

Lola B. Pierson
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Education

M.F.A., Theatre Arts at Towson University (2013)

Final Thesis Project: "More Than the Sum of Its Parts: The Hybridization of Conventional Dramaturgy and New Playwriting"

B.A. from Bard College (2005)

Graduated with a double major in Human Rights and Playwriting. Senior projects: "Housing Segregation in Baltimore City" and "The Post Modern Grotesque."

Baltimore School for the Arts (2001)

Administrative

Co-Founding Artistic Director, The Acme Corporation (2011-Present)

A Baltimore company that combines the philosophical approach of DIY theatre and the aesthetics of the historical avant-garde.

Founding Member, The Un Saddest Factory (2009-2011)

An ensemble driven DIY theatre company based in Baltimore.

Founding and Curating Member, The Bell Foundry Arts Collective (2010-2012)

A cooperatively run community arts space specializing in video, theatre, and live events.

Teaching

Adjunct Professor, Towson University (September 2014-December 2015)

Fall 2014: Cultural Diversity in American Theatre

Fall 2015: Theatre for Social Change

Graduate Student Instructor (September 2012-May 2013)

Fall 2012: Introduction to Theatre for Non-majors

Spring 2013: Self producing: Creating Your Own Theatre Work for Majors

Graduate Teaching Assistant (September 2011-May 2012)

Fall 2011: Playwriting I

Spring 2012: Undergraduate Thesis

GED Tutor, Bard Prison Initiative (September 2003-May 2005)

Tutored female inmates at Beacon Correctional Facility in writing and math in preparation for their GED examinations.

Playwriting

- ***The Lights Went Out Because of a Problem*** (2023). Co-directed by Lola B. Pierson and Jarod Hanson, Presented by The Acme Corporation at The Voxel. Music by Allison Clendaniel.
- ***The Institute for Counterfeit Memory*** (2020) Directed by Lola B. Pierson. Presented by The Acme Corporation at your house, remounted by Z Space in San Francisco in 2021.
- ***The First Thing That Happens*** (2020) Directed by Lola B. Pierson. Presented by The Acme Corporation at The Voxel, Baltimore .
- ***Putin on Ice (that isn't the title of this show)*** (2018) Directed by Yury Urnov. Presented by The Acme Corporation and Single Carrot Theatre, Baltimore .
- ***Follow No Strangers to the Fun Places*** (2018) Co-directed with Stephen Nunns. Presented by The Acme Corporation, Baltimore .
- ***Stranger Kindness*** (2016) Adapted, arranged, and collaged from *A Streetcar Named Desire*, the works of Thornton Wilder, Samuel Beckett, and radical feminist thinkers. Presented by The Acme Corporation.
- ***The World Is Round*** (2015) Adapted from the original text by Gertrude Stein and directed by Lola B. Pierson, music written by Jenn Wasner. Presented by The Acme Corporation.
- ***Thr3e Zisters*** (2015) Directed by Yury Urnov, presented at Salvage Vanguard Theatre, Austin, TX.
- ***Heart Happens*** (2013) Directed by Ida Daniel, presented as a part of *Skeleton Hearts* by The Acme Corporation at St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church
- ***Office Ladies*** (2012) Directed by Lola B. Pierson, music written and directed by Alex Scally.
- ***A Day By Yourself*** (2012) Reading directed by Stephen Nunns produced as part of Centerstage's "Pub Lab" Series. Music by Stephen Nunns.
- ***Tide Pool*** (2011) Directed with Sophie Hinderberger. Presented as part of the Un Saddest Factory's Ten Minute Play Festival, 2011.
- ***The Story of Invention*** with Anna Fitzgerald and Cricket Arrison (2010). Workshop presentation in July 2010 as a part of Whartscape (Baltimore). Presented at Delaware

Fringe Festival, directed by Naomi Kline (2010). Presented at the Bell Foundry, directed by Lola B. Pierson (Baltimore, 2011).

- ***The Prettiest Place on Earth***, music written and directed by Alex Scally (2009). Directed by Donna Sellinger at the LOF/t, Baltimore.
- ***The Title Sounded Better in French*** with Anna Fitzgerald (2009) Premiered at Access Theatre in New York, presented by Longstocking Productions. Produced at The Baltimore Museum of Art as a part of Whartscape (2009). Toured the East Coast (2010). Presented at 14 Karat Cabaret, Baltimore (2010). Presented at Mabou Mines' TorRoNaDa Space as a part of *Modicums* (2011).
- ***Flight*** (2009). Directed by Benjamin Pranger. Presented as part of the Un Saddest Factory's Ten Minute Play Festival, The Annex Theatre, Baltimore.
- ***Bone Work*** with Anna Fitzgerald (2005). Directed by Cochlin Dougherty. Produced at the 2640 Space (Baltimore)
- ***Monster Island*** (2005). Directed by Jennifer Ward. Produced at Bard College.

