

Curriculum Vitae

MARK PIZZATO

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EDUCATION

1988-1992: PhD, English (Modern Studies Program), University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; concentration in modern drama and postmodern theory.
1982-1984: MFA, Playwriting, Catholic University of America, Washington, DC.
1978-1982: BA, English, magna cum laude, University of Notre Dame, Indiana.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2007-present: Professor of Theatre and Film, University of North Carolina at Charlotte.
2002-2007: Associate Professor of Theatre and Film, UNC-Charlotte.
1997-2002: Assistant Professor of Theatre and Film, UNC-Charlotte.
1992-1997: Assistant Professor in the joint Theater Department, University of St. Thomas and College of St. Catherine, St. Paul, Minnesota.

PUBLICATIONS / EXHIBITIONS / PERFORMANCES

THEATRE SCRIPTS PRODUCED

A Bite in the Brain, part of Center City Scenes, a new short-play festival, UNCC's Center City Building, Charlotte, Sept. 2012.

Existential Aliens, part of Ice Fishing on Europa Play Festival, Carolina Actors Studio Theatre, Charlotte, June 2010.

The 612-Year-Old Man, 9x9x9 Play Festival, Theatre Charlotte, June 2009.

Miracle Kick (co-authored and based on stories from the Florence Crittenton Center for unwed mothers), Theatre Charlotte, May 2009.

Anna's Brain, 9x9x9 Play Festival, Theatre Charlotte, June 2008.

Ghosts in the Wallpaper, Pi Productions at Actors Theatre of Charlotte, June 2007 (staged-reading).

Flight 666, 9x9x9 Play Festival, Theatre Charlotte, Nov. 2006.

Freud and Jesus, 9x9x9 Play Festival, Theatre Charlotte, April 2006.

Processions (opera libretto), Chapel, Univ. of St. Thomas, April 1996.

The Imaginary Man (opera interlude), Frey Theater, College of St. Catherine, April 1994.

The Myth of Art Smith, New York Theatre Group, New York City, January 1989 (staged-reading).

Eany-Meany, Sanctuary Theatre, Washington DC, August 1987.

The Star's Masque, Source Theatre, Washington DC, July 1986.

Kaz in Wonderland (directed by Kazimierz Braun, from Wroclaw, Poland), Swarthmore College, April-May 1986.

The Crime of Art, Thirteenth Street Theatre, New York City, March-May 1986.

TELEPLAYS PRODUCED

Stained Glass, produced at the Univ. of St. Thomas and broadcast locally over its cable TV channel, 1993-94.

The Actor, produced and distributed nationwide by Real-to-Reel, a bimonthly Catholic television program, 1982-83.

BOOKS PUBLISHED

- Pizzato, Mark. Beast-People Onscreen and in Your Brain: The Evolution of Animal-Humans from Prehistoric Cave Art to Modern Movies. Santa Barbara: Praeger, 2016. (425 pages.)
- Pizzato, Mark. Inner Theatres of Good and Evil: The Mind's Staging of Gods, Angels and Devils. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2011. Reviewed by Beth Kattelman in Theatre Journal 65.3 (Oct. 2013): 440-41 and Todd McGowan in Frontiers in Psychoanalysis 3 (2012): 353.
- Perdigao, Lisa K., and **Mark Pizzato**, eds. Death in American Texts and Performances: Corpses, Ghosts, and the Reanimated Dead. Surrey, England: Ashgate, 2010. Reviewed by Jen Gunnels in Journal of the Fantastic in the Arts 22.2 (Spring 2011) online and Donna Kornhaber in Theatre Journal 63.4 (Dec. 2011): 674-75.
- Pizzato, Mark. Ghosts of Theatre and Cinema in the Brain. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006. Reviewed by Jennifer Cayer in TDR 51.4 (Winter 2007); by Mateusz Borowski and Malgorzata Sugiera in Comparative Drama 41.3 (Fall 2007): 393-96; and by M. D. Whitlatch in Choice (Nov. 2006).
- Pizzato, Mark. Theatres of Human Sacrifice: From Ancient Ritual to Screen Violence. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2005. Reviewed by John Lutterbie in the Baylor Journal of Theatre and Performance 4.2 (Fall 2007).
- Pizzato, Mark. Edges of Loss: From Modern Drama to Postmodern Theory. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 1998. Reviewed by James Fisher in Theatre Survey 41.1 (May 2000); by John Lutterbie in Theatre Journal 52.1 (Mar. 2000); by Cordula Quint in New England Theatre Journal 11 (2000); and by R. D. Newman in Choice (Mar. 1999).

