

DEBORAH SALEM SMITH

dsalemsmith@yahoo.com

EDUCATION:

M.A. English Literature, emphasis in Drama, **Boston University**, 2002

M.F.A. Creative Writing, emphasis in Poetry, **University of Michigan**, 1999

A.B. Art and Archaeology, graduated cum laude, **Princeton University**, 1996
Selected to write an additional thesis in poetry

PLAYS:

New play-in-progress

Led company workshop, New Play Week, Trinity Repertory Company, 2010

Love Alone

Premiered at Trinity Repertory Company, 2012

Edgerton Foundation New American Play Award, 2011

Honorable Mention, Jane Chambers Playwriting Award, 2011

Awarded a MacDowell Colony Residency for development of the play, 2010

Reading, New Play Week, Trinity Repertory Company, August 2010

An early draft was a national semifinalist for the O'Neill Playwrights Conference, 2010

Readings at Trinity Repertory Company, April 2010 and also May 2011

Good Business

Reading at Trinity Repertory Company, 2007

Reading and workshop, New Play Week, Trinity Repertory Company, 2007

Some Things Are Private

Commission from Trinity Repertory Company, 2006

Led full company workshop, New Play Week, Trinity Repertory Company, 2006

Led week-long workshop with cast, Trinity Repertory Company, 2006

Premiered at Trinity Repertory Company, 2008

The Boston Globe's "Critic's Pick," 2008

Production at the University of California, Davis, 2010

Boots on the Ground (as *D. Salem Smith*)

Commission from Trinity Repertory Company, 2005

Premiered at Trinity Repertory Company April 2006

Reading at Yale University, joint production by the schools of Divinity and Law, 2007

Reading at Reading Across Rhode Island, 2007

Production at Elms College, 2008

Lady Writing

Awarded a Fulbright National Fellowship for Emerging American Artists, Dublin, Ireland, for development of the play, 2004-2005

Caviar

Reading, Java One Act Series at Perishable Theater, Providence, RI, 2002

The Brothel Laundryman

Reached the national semifinal round for the O'Neill Playwrights Conference, 2002

Scenery of Her Intentions

Produced at the University of Michigan, with original music by Kenneth Eberhard, 1999

AWARDS and HONORS:

Edgerton Foundation New American Play Award, 2011

National Finalist, Jane Chambers Playwriting Award, 2011

MacDowell Colony Residency, 2010

Fulbright Fellowship for Emerging American Artists, Dublin, Ireland, 2004-2005

Rhode Island School of Design Humanities Travel Award to Belfast, Ireland, 2004

Andrew Mellon National Fellowship in the Humanities, 2001-2002

Hopwood Major Essay Award, 1999

Nominated for Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award and the David & Linda Moscow Prize for Excellence in Teaching, University of Michigan, 1999

University of Michigan Travel Grant Award, Oxford, England, 1998

Colby Fellowship in Creative Writing, University of Michigan, 1997

Roy W. Cowden Memorial Fellowship in Poetry, University of Michigan, 1997

Francis LeMoyne Page Visual Arts Award, Princeton University, 1996

Morris W. Croll Poetry Prize, Honorable Mention, Princeton University, 1996

Ward Poetry Prize for Superior Work in Poetry, Princeton University, 1995

PUBLICATIONS:

“A Playwright’s Perspective: Deborah Salem Smith interviews Stephen Thorne.” *The Trinity Square Magazine* Winter 2011.

“A Playwright’s Perspective: Deborah Salem Smith interviews writer Pamela Gien.” *The Trinity Square Magazine* Winter 2010.

“A Playwright’s Perspective: Deborah Salem Smith interviews writer Steven Dietz.” *The Trinity Square Magazine* Fall 2009.

“A Playwright’s Perspective: Deborah Salem Smith interviews writer Laura Schellhardt.” *The Trinity Square Magazine* Spring 2009.

“A Playwright’s Perspective: Deborah Salem Smith interviews set designer James Schuette.” *The Trinity Square Magazine* Holiday 2008.

“A Playwright’s Perspective: Deborah Salem Smith interviews writer Adam Bock.” *The Trinity Square Magazine* Winter 2008.

“A Playwright’s Perspective: Antigone Today.” *The Trinity Square Magazine* Fall 2008.

“Behind Closed Doors.” *The Trinity Square Magazine* Fall 2007.

“Carol in a Minor Key: Deborah Salem Smith interviews director Amy Morton.” *The Trinity Square Magazine* Winter 2006.

“A Preface: The Diminishment of Infinity” and “Material Origin of Ethics.” *Berkeley Poetry Review* Issue 33 2001. (Both poems published as *D. Salem Smith*.)

“A Teacher’s Viewpoint.” *ABC News* (Internet) January 1997.

