

MATTHIAS KNOX BOLON

he/they | non-union

EDUCATION

M.F.A in Shakespeare & Performance

2023-2025, Mary Baldwin University, Shakespeare & Performance Program. Concentrating in directing and acting for the early modern stage, with additional experience in intimacy choreography, playwriting, dramaturgy, and prop design.

M.A. in Theatre & Performance Studies

2022-2023, University of Colorado, Boulder, Department of Theatre & Dance. Training in intimacy choreography, consent-based practices and transgender depictions in theatre.

B.A. with honors in Theatre

2022, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO. Training in acting, carpentry, and design basics.

A.A in General Studies

2019, Front Range Community College, Longmont, CO.

Continuing Education – Short Courses and Focused Symposia

- 2023 Creating with Consent: Onstage Intimacies; July 10th-23rd. Instructors Amanda Rose Villarreal, Greg Geffrard, Laura Rikard, Raja Benz. California State University Summer Arts, Fresno.
- 2023 Introduction to Trauma-Informed Communication; February 18th. Instructor Roque Rodriguez. Intimacy Directors & Coordinators, Zoom.
- 2022 Level 2 - Foundations of Intimacy; Nov. 13-Dec. 18. Instructors: Charlie Baker and Zoe Burke. Intimacy Directors & Coordinators, Zoom.
- 2022 Working with Trans and Non-Binary Artists; November 5th. Instructors: Raja Benz and Joy Brooke Fairfield. Intimacy Directors & Coordinators, Zoom.
- 2022 Level 1 - Foundations of Intimacy; October 5-28. Instructors: Nicole Perry and Claire Wilcher. Intimacy Directors & Coordinators, Zoom.
- 2022 Anatomy of an Apology; September 21. Instructors: Charlie Baker. Intimacy Directors & Coordinators, Zoom.
- 2022 Best Practices; September 10. Instructors: Greg Greffrard and Emily Rollie. Theatrical Intimacy Education, Zoom.

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Social Media Coordinator, Staunton, VA - August 2023 - May 2025

Coordinator, managing the Shakespeare & Performance program's social media accounts and digital marketing content. This primarily focused on Instagram, Facebook, semester newsletters, and weekly digests.

Instructor, Staunton, VA - August 2024 - December 2024

Instructor, instructing undergraduate students on acting techniques, performance preparation, public speaking, and script analysis for THEA 121: Acting 1.

Teaching Assistant, Boulder, CO - January 2023 - May 2023

Teaching Assistant, assisting with grading and lecturing for WGST 2050: Gender, Sexuality and Popular Culture with Dr. Shannon Leone.

Teaching Assistant, Boulder, CO - August 2022 - December 2022

Teaching Assistant, assisting with grading and lecturing for THTR 1009: Theatre & Society with PhD Candidate Heather Kelley. Lecture topics: *Gender* and *Applied & Documentary Theatre* (co-lecturer).

Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Boulder, CO - May 2022 - August 2022

House Manager, Managing the outdoor Mary Rippon Theatre during evening shows for, primarily, *The Book of Will* and, occasionally, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*. This position required organizing a team of nine staff members, fixing ticket machine errors, handling conflict resolution, and smooth running of the front of house and audience experience.

University Theatre, Boulder, CO - May 2022 - August 2022

Scenery Shop Employee. Duties include carpentry work (measuring and cutting wood, building sets), painting (scenery backgrounds), basic metal work (cutting, welding), and electrics (hanging lights, tying cable).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Course Instructor, Acting 1

Fall semester, 2024, Mary Baldwin University, Theatre department, Staunton, VA. Instructing undergraduate students on acting techniques, performance preparation, public speaking, and script analysis for THEA 121: Acting 1.

Teaching Assistant, Gender, Sexuality and Popular Culture

Spring semester, 2023, University of Colorado Boulder, Women & Gender Studies department, Boulder, CO. Assisting Dr. Shannon Leone with grading and lecturing for WGST 2050: Gender, Sexuality and Popular Culture with Dr. Shannon Leone.

Teaching Assistant, Theatre & Society

Fall semester, 2022, University of Colorado Boulder, Theatre & Dance Department, Boulder, CO. Assisting PhD candidate Heather Kelley with grading and lecturing for THTR 1009: Theatre & Society with PhD Candidate Heather Kelley. Lecture topics: *Gender* and *Applied & Documentary Theatre* (co-lecturer).

Teaching Assistant, *All's Well That Ends Well* Day Camp

July 2022 - August 2022, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Acting Day Camp, Boulder, CO. Focused in iambic pentameter, acting technique, character development, and personal growth and exploration. Assisting teacher Jordan Pettis.

Teaching Assistant, *Sprites* Day Camp

July 2022, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Acting Day Camp, Boulder, CO. Focused in collaboration, discovery, character development, and personal growth and exploration. Assisting teacher Kaitlin Nabors.

THEATRICAL DIRECTION / MANAGEMENT

Production Manager (conflict resolution and community care points)

2024 - 2025 - Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble, Staunton, VA.