THEATRE SCRIPTS PUBLISHED

- Pizzato, Mark. Eany-Meany (Louisville, KY: Aran Press, 1989).
- Pizzato, Mark. Ghosts in the Wallpaper (Louisville, KY: Aran Press, 1989).
- Pizzato, Mark. The Star's Masque (Louisville, KY: Aran Press, 1989).

ESSAYS PUBLISHED IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

- Pizzato, Mark. "Response: Passion Pruned." Cultural Analysis 12. Online in 2015.
- Pizzato, Mark. "Cave Rituals and the Brain's Theatre." Theatre Symposium 21 (2013): 116-36.
- Pizzato, Mark. "A Post-9/11 Passion Play," English Language Notes 44.1 (Spring 2006): 247-52. (Reprint of the film review of The Passion of the Christ, listed below.)
- Pizzato, Mark. "Holy War Theatres," Editorial Column for the Baylor Journal of Theatre and Performance 2.1 (Spring 2005): 3-6.
- Pizzato, Mark. "Ghosts of the Self in Ancient Theatre and the Postmodern Mind: A Combined Lacanian and Neuro-Psychoanalytic Approach," Journal for Lacanian Studies 1.2 (Nov. 2003): 204-23.
- Pizzato, Mark. "Addicted to the Tube," Journal for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society 8.2 (Fall 2003): 338-40.
- Pizzato, Mark. "Soyinka's Bacchae, African Gods, and Postmodern Mirrors," Journal of Religion and Theatre 2.1 (Fall 2003). <http://apollo.fa.mtu.edu/~dlbruch/rtjournal>
- Pizzato, Mark. "Theatre's Material Ghosts," ATHE theorySite, beginning in Sept. 2000 (<http://athe.drama.uga.edu/theorySiteContents.html>).
- Pizzato, Mark. "Edges of Perception in Performance and Audience," Performing Arts

International 1.4 (1999): 47-58.

Pizzato, Mark. "Brechtian and Aztec Violence in Valdez's Zoot Suit," Journal of Popular Film and Television 26.2 (Summer 1998): 52-61.

Pizzato, Mark. "The Real Edges of the Screen: Cinema's Theatrical and Communal Ghosts," Spectator 16.2 (Spring/Summer 1996): 71-89.

Pizzato, Mark. "Michael Lupu: The Dramaturg as Artistic Conscience," American Theatre 11.9 (Nov. 1994): 52-53.

Pizzato, Mark. "The Brechtian Unconscious, From Baal to Boal," Communications of the International Brecht Society 22.1 (May 1993): 51-56.

Pizzato, Mark. "Mourning at a Distance: Brecht's Repression of the Chora," Essays in Theatre 11.1 (Nov. 1992): 41-67.

Pizzato, Mark. "The Death of Self, Mirrored," The Cream City Review 16.2 (Fall 1992): 284-88.

Pizzato, Mark. "Redressing the Chorus: Nietzsche in Eliot," Journal of Ritual Studies 6.2 (Summer 1992): 1-25.

Pizzato, Mark. "Genet's Violent, Subjective Split into the Theatre of Lacan's Three Orders," Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism 5.1 (Fall 1990): 115-30.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Values and Dangers in Movie Watching: *Rasa*-Cathartic Effects on the Brain's Inner Theatre." London Film and Media Conference. July 7-9, 2016.

