



Branislav Jakovljević

Sara Hart Kimball Professor of the Humanities

Theater and Performance Studies

Bio

BIO

My research is highly interdisciplinary. I find it very rewarding to study performance in the context of visual arts, film and digital media, literature and poetry, critical theory, as well as larger social and historical processes. Most recently, I have been focusing on climate change and environmental justice, which led me to an interest in cultural policies and funding for the arts in the US.

My most recent monograph in English is *Alienation Effects: Performance and Self-Management in Yugoslavia 1945-1991* (University of Michigan Press, 2016) which received the Joe A. Callaway Prize for the Best Book on Drama or Theater for 2016-17 and Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) Outstanding Book Award, 2017. It has been translated into Serbian (2019) and Slovenian (2021). I co-translated and edited Radomir Konstantinović's book *The Philosophy of Parochialism*, a groundbreaking analysis of the relation of the national literature, primarily poetry, and the formation of totalitarian ideas and political practices in a small European nation during the first half of the 20th century (forthcoming from University Michigan Press in the fall of 2021). Together with my colleague Diana Looser, I edited a special issue of *TDR: The Drama Review* on climate change, which is also forthcoming in the winter of 2021. Currently, I am completing the book manuscript *Performance Apparatus*, in which I investigate the relationship between performance art and theories of ideological and power formations from the 1970s until the present.

I hail from Yugoslavia, the country that was located in central and western Balkans, in southeastern Europe. There, I trained in Drama Schools at universities in Skopje and Belgrade (present-day Northern Macedonia and Serbia, respectively). I worked as Dramaturg in professional theaters during and immediately after the completion of my BFA studies.

Most of my views on politics, ethics, justice, and the arts were informed by the unraveling of Yugoslavia in a series of bloody civil wars in the 1990s. I was active in anti-war movements before I left the country, and remained active in pro-democracy publications in Serbia and the region of the former Yugoslavia. Some of these writings have been collected in the book *Frozen donkey and other essays* (*Smrznuti magarac i drugi eseji*, Komuna Links, Belgrade 2017).

Both my MA and PhD are from the Department of Performance Studies at New York University. While pursuing my PhD, I was active in the New York downtown theater and alternative press scene in the late 1990s and early 2000s. In the subsequent years, I served on the board of Performance Studies international (PSi), and chaired the 19th PSi conference held at Stanford in June of 2013.

Before joining Stanford in 2006, I taught at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and University of Minnesota. In addition to teaching undergraduate and graduate classes in my home department, over the years I served as Director of Undergraduate Studies, Director of Graduate Studies, and Chair (2015-2019). Some of the highlights

from my tenure as Chair are: devising a strategic plan for the department that yielded the current structure of our undergraduate program, supervising the return of the department to the renovated Roble Gym, the establishment of Nitery Experimental Theater as the first fully student-run theater space on campus, working with the Dean's office to set up Carl Weber graduate fellowships, and opening TAPS season-planning process to include all members of the department who are willing to participate (students, faculty, staff). As of the fall of 2021, I again assumed the role of Director of Undergraduate Studies. It is my hope that in this capacity I will be able to help TAPS re-open after the COVID closure.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Professor, Theater and Performance Studies

Teaching

COURSES

2021-22

- Ars Theoretica: On Scholar-Artists: TAPS 341 (Aut)
- Dramaturgy: TAPS 151, TAPS 315 (Spr)
- History of Directing: TAPS 153H, TAPS 253H (Aut)

2020-21

- Ars Theoretica: On Scholar-Artists: TAPS 341 (Win)
- Counter-Institution: Performance and Institutional Critique: TAPS 342 (Spr)
- Dramaturgy: TAPS 151, TAPS 315 (Spr)

2018-19

- Dramaturgy: TAPS 151, TAPS 315 (Spr)
- History of Directing: TAPS 153H, TAPS 253H (Aut)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)

Lenora Murphy

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **Elementary Poetry (Book Review)** *TDR-THE DRAMA REVIEW-THE JOURNAL OF PERFORMANCE STUDIES*
Book Review Authored by: Jakovljevic, B.
2021; 65 (4): 179-181
- **Peripeteia Rehearsing Against the End of the World** *TDR-THE DRAMA REVIEW-THE JOURNAL OF PERFORMANCE STUDIES*
Jakovljevic, B., Looser, D.
2021; 65 (4): 6-10
- **The Peyote Dance (Book Review)** *TDR-THE DRAMA REVIEW-THE JOURNAL OF PERFORMANCE STUDIES*
Book Review Authored by: Jakovljevic, B.
2020; 64 (4): 177-79
- **The Ownership of Evil: 1968, 1989, and the Mainstreaming of the New Right** *PRIMERJALNA KNJIZEVNOST*
Jakovljevic, B.
2020; 43 (3): 49-63
- **Pere Gynt Mendacity for the 21st Century** *TDR-THE DRAMA REVIEW-THE JOURNAL OF PERFORMANCE STUDIES*

Jakovljevic, B.
2020; 64 (3): 8–13

- **The Drama of Space: Spatial Sequences and Compositions in Architecture (Book Review)** *TDR-THE DRAMA REVIEW-THE JOURNAL OF PERFORMANCE STUDIES*
Book Review Authored by: Jakovljevic, B.
2020; 64 (1): 168–70
- **Performance Art and Illiberal Democracy: Marina Abramovic's The Cleaner in Belgrade** *TDR-THE DRAMA REVIEW-THE JOURNAL OF PERFORMANCE STUDIES*
Jakovljevic, B.
2020; 64 (1): 182–89
- **The Voice from the 10th Row: Carl Weber and the Berliner Ensemble** *TDR-THE DRAMA REVIEW-THE JOURNAL OF PERFORMANCE STUDIES*
Jakovljevic, B., Harman, K., Hunter, M., Lyons, J., Mantoan, L., Matic, L., Murphy, C., Pohlmann, J., Tacata, R., Vittori, G., Weber, C., Ensemble, B.
2018; 62 (3): 55–108
- **THE HOWLING WILDERNESS OF THE MALADAPTIVE STRUGGLE IN BELGRADE IN NEW YORK** *ARTMARGINS*
Jakovljevic, B.
2018; 7 (2): 17–41
- **For an Art of Participation Common goods for the commons** *PERFORMANCE RESEARCH*
Jakovljevic, B.
2018; 23 (4-5): 210–13
- **On Performance Forensics: The Political Economy of Reenactments** *ART JOURNAL*
Jakovljevic, B.
2011; 70 (3): 50-54
- **Wooster Baroque** *TDR-THE DRAMA REVIEW-A JOURNAL OF PERFORMANCE STUDIES*
Jakovljevic, B.
2010; 54 (3): 87-122
- **Theater of Atrocities: Toward a Disreality Principle** *PMLA-PUBLICATIONS OF THE MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA*
Jakovljevic, B.
2009; 124 (5): 1813-1819
- **From mastermind to body artist - Political performances of Slobodan Milosevic** *TDR-THE DRAMA REVIEW-THE JOURNAL OF PERFORMANCE STUDIES*
Jakovljevic, B.
2008; 52 (1): 51-?
- **Human Resources: June 1968, Hair, and the Beginning of Yugoslavia's End** *GREY ROOM*
Jakovljevic, B.
2008: 39-53