PUBLIC TALKS:

Panelist at “The Playwright’s Process,” with writers Sarah Ruhl and Charlotte Meehan, Trinity Repertory Company, 2007

Leisure Learning Lecture Series, East Greenwich, RI, 2007

Moderator for post-show discussions for Trinity Repertory Company, 2006-2007

Moderator for an interview with painter Jill Moser, University of Rhode Island, 2006

Panelist at “The Artist as Citizen,” Boston Theater Conference, 2006

Poetry reading for The Literary Festival Series, San Rafael, CA, 2000

Poetry reading for The Mark Webster Reading Series, Ann Arbor, MI, 1998

Poetry reading for The Arts Council’s Reading Series, Princeton, NJ, 1996

Poetry reading for The Reading Series, Princeton, NJ, 1996

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:

Playwright-in-Residence, 2007-ongoing
Trinity Repertory Company, Providence, Rhode Island

Adjunct Faculty, 2009-ongoing

Brown University/ Trinity Rep Consortium

Created and taught Playwriting for first year M.F.A. students in Acting and Directing

Taught Core (Advanced Playwriting) for second and third year M.F.A. students in Acting

Producer, 2010-ongoing

Brown University/ Trinity Rep Consortium

First Look Play Festival

Dramaturg, 2010-2011

Trinity Repertory Company

The Completely Fictional—Utterly True—Final Strange Tale of Edgar Allan Poe
by Stephen Thorne, directed by Curt Columbus

Script Reader, 2010

WordBRIDGE

Reviewed and critiqued play submissions for the Playwrights Laboratory

National Judge, 2009

University of Michigan

Hopwood Prize in Playwriting (for undergraduate and graduate students)

Dramaturg, 2009

Trinity Repertory Company

The Secret Rapture by David Hare, directed by Curt Columbus

Guest Artist, 2007-2009

Rhode Island Council for the Humanities' Speaker's Bureau

Topic: Theater and the State of Our State During the War in Iraq

Guest Artist, 2006

Brown University/ Trinity Rep Consortium

Led a workshop with director Laura Kepley for M.F.A. students in Acting and Directing

Adjunct Faculty, 2005-2006

Rhode Island College

Created and taught Creative Writing, a multimedia curriculum including drama, fiction,
and poetry

Designed and taught honors and regular sections of College Writing, an interdisciplinary study of
voice focused on the personal, argumentative, and analytical essay forms

Member of Composition Committee

Script Reader, 2005

The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center

Reviewed and critiqued play submissions for the National Playwrights Conference

O'Neill Critics Institute, 2005

The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center

Selected for the critical training program which runs concurrently with new play development at
the O'Neill Playwrights Conference

Reader's Panel Member, 2004-2005

The Abbey Theatre, Ireland's National Theatre

Reviewed and critiqued play submissions

Visiting Academic, 2004-2005

Trinity College, School of Drama at the Samuel Beckett Centre, Dublin, Ireland

Adjunct Faculty, 2002-2004

Rhode Island School of Design

Created and taught Introduction to Playwriting; also Literature and Composition, a multimedia curriculum on essay forms

Designed and taught two upper level theater courses: Intimacy in Motion, in which students created performance art; also Revision and Revolt, a study of structure in political 20th Century Drama

Advisor for original play written and produced by the Asian Cultural Association

Committee Member and Drama Instructor for the Summer Program in English Language Studies for incoming students who were non-native speakers of English

Rhode Island College

Created and taught Western Literature: The Rational and Non-Rational, an interdisciplinary study of religious themes, with an emphasis on dramatic literature

Designed and taught honors and regular sections of College Writing

Script Reader, 2003-2004

Perishable Theater

Reviewed and critiqued play submissions for the International Women's Playwriting Festival

Script Reader, 2002-2004

Trinity Repertory Company

Reviewed and critiqued play submissions for the literary department

Adjunct Faculty, 2002-2003

Providence College

Created and taught three sections of Expository Writing, an interdisciplinary introduction to college writing techniques

Adjunct Faculty, 2000-2001

Villanova University

Designed and taught two sections per semester of The Literary Experience: Contemporary Poetry, in which students produced creative and analytical writing

St. Joseph's University

Created and taught The Craft of Language, a multimedia study of genre; also Texts and Contexts, a study of dramatic and nondramatic literature from five historical periods

Teacher, 1999-2000

Marin Academy, San Rafael, California

Among other responsibilities, designed and taught Creative Writing Workshop; Understanding Literary Genres; also 20th Century American Novel

Reader/Editing Intern, 1997-1999

Michigan Quarterly Review

Reviewed and critiqued poetry submissions

Lecturer, also Graduate Student Instructor, 1997-1999

University of Michigan

Created and taught Creative Writing, and College Writing; Course Assistant for Modern Poetry,
and Women and Modernism

Student Evaluations available upon request: *Consistently received very high scores on student evaluations from all schools.*