Directing

- ***The Lights Went Out Because of a Problem*** (2023). Co-directed by Lola B. Pierson and Jarod Hanson, Presented by The Acme Corporation at The Voxel. Music by Allison Clendaniel.
- ***The Institute for Counterfeit Memory*** (2020) Presented by The Acme Corporation at your house, remounted by Z Space in San Francisco in 2021.
- ***The First Thing That Happens*** (2020) Presented by The Acme Corporation at The Voxel, Baltimore .
- ***Help*** with Cricket Arrison. Written by Lola B. Pierson and Cricket Arrison. Presented on Adult Swim's Live Stream (October 2018).
- ***Things That Are Round*** by Callie Kimball. Presented by Rep Stage, Columbia, MD (October 2018).
- ***Follow No Strangers to the Fun Places*** with Stephen Nunns. Written by Lola B. Pierson. Presented by The Acme Corporation, Baltimore (May 2018).
- ***The Determination of Azimuth*** by Heather Graham and Eric Chuch presented by Arena Players and BROS, Baltimore (May 2015, remount February 2018).
- ***Stranger Kindness***, with Stephen Nunns, presented by The Acme Corporation, Baltimore (December 2016)
- ***The World Is Round***, adapted from the original Gertrude Stein text, presented by The Acme Corporation, Baltimore (June-July 2015)
- ***Kaspar*** by Peter Handke, presented by The Acme Corporation, Baltimore (June 2014)
- ***Scab***, by Sheila Callaghan, presented by The Interrobang Theatre Company, Baltimore.

(March, 2014)

- ***Play*** by Samuel Beckett with Stephen Nunns, presented by The Acme Corporation at St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Baltimore (March, 2013)
- ***Office Ladies*** by Lola B. Pierson, presented by The Acme Corporation and Towson University at St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Baltimore (December, 2012)
- ***Tide Pool*** with Sophie Hinderberger by Lola B. Pierson, presented as part of The Un Saddest Factory's Ten Minute Play Festival, The Bell Foundry, Baltimore (August, 2011)
- ***The Story of Invention*** by Anna Fitzgerald, Cricket Arrison, and Lola B. Pierson, presented by The Un Saddest Factory at The Bell Foundry, Baltimore (April, 2011)
- ***The Fall of Man*** by R.M. O'Brien, presented as part of The Un Saddest Factory's Ten Minute Play Festival, The Bell Foundry, Baltimore (August, 2009)

Design

- ***The Lights Went Out Because of a Problem*** (2023)
- ***The Institute for Counterfeit Memory*** (2020)
- ***The First Thing That Happens*** (2020)
- ***Follow No Strangers to the Fun Places*** (2018)

Video

- ***Two*** (2021) a music video for the band Flock of Dimes, co-directed with Cricket Arrison: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zy7X5QrpREs>
- ***Help*** (2018) a short film made for Adult Swim, co-directed with Cricket Arrison, presented at the 2019 Maryland Film Festival: <https://www.adultswim.com/videos/smalls/help>

Published Works

- ***A Library for Bees*** (2011) published by Sophia Jacob in Miaaiden Issue # 1 (March 2013)
- ***Tide Pool*** (2011), part of the Un Saddest Factory's book of Ten Minute Plays, 2011 (Thinking Beard Press, 2011)
- ***A Cool and Dark Place*** (2011), Second place winner in Baltimore Citypaper's Fiction Contest 2013
- ***Good for What Ails Ya*** (2010), Third place winner in Baltimore City Paper's Fiction Contest, 2010.

Awards

- Baker Artist Award Winner 2021

- The Baker Artist Awards Finalist 2016, 2019, 2020
- *Baltimore Magazine*, Best of Baltimore: “Best Play” 2018 for *Follow No Strangers to the Fun Places*
- *The Baltimore City Paper*, Best of Baltimore, “Best Play” 2016 for *Stranger Kindness*
- *The Austin Chronicle*, “Top Ten Theatre Riches of 2015: #1” for *Thr3e Zisters*
- *The Baltimore Sun*, “The Best of Baltimore’s 2015 Theatre Season” for *The World Is Round*
- *The Baltimore City Paper*, “Top Ten Stage Productions of 2015: #1” for *The World Is Round*
- *The Baltimore City Paper*, Best of Baltimore, “Best Adaptation” 2015 for *The World Is Round*
- Austin Critics Table Awards, “Best Production (Comedy)” 2014-2015 for *Thr3e Zisters*
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- The Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance Ruby Award for Literary Arts 2014 for the story collection *A Day By Yourself*.
- *The Baltimore City Paper*, Best of Baltimore, “Best Use of Video in a Play” 2014 for *Kaspar*.
- *The Baltimore City Paper*, “Top Ten Productions of 2014 *Kaspar*.”
- *The Baltimore City Paper*, Best of Baltimore, “Best Production of the Year” 2013 for *Play*
- *The Baltimore City Paper*, Best of Baltimore, “Best New Playwright” 2013
- *The Baltimore City Paper*, “Top Ten Stage Productions of 2012” for *Office Ladies*
- The Maryland State Arts Council Individual Artist Award for Playwriting (2008)