"Inner Theatre and Outer Movie Experiences: The Cognitive Neuroscience of *Rasa*-Catharsis." Cognitive Futures in the Humanities. Helsinki, June 13-15, 2016.

"Fear and Trust in Movie Watching: An Interplay of Inner and Outer Theatres." Poster Session. Mind and Life Summer Research Institute, Garrison, New York, June 13-19, 2015.

"Metaphors of Inner and Outer Theatres." Second Neurohumanities Dialogue, Catania, Italy, June 4-6, 2015.

"Chinese Temples and European Churches as Neuro-Performance Spaces." Performance Studies International (PSi), Shanghai, China, July 4-8, 2014.

"A Neuro-Psychoanalytic View of Vampires." Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society (APCS) Conference, Rutgers University, Nov. 1-2, 2013.

"Animals in the Brain's Theatre, Shaped by Asian and Euro-American Cultures." Poster Session. Society for Psychological Anthropology, San Diego, April 4-7, 2013.

"Inner and Outer Theatres: From Brain Simulations and Mirror Neuron Systems to Social, Media Networks--and Back Again." Representing Complexity: Intersections of Art and Science, University of Maryland, College Park. Feb. 28-Mar. 1, 2013.

"Neuro-Psychoanalysis and the Brain's Theatre," Association for the Psychoanalysis of Culture and Society (APCS) Conference, Rutgers University, Oct. 19-20, 2012.

"Animals in the Brain's Theatre," National Conference of the Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts (SLSA), Milwaukee, Sept. 27-30, 2012.

"Brain Structure, Neuro-economics, and Neuroaesthetics: The Value of Theatre to the Evolution of Human Performance," Performance Studies International, Leeds, UK, June 27-July 1, 2012.

"Cave Theatres and Mirror Maps," Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC) Symposium, UNC-Wilmington, Apr. 20-22, 2012.

"Brain Structure, Neuro-economics, and Neuro-aesthetics: The Value of Theatre to the Evolution of Human Performance," Culture Studies Association (CSA) Conference, UC-San Diego March 28-30, 2012.

