Cum Laude

Peer-Review Artistic Performances

Directing

Sam Houston State University, 2004-present

Dead Man's Cell Phone by Sarah Ruhl (KC-ACTF entry)-October 2010
Eurydice by Sarah Ruhl (KCACTF Participating Production)-October 2009
Angels in America: Millennium Approaches by Tony Kushner-February 2008
Cloud Nine by Caryl Churchill-May 2007
South Pacific by Rogers and Hammerstein-May 2006
The Exonerated by Jensen and Blank (KC-ACTF entry)-October 2005
Angels in America (Part 1 & 2) as a class project-April 2004

Honors and Awards

KCACTF Meritorious Achievement Awards and Citations

KCACTF Region VI Participating Production: *Eurydice*, 2009
Excellence in Directing, *Eurydice*, 2009
Excellence in Directing, *The Exonerated*, 2005

Houston Press Best Actor Award for work in *Syncopation*, 2003
Stages Repertory Theatre

Robert Bullard Scholarship, 2001
Department of Theatre and Dance, University of Houston

Work or Professional Experience

Associate Professor, Sam Houston State University

Department of Theatre & Dance, Huntsville, Texas
Granted Tenure September 1, 2011
September 2011-present

Associate Chair, Sam Houston State University

Department of Theatre & Dance, Huntsville, Texas
September 2010-present

Assistant Professor, Sam Houston State University

Department of Theatre and Dance, Huntsville, Texas
September 2005-August 2011

Term Appointments

Visiting Assistant Professor, Sam Houston State University

Department of Theatre and Dance, Huntsville, Texas
August 2004-May 2005 (1-year appointment)

Adjunct Teaching

Adjunct Instructor, Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, Texas
August 2003-May 2004

Adjunct Instructor, University of Houston Main Campus
Houston, Texas
January 1999-May 2004

Courses Taught

Acting

Acting 1, Sam Houston State University

Acting 1, University of Houston

Acting 2, University of Houston

Acting 3, Sam Houston State University (course covering Anton Chekhov and Tennessee Williams)

Acting 4, Sam Houston State University (course covering Shakespeare)

Advanced Acting, Sam Houston State University (course focusing on Harold Pinter)

Advanced Acting, Sam Houston State University (course focusing on Caryl Churchill, culminating in a workshop production of *Cloud Nine*)

Acting for the Camera, Sam Houston State University

Auditioning for the Commercial Theatre, Sam Houston State University

Theatre Speech I, Sam Houston State University

Theatre Speech 2, Sam Houston State University

Theory and Criticism

Dramatic Theory and Criticism, Sam Houston State University

Dramatic Structures and Genres, University of Houston

Other

Introduction to the Theatre, University of Houston. 4 semesters--Course for non-majors. Course with over 400 students, involved organizing lectures, tests and overseeing 10 graduate teaching assistants.

Sound Design

Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX – *Eurydice*---worked with composer Brian Herrington on original music for the piece. Took all the raw footage and put much of it through effects with Josh Fehrman, a student sound designer / composer.

Kennedy Center / American College Theatre Festival

Irene Ryan Coach, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX – January & February 2010
Coached 25 students in monologue, song and scene choices at the Region VI KCACTF Festival in Amarillo, TX

Irene Ryan Respondent, KCACTF Region VI Festival, Amarillo Community College, Amarillo, TX, February 2010

Irene Ryan Respondent, KCACTF Region VI Festival, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, February, 2008

Acting Experience

Classical Theatre Company, Houston, TX – *Triumph of Love* – Hermocrate, August and September 2011

Prague Shakespeare Festival in conjunction with Classical Theatre Company (both in Prague, Czech Republic and Houston TX) March-June 2011

King Lear – Earl of Gloucester

As You Like It – Touchstone

Classical Theatre Company, Houston, TX – *Candida* – James Morell, January and February 2011

Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX – *Panto Pinocchio* – Master Lear, October-December 2010

Lanfour Productions, Houston, TX & Dallas, TX – *Becoming Kinky: The Life of Kinky Friedman* – Kinky #3, July and November 2010 Kinky Friedman attended both staged readings.

