

James Palmer
Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION

- 2016 MFA, Brown University/Trinity Repertory Company: Directing
Studied with Brian Mertis, Melissa Kievman, Vivienne Benesch, Marcus
Gardley, Thom Jones, Shura Baryshnikov, Brian McEleney, Daniel Stein,
Deborah Salem-Smith
- 2004 BA, Simpson College: Acting
Studied with Jennifer Nostrala, Tom Woldt, Kevin Gudhal, Steve McClean

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

2019–2022

Artistic Advisory Board, The Coop Theatre

Provided strategic guidance on season planning, artist development, and equity practices for a New York-based company focused on new work and inclusive storytelling.

2005–2013

Producing Artistic Director, Red Tape Theatre (Chicago)

Led all artistic and organizational operations for this critically acclaimed storefront theatre. Produced 30+ productions, fostered a resident ensemble of artists, earned multiple Joseph Jefferson Awards, and significantly grew the company's profile and budget.

2007–2012

Executive Assistant to Martha Lavey, Steppenwolf Theatre Company

Supported the Artistic Director of one of America's leading ensemble theatres. Facilitated communications with ensemble members, staff, board members, donors, and guest artists. Assisted with artistic programming and special initiatives, including the Public Square Project.

2009–2013

Trustee, The League of Chicago Theatres

Helped advocate for funding and policy support for the city's theatre ecosystem, with a focus on access and resource equity for small-to-mid-sized companies.

2009–2013

Vestry Member, St. Peter's Episcopal Church

Led cultural programming and community engagement initiatives, emphasizing social justice and intergenerational inclusion.

2012–2013

Committee Member, Lakeview Theatre District

Worked to strengthen relationships among neighborhood theaters and promote shared marketing and infrastructure.

2009

Committee Member, Theatre Communications Group (TCG)

Participated in national conversations around ensemble practice and field-wide equity initiatives.

2009

Committee Member, Chicago Storefront Summit

Co-organized this citywide convening for independent theatre-makers to share resources and strategies for sustainability.

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTING

2025 *Fool's Paradise* by Jonathan Winn, Thrown Stone

2024 *Henry V* by William Shakespeare, Theater Alaska
A View From The Bridge, by Arthur Miller, Long Wharf Theatre

2023 *Click!*, by Drew Pissarra, The Tank
King John, by William Shakespeare, Waterwell Drama Program

2022 *The Love of the Nightingale*, by Timberlake Wertenbaker, Waterwell Drama

2021 *Romeo and Juliet*, by William Shakespeare, the Texas Shakespeare Festival
Antony and Cleopatra, by William Shakespeare, Waterwell Drama Program
Wild Home, by Gwen Kingston, NOTCH Theatre

2020 *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare, the Gallery Players
The Tempest, by William Shakespeare, Waterwell Drama Program

2019 *The Tempest*, by William Shakespeare, the Gallery Players
and the swan, by Patricia Black and James Palmer, Atelier 86

2018 *King John*, by William Shakespeare, The Texas Shakespeare Festival

2017 *Julius Caesar*, by William Shakespeare, the Gallery Players
In The Open, by Mona Mansour, Waterwell Drama Program

2016 *A Christmas Carol*, adapted by James Palmer, Trinity Repertory Company
Grief, by Craig Lucas, The Drama League Director Fest

2015 *Bratton Late Night Cabaret*, 2015 Acting Ensemble, Chautauqua Theatre Co.
Church, by Young Jean Lee, Chautauqua Theatre Co.
Red Meat, by Anne Carson, Chautauqua Institute

2014 *Neighbors*, by Lee Osorio, Romp of Otters Theatre

2013 *Conversation Storm*, by Rick Burkhardt, Romp of Otters Theatre
Lear, by Young Jean Lee, Red Tape Theatre
The Thief and his Master, by Greg Allen, First Floor Theatre
BarackObama.com, by Mat Smart, American Theatre Company