- "The Animal Brain in Human Performances: An Evo-Neuro-Psychoanalytic Approach," Performance Studies International, Utrecht, the Netherlands, May 25-30, 2011.
- "Unconscious Mirrors, Emotional Contagion, and Catharsis," National SLSA Conference, Indianapolis, Oct. 28-31, 2010.
- "Complexity in the Human Brain," Forum on the Future of Complex Systems Research and Applications, Complex Systems Institute, UNC-Charlotte, Sept. 16-17, 2010.
- "Drama, Catharsis, and the Brain," Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA) Conference, St. Louis, Mar. 31-Apr. 3, 2010.
- "Decoding Cathartic Effects in the Brain," SLSA, Charlotte, Nov. 5-8, 2009.
- "Neuro-Psychoanalytic Theatre: A Further Cognitive Turn," SLSA, Charlotte, Nov. 13-16, 2008.
- "The Ethics of a Theatre of the Brain: Psychoanalysis and Neuroscience," APCS Conference, Rutgers University, Oct. 24-26, 2008.
- "Evolving Sacrifices: Postmodern Good and Evil in The Passion of the Christ," PCA/ACA Conference, San Francisco, March 19-22, 2008.
- "Neuro-Psychoanalytic Figures in Medieval Drama," APCS Conference, Rutgers University, Nov. 2-4, 2007.
- "To Be or Not To Be Blended Theatrically," National Conference of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), New Orleans, July 26-29, 2007.
- "The Sacrificial Imperative Today: Catharsis or Repetition in Gibson's Passion Play," Getty Museum Scholarly Workshop on "Human Sacrifice: Myth, Reality, and Representation," Malibu, May 18, 2007.
- "The Ghosts of Proof: Theatre, Cinema, and the Brain," PCA/ACA Conference, Boston, April 4-7, 2007.
- "The Evolution of Racism in the Brain's Performativity: Dutchman as Case Study," SLSA Conference, New York, Nov. 9-12, 2006.
- "Theatre and Cinema in the Mind's Eye," APCS Conference, Rutgers University, Oct. 20-22, 2006.
- "Evolving Gods in the Brain's Theatre," National ATHE Conference, Chicago, Aug. 3-6, 2006.
- "Postmodern Ghosts in Almereyda's Film of Hamlet," PCA/ACA Conference, Atlanta, April 12-15, 2006.
- "Skins of Desire: Love and Murder in the Black and White Film, Dutchman," Northeast Modern Language Association Conf., Philadelphia, March 2-5, 2006.
- "Neurotheatre: Evolving Ghosts in the Human Brain," National SLSA Conference, Chicago, Nov. 10-13, 2005.
- "Evolving Ghost-Brain Actors," National ATHE Conference, San Francisco, July 27-31, 2005.
- "Ghostly Performances in Hamlet Films" and "A Movie Theatre in the Mind," Society for Cinema and Media Studies (SCMS) Conference, London, March 31 to April 3, 2005.
- "The Others in the Brain," PCA/ACA Conference, San Diego, March 23-26, 2005.
- "Our Haunted Town: Specters of Modern and Postmodern America in Movie and TV Versions of Wilder's Our Town," APCS Conference, New York City, Oct. 15-17, 2004.
- "Hamlet's Godlike Discourse and Bestial Oblivion as Ghosts in the Brain," National ATHE Conference, Toronto, July-Aug. 2004.
- "Divine Projections of Good and Evil: the Other in the Brain's Panic, Fear, and Rage Systems," Identity, Group Psychology, and Violence Conference, Washington, DC, May 20-23, 2004.
- "Phantom Personas: The Others in the Cinema of the Mind," Cultural Studies Association (CSA) Conference, Boston, May 5-9, 2004.
- "Ghostly Desires in Hamlet Films," National ATHE Conference, New York City, July-Aug. 2003.

