

# GARRETT SAGER

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## EDUCATION

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**Bard College, M.A. Human Rights and the Arts** (expected 2023)

**University of Massachusetts Amherst, B.A. Theater**, magna cum laude (2019)

Minors in Linguistics & Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Commonwealth Honors College, scholar with greatest distinction; Departmental Honors in Theater

## SELECTED CREATIVE WORKS

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### LIVE ART

***Breaking the Seal***, interactive performance, Center for Human Rights and the Arts via River Road Studio, Barrytown, NY, April–May 2023 (upcoming)

***Market Price***, original live art piece, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, May 2022

***Little Lamb***, autobiographical live art piece, Bard Hall, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, March 2022

### THEATER & PERFORMANCE PRODUCING

***THE RINSE OFF! (Episode 1)***, theatrical video project  
Providence Fringe Festival, July 2021  
Queer & Now digital cabarets, February 2021

***call me when you get this: an adaptation of Floyd Dell's Enigma***,  
dir. Irisdelia Garcia, stage managed by Afrikah Selah,  
live virtual performances via GIA+ Productions, November 2020

***Queer & Now: Digital Cabarets***, videos and live performances created by  
members of the performance collective, April 2020–2021

***Queer & Now: Sync or Swim***, devised by company (also director)  
Hawks & Reed, Greenfield, MA, January 2020  
West Chelsea Arts, New York, NY, April 2019  
UMass Fine Arts Center, Amherst, MA, December 2018

**MRS. SMITH**, UMass Curtain Theater, Amherst, MA, February 2019

***Queer & Now: A Lip Sync Spectacular***, devised by company (also director)  
UMass Fine Arts Center 204, Amherst, MA, March 2018  
UMass French Hall, Amherst, MA, December 2017

<b>THEATER DIRECTING</b>	<i>A Number</i> by Caryl Churchill (experimental reading), UMass Fine Arts Center, Amherst, MA, February 2018
	<i>The Difference</i> by Tatiana Rodriguez, Five College WORD! Festival, Amherst, MA, April 2017
	<i>Gruesome Playground Injuries</i> by Rajiv Joseph, UMass Fine Arts Center, Amherst, MA, November 2016
	<i>Eight</i> by Ella Hickson, OBERON / American Repertory Theater, Cambridge, MA, June 2015 (New England premiere)
<b>ASSISTANT DIRECTING</b>	<i>Hedda</i> by Henrik Ibsen, adapted by Fig Lefevre and Christina Pellegrini, dir. Christina Pellegrini, UMass Rand Theater, Amherst, MA, February 2017
<b>DRAMATURGY</b>	<i>i don't know where we're going but i promise we're lost</i> , by MJ Halberstadt, dir. Jack Serio, Boston Playwrights' Theatre, August 2015
<b>PRODUCTION ASSISTANCE</b>	<i>Flamboyan</i> , created and performed by Jordan Reed, UMass Fine Arts Center, Amherst, MA, April 2019
	<i>Chronicle X: A Revival</i> by Nia O. Witherspoon, dir. Mei Ann Teo, JACK, Brooklyn, NY, January 2019

## WORK HISTORY

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### **Center for Human Rights and the Arts (CHRA)** Annandale-on-Hudson, NY

Office Assistant • Social Media, October 2022–May 2023

- Write and publish posts on CHRA's social media accounts, including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter
- Provide social media expertise to burgeoning graduate program
- Collaborate with CHRA leadership on social media campaigns, including event promotion and calls for applications to the Center's master's degree and fellowship programs

### **Fisher Center at Bard** Annandale-on-Hudson, NY

Digital Archive Associate, August 2021–May 2023

- Research and compile Fisher Center programming materials from its founding in 2003 to the present, including videos, evening programs, audio recordings, blog posts, press pieces, and photography
- Develop web pages featuring past performance events and related material, on Fisher Center website
- Write text and build website module in honor of Fisher Center's 20th anniversary

Assistant Marketing Manager, September 2019 – August 2021

- Manage all of the Fisher Center's social media accounts, including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Vimeo, YouTube, and Spotify; draft, edit, and publish social media posts daily
- Assist Marketing Manager with website updates and email communications, including copy-editing
- Conceive and edit video content for Fisher Center programming
- Manage and promote Passloff Pass: the Fisher Center's \$5 Bard College student ticket initiative
- Conduct, track, and document community outreach efforts for Fisher Center performances, connecting Fisher Center and local and national community centers, peer arts organizations, schools, and bookstores
- Implement and optimize digital campaigns for Google Ads, Facebook, and Instagram
- Provide general support to marketing department at educational performing arts center producing innovative, world-class programming in New York's Hudson Valley

