

JENNY MERCEIN

Assistant Professor and Head of Undergraduate Acting
Tulane University, Department of Theatre and Dance
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research centers primarily on creating socially relevant theatre that speaks to contemporary issues and currently encompasses acting, directing, writing, and producing theatre and film. I have additional expertise in Solo Performance, Shakespeare, Viewpoints.

EDUCATION

2003 University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Master of Fine Arts in Acting.

1995 Yale University, New Haven, CT. B.A. in History of Art and Theater Studies.

SELECTED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

July 1, 2016-present Tulane University, New Orleans, LA
Assistant Professor, Department of Theatre and Dance

Spring 2016 Westmont College, Santa Barbara, CA
Adjunct Professor, Theatre Arts Department

Fall 2013-Spring 2016 University of California Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, CA
Adjunct Professor, Department of Theater and Dance

Fall 2007-Spring 2013 American Musical and Dramatic Academy (AMDA), New York, NY
Instructor

RECENT RESEARCH/ ARTISTIC HIGHLIGHTS

Auld Lang Syne, playwright

Published in the Anthology *Alone, Together* by Dramatic Publishing.

Premiered virtually June 6, 2020

Inspired by the prompt "Alone, Together," 24 distinguished [LAUNCH PAD](#) alumni playwrights wrote 39 short plays and monologues specifically created to be performed on Zoom. Fellow playwrights included Cheryl L. West, Mia Chung, Yusef El Guindi, Idris Goodwin, Arlene Hutton, and James Still. Available in book and digital format via [Dramatic Publishing](#).

Grýla- Not for Children, Director

Reykjavík Fringe Festival (RVK Fringe) Virtual Festival

July 2020

Gryla- Not for Children, an original solo show in verse written and performed by NY-based storyteller Christian Hege based on a 13th century Icelandic fairytale, premiered virtually at the 2020 RVK Fringe garnering [two major awards](#): the Act Alone award for best solo show and the Best Online Performance award.

Roleplay (full-length documentary feature), Producer

Projected release date: 2021

Directed by ethnographer and film maker Katie Mathews, *Roleplay* has received grants from NYSCA (\$17,500), the V-Day Foundation (\$10,000), and the [Southern Documentary Fund Production Grant](#) (\$10,000). The [International Documentary Association](#) (IDA) highlighted *Roleplay* as an important upcoming entry into the field.

Your Honor, Actor

Showtime

Director: Edward Berger

December 2020

Played an Assistant District Attorney in an episode of the limited series starring Bryan Cranston (*Breaking Bad*).

Roleplay (live play), Lead Artist and Producer

Lupin Theatre, Tulane University

New Orleans, LA

September 2019

Roleplay is an innovative approach using theater to confront the crisis of sexual violence on Tulane's campus.

[American Theatre Magazine](#) profiled the production in October of 2019. The script will be released by Dramatic Publishing in 2021.

The Birth Process and Voice Training: The Glorious Chorus (A Qualitative Pilot Inquiry)

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23268263.2018.1417097>

The Voice and Speech Review, Volume 12 Issue 1 (2018)

Routledge (Taylor & Francis Group)

Peer-Reviewed Journal Article co-authored with Kris Danford, cited in the [New York Times March 9, 2021](#).

X's and O's, Actor and Co-Creator

Director: Tony Taccone

Roles: Kelli, Martha, Roberta

Berkeley Repertory Theater & Baltimore Center Stage

January 2015 & November 2015

Co-creator, along with KJ Sanchez, of *X's and O's*, an award-winning interview-based play about football and traumatic brain injury. Extensive press included a feature article in the [New York Times](#).

ACTING/ DIRECTING/ PLAYWRITING CREDITS

A member of SAG-AFTRA and AEA, I've acted professionally in film, television, and theatre for over 15 years.

My directing credits include work in New York, California, and New Orleans. I've also written several plays.

Please see www.jennymercein.com for full credits and resumes.

SELECTED GRANTS RECEIVED

Southern Documentary Fund Production Grant, *Roleplay*, \$10,000, December 2019.

All In: Tulane's Commitment to Stop All Sexual Violence, "*Roleplay*," \$5000, August 2019.

Lurcy Grant, Tulane School of Liberal Arts, "*Roleplay* evaluation," \$2000, June 2019.

Tulane Scholarly Retreats, sponsored by A Studio in the Woods and Tulane's ByWater Institute, \$650 and a one-week retreat residency, March 2020 and April 2021.

Newcomb College Institute Special Initiative Grant via The Donna and Richard Esteves Fund for Reproductive Rights and Reproductive Health, "*Roleplay*," \$15,000, November 2018.

All In: Tulane's Commitment to Stop All Sexual Violence, "*Roleplay*," \$10,000, September 2018.

Newcomb College Institute Special Initiative Grant via The Donna and Richard Esteves Fund for Reproductive Rights and Reproductive Health, "*Roleplay*," \$10,000, August 2018.

Carol Lavin Bernick Faculty Grant Program, "*Roleplay*," \$10,000, April 2018.

MEMBERSHIPS

SAG-AFTRA, 2003-present.

Actors' Equity Association, 2004-present.

National Alliance of Acting Teachers, 2016-present.