- 2012 *Ruby Wilder*, by Brooke Allen, Tympanic Theatre Company
Elephant's Graveyard by George Brant, Red Tape Theatre
Gingerbread House, by Mark Schultz, Red Tape Theatre
Blue Planet, by Andri Snaer Magnason, Akvavit Theatre
- 2011 *Pullman, WA*, by Young Jean Lee, Red Tape Theatre
Church, by Young Jean Lee, Red Tape Theatre
Dibs, by Adrienne Dawes, American Theatre Company
- 2010 *The Love of the Nightingale* by Timberlake Wertenbaker, Red Tape Theatre
Fixed Standard of Conduct by Michael Rychlewski, Chicago Dramatists
Moments of Truth, by A. Zell Williams, American Theatre Company
- 2009 *Enemy of the People*, adapted by Robert Oakes, Red Tape Theatre
- 2008 *Dog in a Manger*, adapted by James Palmer, Red Tape Theatre
Pugilist Specialist, by Adriano Shaplin, Chicago Cultural Center
- 2007 *Endgame*, by Samuel Beckett, Red Tape Theatre
Coriolanus, by William Shakespeare, Red Tape Theatre
- 2006 *Baden Lehrstück*, by Bertolt Brecht, Red Tape Theatre

PRODUCING

- 2024 *Play on!* By Rick Abbot, Manhattan Youth
Cats for Change by Diane Exavier, Waterwell Drama Program
- 2023 *Be More Chill* by Joe Track and Joe Iconis, Waterwell Drama Program
Mad Forest, by Caryl Churchill, Waterwell Drama Program
- 2022 *Roe*, by Lisa Loomer, Waterwell Drama Program
- 2021 *Indecent* by Paula Vogel, Waterwell Drama Program
- 2013 *Stadium Devildare*, by Ruth Margraff, Red Tape Theatre
- 2012 *The Skriker*, by Caryl Churchill, Red Tape Theatre
The Fresh Eyes Project 2012, by Lindsey Barlag, Elizabeth Lovelady, and Dan Caffrey, Red Tape Theatre
- 2011 *Brand*, by Henrik Ibsen, Red Tape Theatre
Tragedy: A Tragedy, by Will Eno, Red Tape Theatre
The Fresh Eyes Project 2011, by Martín Zimmerman, Aaron Weissman, and Nicholas Bailey, Red Tape Theatre
- 2010 *Obscura*, by Jennifer Barclay, Red Tape Theatre
Prom Night, by Les Enfants Terribles, Red Tape Theatre
The Fresh Eyes Project 2010, by Caitlin Parish and Cory Tamler, Red Tape Theatre

2009 *Mouse in a Jar*, by Martina Majok, Red Tape Theatre
The Fresh Eyes Project 2009, by Paul Miller, Red Tape Theatre

HONORS AND AWARDS

2024 Connecticut Critics Circle Awards, *A View From the Bridge*.
Winner: Best Direction of a Play, Outstanding Play, Scenic Design.
Nominations: Actor in a Play (Dominic Fumusa), Actress in a Play (Annie
Parisse), Featured Actor, Featured Actress, Lighting Design, Sound
Design.

2019 Manhattan Theatre Club Directing Fellowship

2016 The Drama League New York Directing Fellowship
Stage Directors and Choreographers Observership

2015 Chautauqua Theatre Company Fellowship

2012 Joseph Jefferson Awards, *Elephant's Graveyard*. Winner: Original
Incidental Music.

2010 Joseph Jefferson Awards, *The Love of the Nightingale*. Winner: Best
Director. Nominations: Best Production, Best Sound Design, Best
Choreography, Best Fight Choreography.

READINGS AND DEVELOPMENTAL WORKSHOPS

2025 *Eddie Project* by James Palmer, Broken Horn NYC

2019 *Madre Nostra* by Susan Reimer-Torn, MSJP Creative
and the swan by Patricia Black and James Palmer, The Coop Theatre

2018 *Hen42* by Chana Porter, MSJP Creative
Mrs. Polska, by Ken Prestininzi, New Dramatists

2017 *The Daughter of Time* by M. Kilburg Reedy, Playroom Theatre
Orestes at Delphi, by Griffin Sharps, MSJP Creative
Speak!, by Chana Porter, MSJP Creative
The Becoming, by Trent Reznor, BTU Director's Lab

2014 *Low Year*, by Griffin Sharps, Playwright's Rep

2013 *Neighbors*, by Lee Osorio, Brown University
Madame Barker, by Brooke Allen, Red Tape Theatre