Marketing Intern: Bard SummerScape, May – August 2019

**Queer & Now** Online / Amherst, MA

Producing Director, March 2021–

Producer and Founding Member, September 2017 – February 2021

- Lead and organize productions, rehearsals, and meetings for performance collective celebrating queer people via drag, burlesque, and cabaret
- Produce virtual cabarets—overseeing marketing, script-writing, and audience development efforts
- Serve as key point of contact for communications with producing venues and festivals
- Write copy and develop marketing materials for print and online marketing and promotional outlets, including Facebook, Instagram, Eventbrite, and event website [bit.ly/wearequeerandnow](http://bit.ly/wearequeerandnow)
- Organize, lead devising process for, and execute theater performances with collaborative team to 500+ audience members on University of Massachusetts Amherst campus, at local venues in western Massachusetts, and on tour to NYC (2017–20)

**Phallacies, Inc.** Amherst, MA

Applied Theater Intern, August 2018 – May 2019

- Support and participate in men's health educational theater non-profit organization
- Attend weekly group dialogues centered on hegemonic masculinity
- Perform at local community organizations, middle schools, and high schools
- Assist with group recruitment by attending internship fairs and creating publicity materials

**UMass Fine Arts Center** Amherst, MA

Marketing Assistant, June 2018 – May 2019

- Assist with preparation of marketing materials for Center Series and Asian Arts and Culture programming in Fine Arts Center 2018-19 season
- Write press releases for performing artists, based on extensive research of artist and company management / representation websites
- Draft and publish social media posts for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram
- Post Fine Arts Center events to local digital calendar listings

## AWARDS + RESIDENCIES

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- 2022 Experimental Humanities Collaborative Network ([EHCN](#)) Project Development Grant for *Breaking the Seal*
- 2021 [EmergeNYC](#), 2021 cohort artist, New York, NY
- 2020 Residency for *Queer & Now: Sex Ed*, The Foundry, West Stockbridge, MA (postponed due to COVID-19)
- 2019 [Rising Researcher](#), University of Massachusetts Amherst
- 2018 UMass Arts Council Special Projects Grant for *Queer & Now: Sync or Swim*  
Commonwealth Honors College Research Grant for *Queer & Now* thesis  
UMass Arts Council Mini-Grant for *Queer & Now: A Lip Sync Spectacular* remount
- 2017 UMass Arts Council Special Projects Grant for *Queer & Now: A Lip Sync Spectacular*
- 2016 UMass Arts Council Mini-Grant for *Gruesome Playground Injuries*  
Commonwealth Honors Study Abroad Scholarship for Arts & Culture in South Africa

## GUEST SPEAKING

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**Religion 360: Religion in Public.** Course instructed by Dr. Dominique Townsend at Bard College. Presentation on *Little Lamb* and *Breaking the Seal* research. October 2022.

**Theater 331: Queer Theater.** Course instructed by Professor Fig Lefevre at UMass Amherst. "Ethics of Building a Queer Theater Company." April 2021 and October 2019.

**Theater 620: Theaters of Dissent.** Course instructed by Dr. Megan Lewis at UMass Amherst. "From Compton's Cafeteria to #TransIsBeautiful: Queer and Trans Activism Throughout U.S. History" (session 1) and "Radical Drag & Dissent: Lip-Syncing and the Creation of *Queer & Now*" (session 2). March 2019.

## PRESENTATIONS

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**Massachusetts Undergraduate Research Conference.** Amherst, MA. "Creating New Possibilities of Gender, Identity, and Community in *Queer & Now: Sync or Swim*." April 2019.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- 2021 Fig Lefevre, "Lip-Syncing for Our Lives: Queering Dissent in *Queer & Now: A Lip-Sync Spectacular*" in *The Palgrave Handbook of Queer and Trans Feminisms in Contemporary Performance*, edited by Sandra D'Urso, Tiina Rosenberg, and Anna Renée Winget
- 2020 Joshua Barszczewski, "Materially Queer: Identity and Agency in Academic Writing", UMass Amherst Doctoral Dissertation (Rhetoric).