Houston Shakespeare Festival, Houston, TX – *A Midsummer Night's Dream* – Peter Quince, July-August 2010

Houston Shakespeare Festival, Houston, TX – *Much Ado about Nothing* – Don Pedro, July & August 2010

Classical Theatre Company, Houston, TX – *Tartuffe*--- Tartuffe, April 2010

Unity Theatre, Brenham, TX – *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*---Mr. Potter, et al, December 2009

Houston Shakespeare Festival, Houston, TX---*Twelfth Night*---Antonio, July and August 2009

Houston Shakespeare Festival, Houston, TX ---*Pericles*---Cleon, July and August 2009

General Electric Company – National Commercial – “customer at truck dealership,” June 2009

Classical Theatre Company, Houston, TX---*Antigone*---Tiresias / Chorus Member, April and May 2009

Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX---*Panto Cinderella*---King, November and December 2008

Classical Theatre Company, Houston, TX---*Shylock: the Jew of Venice*---Prisoner #A6202, September and October 2008

Musiqa, Houston, TX---*Inner Voices: An Evening of Music and Craig Wright* – The Hobby Center of the Performing Arts, Zilkha Hall, March 2008 One of two actors performing with the orchestra

Houston Shakespeare Festival, Houston, TX---*Cymbeline*---Pisano, July and August 2008

Houston Shakespeare Festival, Houston, TX---*Julius Caesar*---Cicero / Metellus Cimber, July and August 2008

Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX---*Five-Course Love*---Man 1 (played five characters in this piece), November and December 2007

Houston Shakespeare Festival, Houston, TX---*Love's Labour's Lost*---Costard, July and August 2007

Houston Shakespeare Festival, Houston, TX---*Romeo and Juliet*---Lord Capulet, July and August 2007

Theatre Under the Stars, Houston, TX---*110 in the Shade*---Town Preacher, May 2006

Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX---*Searching for Eden*---Adam, March and April 2006

Houston Shakespeare Festival, Houston, TX---*As You Like It*---Jacques, July and August 2005

Houston Shakespeare Festival, Houston, TX---*Hamlet*---The Ghost, July and August 2005

AD Players, Houston, TX---*Sanders' Family Christmas*---Burl Sanders, October-December 2004

Main Street Theater, Houston, TX---*Copenhagen*---Werner Heisenberg, April 2004

Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX---*Spitfire Grill*---Caleb, November and December 2004

Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX---*I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* – Man 2, June-August 2004

Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX---*Convenience*---Abe, April and May 2004

Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX---*Syncope*---Henry Ribelow, January and February 2003 (Houston Press Best Actor of 2003 Award)

Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX---*Romance, Romance*---Alfred / Sam, November and December 2002

Main Street Theater, Houston, TX---*The Three Cornered Hat*---Miller Lucas, April 2002

VH1 Productions – *Warning: Parental Advisory*--- – Senator Sam’s aide-- Director: Mark Waters, May 2002

Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX---*Elizabeth Rex*---William Shakespeare, September and October 2001

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Earnest in Love* – Jack Worthing, August 2001

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *The Hollow*--Sir Henry Angkatell, August 2001

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Schippel the Plumber* – Wolke, July 2001

Pastorini Bosby Talent, Houston, TX – Industrial film for Service Corporation International – played a caretaker at the Woodlawn Memorial Cemetery in the Woodlands. This was a series of films for the company. April 2001-April 2002

AD Players, Houston, TX---*Sanders’ Family Christmas*---Burl Sanders, November and December, 2001

Alley Theatre / University of Houston, Houston, TX---*All My Sons*---George Deever, February 2000

University of Houston School of Theatre, Houston, TX – *Threepenny Opera* – Mr. Peachum, January, 1999

University of Houston School of Theatre, Houston, TX – three years of **Stuart Ostrow’s Musical Theatre Collaboration** class. September 1998-May 2001. Works: *Looking West, Better Being Bad, A Tree Grows in Brooklyn, The Three Cornered Hat*. We took *Better Being Bad* to the Minneapolis Fringe Festival, Minneapolis, Minnesota, April 2000.

Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX – *Company* – David, October-December 1999

Pastorini Bosby Talent Agency, Houston, TX – series of voice over spots for Memorial City Mall, September, 1999

Pastorini Bosby Talent Agency, Houston, TX – a series of voice over spots for the Houston Aeros, August 1999

A.D. Players, Houston, TX – *The Importance of Being Earnest* – John (with Jeanette Clift George as Lady Bracknell), July and August, 1999

Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX – *The Memory of Water* – Frank, April and May 1998

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *I Do, I Do* – Michael, August 1998

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH---*Deathtrap* – Clifford, July 1998

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Death of a Salesman* – Biff, July 1998

A.D. Players, Houston, TX – *The Winslow Boy* – Sir Robert Morton, December 1998

A.D. Players, Houston, TX – *Sander's Family Christmas* – Burl, October-December 1997

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Verdict* – Lester Cole, August 1997

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Lend Me a Tenor* – Max, July 1997

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *The Hound of the Baskervilles* – Sir Henry, July 1996

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Toward Zero* – Teddy Latimer, July 1996

A.D. Players, Houston, TX – *Tent Meeting* – Joe, September 1996

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *The Fantasticks* – Matt, August 1995

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Tobacco Road* – Dude, July 1995

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Three Sisters* – Tusenbach, July 1995

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* – Linus, July 1994

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Merton of the Movies* – Merton, July 1994

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Silent Night, Lonely Night* – Young John, July 1994

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Night Must Fall* – Danny, July 1993