2011 *Ask Aunt Susan*, by Seth Bockley, Goodman Theatre

ASSISTANT DIRECTING

- 2017 *Napoli, Brooklyn*, Director Gordon Edelstein, Roundabout Theatre
- 2016 *Meteor Shower*, Director Gordon Edelstein, Long Wharf Theatre
Meteor Shower, Director Gordon Edelstein, The Old Globe
- 2015 *The Heidi Chronicles*, Director Vivienne Benesch, Trinity Repertory Company
Prometheus Bound, Director Brian Mertes, Brown University/ Trinity Repertory
Christmas Carol, Director Curt Columbus, Trinity Repertory Company
Henry V, Director Evan Cabnet, Chautauqua Theatre Company
Our Town, Director Paul Mullins, Chautauqua Theatre Company
The Engine of our Ruin, Director Ethan McSweeney, Chautauqua Theatre Co
- 2014 *Intimate Apparel*, Director Janet Duclos, Trinity Repertory Company
- 2013 *The Birthday Party*, Director Austin Pendleton, Steppenwolf Theatre Company

COLLEGE TEACHING

Brooklyn College Department of Theater

MFA Directing - Thesis Advisor (Fall 2025, Spring 2026)

Adelphi University

BFA Acting - Psychological Acting II (Fall 2025)

Manhattanville University

Acting II: Scene Study (Fall 2026)

Acting I: Scene Study (Fall 2026)

Voice and Speech I (Spring 2025, Spring 2026)

Directing I (Spring 2025, Spring 2026)

Fordham University Theatre Program

Senior Audition II (Spring 2025, Spring 2024, Spring 2023, Spring 2022, Spring 2021, Spring 2020)

NYU Tisch School of the Arts Meisner Studio

Devised Theatre Techniques (Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Fall 2018)

NYU Tisch School of the Arts - Playwrights Horizons Theater School

Advanced Production Lab - Directing (Spring 2018)

OTHER TEACHING

The Professional Performing Arts School NYC

Design and Production Elective (Spring 2024, Fall 2023)

Acting III (Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2018, Fall 2017)

Acting I (Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2022, Fall 2021, Spring 2021, Fall 2020, Spring 2018)

Acting II (Spring 2020, Fall 2019)

Voice and Speech II (Fall 2017, Spring 2016)

Voice and Speech I (Fall 2017, Spring 2016)

Trinity Repertory Company - Young Adult Summer Institute
Acting (Summer 2014)

Brown University / Trinity Repertory Company
Highschool Shakespeare Intensive (Fall 2014)

Red Tape Theatre Company
View Points for Actors (2005 to 2010)

COLLEGE DIRECTING

2025	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> by James Maxwell	SUNY Purchase BFA
2023	<i>Heroes of the Fourth Turning</i> , by Will Arbery	SUNY Purchase BFA
2022	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i> , by Kate Hamill	FSU/Asolo Conservatory MFA
2021	<i>Passage</i> by Christopher Chen	SUNY Purchase BFA
2020	<i>274 Days</i> , by NYU Meisner 3rd Year Students	NYU Meisner Studio BFA
2019	<i>Bibles and Candy</i> , by Dorothy Fortenberry	SUNY Purchase BFA
2018	<i>This New Now</i> , by Mona Mansour	NYU Meisner Studio BFA
	<i>The Young</i> , by Kevin MacLean	Fordham/Primary Stages MFA
	<i>Arcadia</i> , by Tom Stoppard	FSU/Asolo Conservatory MFA
2017	<i>Julius Caesar</i> , by William Shakespeare	FSU/Asolo Conservatory MFA
2016	<i>These Seven Sicknesses</i> , by Sean Graney	Brown University MFA
2015	<i>Look Back in Anger</i> , by John Osborne	Brown University MFA
	<i>Above the Noise</i> , by Rick Burkhardt	Brown University MFA
2014	<i>Hamlet</i> , by William Shakespeare	Brown University MFA
	<i>Rocket to the Moon</i> , by Clifford Odets	Brown University MFA
	<i>The Panels</i> , by Rick Burkhardt	Brown University MFA

OTHER TRAINING

2021	Text Analysis for Directors with Sarah Wansley
2020	Art Equity: Everyday Justice - Antiracism as a Daily Practice Fordham University
2020	Be The Change: Becoming an Antiracist Organization Professional Performing Arts School and Waterwell Theater
2010	Genres Master Class with Zeljko Djukic, Artistic Director TUTUA Theatre
2008	Directors Lab Chicago with Garry Griffin, Thomas Riccio and Blair Thomas