Co-director, *Best Mayor the King* (staged reading)

Spring 2025 - Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble's Lamplighter staged reading series, Staunton, VA.

Co-director / Playwright / Actor, *Pericles: for Young Audiences*

Fall 2024 - Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble's educational touring show, Staunton, VA.

Assistant Stage Manager, *The Two Noble Kinsmen*

Spring 2024 - Mary Baldwin University Shakespeare & Performance, Staunton, VA.

Stage Manager, *All the Time in the World* (staged reading premiere)

Fall 2022 - CU Sandbox Student Series, Boulder, CO.

INTIMACY CHOREOGRAPHY

Honest [Wo]man's Revenge, or the Atheist's Tragedy

Intimacy Choreographer Team, Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble, VA, fall 2024.

The Two Noble Kinsmen

Intimacy Choreographer Team, Mary Baldwin University - S&P REN 531 course, VA, spring 2024

Convent of Pleasure (staged reading)

Intimacy Choreographer, Mary Baldwin University - S&P Second Year Showcase, VA, fall 2023

Henry VI Part 2

Intimacy Choreographer, Mary Baldwin University - S&P Second Year Showcase, VA, fall 2023

Troilus & Cressida

Intimacy Choreographer, Meadowlark Shakespeare Players, VA, fall 2023

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Intimacy Choreographer, Meadowlark Shakespeare Players, VA, fall 2023

Macbeth

Intimacy Consultant, University of Colorado, Boulder - Sandbox Student Series, CO, spring 2023

5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche

Intimacy Choreographer, University of Colorado, Boulder - Sandbox Student Series, CO, spring 2023

Yo Soy Una Mujer

Intimacy Consultant, University of Colorado, Boulder - Sandbox Student Series, CO, spring 2023

The Importance of Being Earnest

Intimacy Choreographer, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, fall 2022

Barbeque Apocalypse

Intimacy Choreographer, University of Colorado, Boulder - Sandbox Student Series, CO, fall 2022

The Performers

Intimacy Consultant, University of Colorado, Boulder - Sandbox Student Series, CO, fall 2022

OTHER THEATRICAL ARTISTIC EXPERIENCE

Props Artisan / Swing, *Henry VI Part 3*

Fall 2024 - Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble's small-scale show, Staunton, VA.

Dramaturg (pre-production), *Honest [Wo]man's Revenge*

Fall 2024 - Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble's small-scale shows, Staunton, VA.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Social Media Management

Coordinator, Staunton, VA, Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble, 2024 - 2025

Intimacy and Improv

Workshop instructor, Boulder CO, Sandbox Student Series, spring 2023

Foundations of Intimacy 2

Workshop instructor, Boulder CO, Sandbox Student Series, spring 2023

Foundations of Intimacy 1

Workshop instructor, Boulder CO, Sandbox Student Series, spring 2023

Trans Identity in Theatre

Lecturer, Sam Collier, THTR 1009: Theatre & Society, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, spring 2023

Trans Identity in Theatre

Lecturer, Dr. Shannon Leone, WGST 2050: Gender & Sexuality in Popular Culture, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, spring 2023

Gender

Lecturer, Heather Kelley, THTR 1009: Theatre & Society, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, fall 2022

Consent & Communication with Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Workshop instructor, Boulder, CO, spring 2022

Women's Self Defense

Instructing coach, Dark Horse Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, Longmont, CO 2019-2020

Girl Scout Gold Award: *Speak Above the Shoes*

Workshop instructor, Longmont, CO, summer 2017

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT MENTORING

Peer Reviewer

M.F.A Thesis	Mary Baldwin University	Bell, Austen	2024 - 2025
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Peer Reviewer

M.F.A Thesis	Mary Baldwin University	Roselene Jacob, Jovita	2024 - 2025
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Peer Reviewer

M.F.A Thesis	Mary Baldwin University	Showalter, Kyle	2024 - 2025
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HONORS

Beverly Sears Graduate Student Grant

Spring 2023, University of Colorado, Boulder. Grant supporting research, scholarship and creative work of graduate students from all departments.

Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Fellowship

Spring 2023, University of Colorado, Boulder. Grant fellowship supporting graduate creative research while promoting equity, inclusion, and academic excellence.

PRIMARY RESEARCH INTERESTS

Intimacy choreography and boundary practices; consent-based education; transgender representation in media; applied theatre with trans youth.

PUBLICATIONS

Articles (* peer-reviewed)

- *1. Bolon, M. Asserting Boundaries and Conflict Resolution with *A Midsummer Night's Dream*: Consent-Based Practices and Shakespeare. *The Journal of Consent-Based Performance*. Vol. 1, Issue 1, Fall 2022.
- *2. Bolon, M. Trans Identity On and Off Stage: A Guide for Support Trans Actors Playing Roles Outside Their Gender Identity. *ProQuest LLC*. Coming summer 2023
- *3. Bolon, M. Identity Awareness in Casting: When Trans Actors Play Roles Outside Their Gender Identity. *The Journal of Consent-Based Performance*. Vol. 2, Issue 2, Spring 2024.