- "The Other Audience: Exploring the Theatre of the Mind," National ATHE Conference, New York City, July-Aug. 2003.
- "Cinema's Real Ghosts," SCMS National Conference, Minneapolis, March 2003.
- "Eat and Be Eaten: Cannibalism as Fraternal Revenge in Seneca's Thyestes, A Neuro-Psychoanalytic Approach," APCS Conference, Philadelphia, Oct. 2002.
- "Performance, Psychoanalysis, and the Symbolic," National ATHE Conference, San Diego, July 2002.
- "Pokemon Power: Training the Spectator/Player to 'Catch 'em All!'" ATHE Conference, San Diego, July 2002.
- "Shakespeare with a Time Twist: Taymor's Titus," Society for Cinema Studies (SCS) National Conference, Denver, May 2002.
- "Early Theatres of Self and Other: Neandertal Rites and Greek Ghosts," 8th Annual Human Sciences Conf., George Washington University, Apr. 2002.
- "Postmodern Ghosts and Gods: Spirits of Theatre in Film and Psychoanalysis," APCS Conference, Rutgers, Nov. 2001.
- "Beauty's Eye: Erotic Masques of the Death Drive," SCS Conference, Washington DC, May 2001.
- "Violence in Soyinka's African Bacchae and Today's Dream Screens," Interpretation of Dreams/Dreams of Interpretation, Minneapolis, Oct. 2000.
- "Film and TV Tragedies," ATHE Conference, Washington, DC, Aug. 2000.
- "Theatre's Material Ghosts," ATHE Conference, Washington, DC, Aug. 2000.
- "TV's Millennium as Psycho-Theater," SCS Conference, Chicago, Mar. 2000.
- "Self-Sacrifice in TV's Millennium: Schizoid Symptom or Cathartic Cure?," APCS Conference, New York, Nov. 1999.
- "Self-Sacrifice Onstage and Onscreen," ATHE Conference, Toronto, July 1999.
- "Revisions of Ancient Violence in Modern Nigerian Drama," Southeastern Theatre Conference Convention, Greensboro, Mar. 1999.
- "The Home Theatre of TV's Millennium," Violence in Film and Literature, Tallahassee, Jan. 1999.
- "Oedipal Theatre in TV's Millennium," APCS Conference, Atlanta, Nov. 1998.
- "Roman, Aztec, and NFL Gladiators as Sacrificial Characters," National ATHE Conference, San Antonio, Aug. 1998.
- "Im-mortal Props, Puppets, and Dancing Hearts: Greek and Aztec Ritual Sacrifice as Theatre," SETC Theatre Symposium, Charlottesville, Apr. 1998.
- "Brechtian and Aztec Violence in Valdez's Zoot Suit," Race in Film and Literature, Tallahassee, Jan. 1998.
- "Mirror Stages of Sacrifice: Greek, Aztec, and American," APCS Conf, Nov. 1997.
- "Blood Rites as Theatre," National ATHE Conference, Chicago, Aug. 1997.
- "Who Am I in the Mirror of TV?," National ATHE Conference, Aug. 1997.
- "Space Trek: The Precedent Generations," National ATHE Conference, Aug. 1996.
- "Ab-Sense at the Screen Edge," SCS National Conference, Mar. 1996.
- "Dahmer's Audiences: From Court TV to Cannibal Memory," National ATHE Conference, Aug. 1995.
- "Tracing the Edge," National ATHE Conference, Aug. 1995.
- "The Perverse Theatrics of Lacanian Theory and Praxis," ATHE Conf., July 1994.
- "Voice, Mime, and Other Media: Re-Presenting Holocaust Survival," ATHE Conf., July 1994.
- "Dahmer's Theatre of Cruelty: The Real People's Court," ATHE Conf., Aug. 1993.
- "Intimate Details or the Whole Picture: The Mass-Mediated Student," ATHE Conference, Aug. 1993.

- "The Brechtian Unconscious, From Baal to Boal," ATHE Conf., Aug. 1992.
- "Analyzing Belief in Brecht's Dream of Social Theatre," ATHE Conf., Aug. 1991.
- "Ritual Belief and Perversion in the Choruses of Friedrich Nietzsche and T. S. Eliot," ATHE Conf., Aug. 1991.
- "Androgyny and Gynocracy in Science Fiction: Beyond the Phallus?," Kent State Conference on Lacan, Culture, and Sexual Identity, May 1990.
- "The Violence and Revolutions of Genet's Last Three Plays: Through a Lacanian Mirror," Kent State Conf. on Lacan, Discourse, and Politics, May 1989.