2015

Terry Byrne, "[Boston Teen Acting Troupe Has Come of Age](#)", *The Boston Globe*, June 2015

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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**CEU Summer University** Mediation Theory and Skills, Budapest, Hungary, 2022

- Course introducing students to the dispute resolution process through multinational examples and perspectives; task students to design and deliver dispute resolution initiatives in emerging democracies, as well as established legal cultures

**Pig Iron School** Creative Producing 101, instructor: J.J. El-Far, Philadelphia, PA (virtual), 2021

- Overview course about the different institutions and structures that define the current art-making landscape; topics included development and fundraising, marketing and outreach, financial management, and arts administration

**Machine de Cirque** Workshop, Amherst, MA, 2018

- Physical and improvisational theater session with touring company of cirque performers

**Double Edge Theatre** Summer Intensive, Ashfield, MA, 2017

- 10-day physical and devised theater workshop with resident company of collaborators

**Pilobolus** Workshop, Amherst, MA, 2016

- Movement workshop with renowned modern dance company

**Kim Stauffer** Workshop, Amherst, MA, 2016

- Contact improvisation workshop with ensemble in immersive physical theater production

**Berklee College of Music** Musical Theater Summer Intensive, Boston, MA, 2014

- Studies in singing, dancing, acting, and composition for musical theater, culminating in a final performance at the Berklee Performance Center

## SELECTED PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

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***Breaking the Seal***, Center for Human Rights and the Arts via River Road Studio, Barrytown, NY, April–May 2023 (upcoming)

***Vampy Valentines*** (Melissabeth), Delight Factory, Brooklyn, NY, February 2023

***Market Price*** (role: Bruce the American Lobster), Bard College, May 2022

***Little Lamb*** (Priest), Bard College, March 2022

***THE RINSE OFF! (Episode 1)***, (Sophie Dishwater), Providence Fringe Festival, July 2021

***Queer & Now: Digital Cabarets*** (performing as Melissabeth), April 2020-present

**Queer & Now: Sync or Swim** (Demeter/Ensemble), devised by company, dir. Garrett Sager, touring

**Pussy Sludge** (Rachel) by Gracie Gardner, dir. Rachel Hall. UMass Fine Arts Center, May 2019

**Tape** (Man), by Jose Rivera, dir. Afrikah Selah. UMass Fine Arts Center, April 2019

**The Lily's Revenge** (The Rose) by Taylor Mac, dir. Jennifer Onopa. UMass Fine Arts Center, April 2018  
(university premiere)

**Queer & Now: A Lip Sync Spectacular** (Judy Garland/Mother of the Bride), devised by company,  
dir. Garrett Sager. UMass French Hall/Fine Arts Center, Amherst, MA, 2017-18

**Ta'zieh: Between Two Rivers** (Hurr/Abedin) by Ifa Bayeza, dir. Nikoo Mamdoohi. touring: Boston  
University and UMass Campus Center, Amherst, MA, April – September 2017

**The Dream of the Burning Boy** (Dane) by David West Read, dir. Jack Serio. Calderwood Pavilion at the  
Boston Center for the Arts, April 2014 (New England premiere)

## COMMUNITY + UNIVERSITY SERVICE

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### **Hudson Community Free Fridges** Hudson, NY

Volunteer, January – July 2021

- Maintain cleanliness and organization of two fridges offering free food and toiletries to Hudson, NY residents and community members
- Make biweekly grocery store trips to contribute to fridges

### **International Language Institute (ILI)** Northampton, MA

Grant Database and Web Builder, September 2018 – May 2019

- Collaborate with ILI director to respond to the needs of the free English tutoring program for immigrants to Northampton, MA area
- Create ILI grant history database for free English tutoring program
- Develop web pages for ILI students with a curriculum on learning to drive in English, paying special attention to linguistic and cultural norms associated with driving in the U.S.

### **University of Massachusetts Amherst Theater Season Selection Committee**

Undergraduate Representative December 2016 – May 2017

- Collaborate with faculty and graduate students to shape Department of Theater season
- Read submissions from graduate students, faculty, and undergraduates
- Provide feedback to committee on undergraduate needs, demands, and requests

## FREELANCE WEB PROJECTS

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### **Filippatos PLLC** White Plains, NY, December 2020 – January 2021

- Build template and launch website for Filippatos PLLC, a newly-established law firm focused on employment law, litigation, and alternative dispute resolution (ADR)
- Create branding kit for Filippatos PLLC, including logo and color palette

## REFERENCES

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