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Kind Lady* – Henry Abbott, July 1993

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH, *June Moon*, Fred, August 1992

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *And a Nightingale Sang*, George, July 1992

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *The Seagull* – Trepleff, July 1992

The Axiom Theatre Group, New York, NY – *Three Sisters* – Tusenbach, January 1992

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Earnest in Love* – Jack Worthing, August 1992

The Daytona Beach Theatre, Daytona Beach, FL – *Endgame* – Nagg, February 1992

Tristar Pictures, New York, NY – *Manhattan Murder Mystery* – Antiques Vendor (director Woody Allen), July 1992

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Witness for the Prosecution* – Leonard Vole, August 1991

Paramount Pictures – *Regarding Henry* (director Mike Nichols) Police Officer, July 1991

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – *Da* – Young Charlie, August 1990

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH—*Philadelphia, Here I Come!*--Public Gar, August 1989

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH—*Playboy of the Western World*—Christy Mahon, July 1989

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH—*Arsenic and Old Lace*—Mortimer, July 1989

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH—*Idiot's Delight*—Mr. Cherry, August 1988

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH—*The Pursuit of Happiness*—Max, July 1988

NBC Television, New York, NY—*Law & Order*—various jury members, police officers—September 1988-September 1990

CBS Television, New York, NY—*Kojak*—a priest—June 1988

Workshops Given:

Young Actors' Conservatory, Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX—*Song Audition Technique*—July 2011

Young Actors' Conservatory, Stages Repertory Theatre, Houston, TX—*Song Audition Technique*—July 2010

UIL Masterclass, Theatre Under the Stars, Houston, TX---*Advice on Directing High School Productions*—May 2010

Kennedy Center / American Theatre Festival Region VI Festival, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX—*The Art of Cold Reading Technique in Auditions*, October 2008

UIL Superconference, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX -*Breaking Apart a Monologue*—April 2007

Workshops Taken:

The Actor's Center, Teacher Development Workshop---Baruch Performing Arts Center, New York, NY June 2010. One of twelve people chosen nationwide to take part in a two week intensive with three internationally acclaimed master teachers / practitioners in the acting field. Learned new techniques and insight for the classroom.

Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX—*New Techniques for Enhanced Writing in the Classroom*—June 2009. Learned new methods to infuse enhanced writing assignments in current classes.

Kennedy Center / American Theatre Festival Region VI Festival, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX—*Finding your Inner Clown*---workshop geared toward clown work / physical theatre, October 2008

Michael York Workshop—Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, October 2007

University of Houston Department of Theatre, Houston, TX---*Playwrighting workshop with Edward Albee*, April 2000

University of Houston Department of Theatre, Houston, TX—*An Actor's Approach to Shakespeare*—this workshop was taught by Sir Peter Hall, founder and former Artistic Director of the Royal Shakespeare Company, January-May 2000

Committees

Chair, College of Fine Arts & Mass Communication Curriculum Committee, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas – Appointed by Interim Dean Dana Nicolay January 2011-present.

University Curriculum Committee, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas-Appointed by Provost Payne for a three year term September 2010-2013

College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee , Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas-Appointed September 2010 through 2015

Career Services Advisory Board, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas-September 2008 through 2011.

Department of Theatre, Scholarship Committee, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas-September 2005 through the present

Department of Theatre, Gala Committee, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas-August & September 2008

Other Work Experiences

Shell Oil Company, Houston, TX---Legal Department Information Technology Assistant. May 2002-August 2004. Assisted with the deployment of new computers and software integration on the Shell computer network. Was also in charge of the computer inventory.

The Brownstone Restaurant, Houston, TX---Was a fine dining waiter there from September 1993-August 1998. Promoted to party / function headwaiter, in charge of 10-15 other employees.

Professional Affiliations

Houston Arts Alliance Panelist, Houston, TX—June 2011-July 2012 Recently appointed to this panel. We will be reviewing grant applications in our discipline from the following categories: *Touring & Neighborhood Arts Program, Individual Artist Grants or General Operating Support/Arts Project Grants.*

Classical Theatre Company, Houston, TX—Internship Coordinator, August 2011-present

Classical Theatre Company, Houston, TX—Acting Company Member, September 2009-present

Actors' Equity Association, 1988-present

Actors' Equity Liaison Committee, Houston, TX 2003-2005

Screen Actors' Guild, 1989-present

Theatre Communications Group, 2000-present

Pastorini-Bosby Talent Agency---contracted actor – September 1995 to the present

The Barnstormers Theatre, Tamworth, NH – Acting Company Member, July 1988-August 2001

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, University of Houston, 2001

Other Competencies

Computer Software Proficiencies

Adobe: Photoshop

Microsoft: Word, Excel, and PowerPoint

Other: Audacity

Music

Piano, Guitar, Mandolin, Trombone

Sight-singing