BOOK CHAPTERS PUBLISHED

- Pizzato, Mark. "Evo-Neuro-Theatre." Performance Studies: Key Words, Concepts, and Theories, ed. Bryan Reynolds (London: Palgrave, 2014), 273-80.
- Pizzato, Mark. "Ghosts of *Proof* in the Mind's Eye," Death in American Texts and Performances: Corpses, Ghosts, and the Reanimated Dead, ed. Lisa K. Perdigao and Mark Pizzato (Surrey, England: Ashgate, 2010), 129-48.
- Pizzato, Mark. "Skins of Desire in Evolution: The Black and White Film, *Dutchman*," Death in American Texts and Performances: Corpses, Ghosts, and the Reanimated Dead, ed. Lisa K. Perdigao and Mark Pizzato (Surrey, England: Ashgate, 2010), 29-44.
- Pizzato, Mark. "Pokémon as Theatre: Training the Pocket Monsters of Self and Consumerism," The Japanification of Children's Popular Culture, ed. Mark I. West (Lanham, MD: Scarecrow, 2008), 73-83.
- Pizzato, Mark. "Nietzschean Neurotheatre: Apollinian and Dionysian Spirits in the Brain Matters of Our Town," Nietzsche and the Rebirth of the Tragic, ed. Mary Ann Frese Witt (Madison, NJ: Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2007), 186-218.
- Pizzato, Mark. "Psychoanalysis," The Columbia Encyclopedia of Modern Drama, ed. Gabrielle H. Cody and Evert Sprinchorn (New York: Columbia University Press, 2007).
- Pizzato, Mark. "Beauty's Eye: Erotic Masques of the Death Drive," Lacan and Contemporary Film, ed. Todd McGowan and Sheila Kunkle (New York: Other Press, 2004), 83-109.
- Pizzato, Mark. "Genet's Violent, Subjective Split into the Theatre of Lacan's Three Orders" (reprint), Twentieth-Century Literary Criticism (TCLC), Vol. 128, ed. Janet Witalec (Thompsonville, Michigan: Gale Group, 2003).
- Pizzato, Mark. "Jeffrey Dahmer and Media Cannibalism: The Lure and Failure of Ritual," in Mythologies of Violence in Postmodern Media, ed. Christopher Sharrett (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1999), 85-118.
- Pizzato, Mark. "Theaters of Sacrifice: Greek, Aztec, and Postmodern," Ethnologie und Inszenierung: Ansätze zur Theaterethnologie, ed. Bettina E. Schmidt and Mark Münzel (Marburg: Förderverein Völkerkunde, 1998), 137-67.

CRITICAL REVIEWS PUBLISHED IN ACADEMIC JOURNALS

- Pizzato, Mark. Performance review of the London Fringe Festival 2012, in Ecumenica 6.2 (fall 2013): 83-86.
- Pizzato, Mark. Performance review of three shows (Winter's Tale, Taming of the Shrew, and Antony and Cleopatra) in 2012 Globe to Globe Shakespeare Festival, London, in Shakespeare Bulletin 31.1 (2013): 137-41.
- Pizzato, Mark. Performance review of the Royal Shakespeare Company's Days of Significance, Theatre Journal 60.1 (March 2008).
- Pizzato, Mark. Book review of Performance and Cognition, ed. Bruce McConachie and F.

- Elizabeth Hart, Theatre Journal 59.4 (Dec. 2007): 685-86.
- Pizzato, Mark. Film review of The Passion of the Christ, dir. Mel Gibson, Pastoral Psychology 53.4 (March 2005): 371-76.
- Pizzato, Mark. Book review of Psychoanalysis and Cinema, by Vicki Lebeau, Psychoanalysis, Culture and Society 10.1 (Spring 2005): 365-68.
- Pizzato, Mark. Book review of Staging Consciousness, by William Demastes, Theatre Survey 45.2 (Nov. 2004): 294-296.
- Pizzato, Mark. Performance review of Soulpepper Theatre's Endgame, Journal of Beckett Studies 9.1 (2000): 137-40.
- Pizzato, Mark. Book review of Postmodern/Drama: Reading the Contemporary Stage, by Stephen Watt, Theatre Journal 52.2 (May 2000): 301-2.
- Pizzato, Mark. Book review of Avant Garde Theatre, by Christopher Innes, and Twentieth Century Theatre: A Sourcebook, edited by Richard Drain, Theatre Journal 49.4 (Dec. 1997): 544-47.
- Pizzato, Mark. Performance review of the Guthrie Theater's Old Times and Three Short Plays, Theatre Journal 48.2 (May 1996): 227-29.
- Pizzato, Mark. Performance review of the 1994 Minnesota Fringe Festival, Theatre Journal 47.1 (March 1995): 142-45.

RESEARCH FUNDING AND AWARDS

- National Science Foundation Grant (research consultant and proposal co-writer), for "A Live Performance Simulation System: Virtual Vaudeville," \$900,000, July 2001.
- Minnesota Community Television Award, "Best Original Artistic Production," for Stained Glass (teleplay), 1994.
- Teleplay, The Actor, part of the winning entry in Religious Programming at the 1983 New York Film Festival.