

# José Pérez IV

*Curriculum Vitae*

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## **EDUCATION**

University of Pittsburgh, MFA Performance Pedagogy, 2017

New York University, Tisch School of the Arts, Experimental Theatre Wing, BFA Drama, 2011

## **UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, 2014-2017, Instructor (Grad Student)

“Special Topics: The Athletic Actor” - Fall 2015

Contact Improv, Grotowski-based training, and Capoeira studied together in order to bring the actor into full, embodied performance. The Contact Improv training is in direct conversation with the Grotowski training, emphasizing the following of impulses moment-to-moment while allowing students to discover deep intimacy and vulnerability. Capoeira is presented in a “martial arts for the actor” model, all physical skills and concepts are directly related to acting work. Original MFA Thesis course.

“Acting I” - Spring 2015 & 2016

Based in the Stanislavski Acting System and utilizing the exercises of Sanford Meisner. A focus upon connection, impulse, invested circumstances, objectives, and tactics. An introduction to character work. Course includes Devised Group projects, two Scenes, a Monologue, and a Mock Audition.

“Introduction to Performance” - Fall & Spring 2014-2016

Undergraduate course designed to introduce the basic components of acting work including a training of physical and vocal presence. Developing basic acting skills through theater games, acting exercises, improvisation and simple scene study. A component of critical response to theatrical productions is also involved.

“World Theatre I” - Invited Lecture - Fall 2015

Taught one class focusing on the performance rituals of ancient Egypt and Mesoamerica. An examination of the ways in which the performances of these peoples reflected and supported the society’s understanding of life, death, and creation.

“Acting III” - Invited Lecture - Fall 2015

Presented a workshop on Embodying Iambic Pentameter. Introduced students to the poetic structure of Shakespeare's go-to meter and the reasons why it was utilized. The class was guided through a variety of games/exercises which put the performer into direct *physical* contact with the rhythm and momentum of iambic pentameter. Monologue work and application to a two-person scene.

"Stage Combat" - Invited Lecture - Spring 2015

Taught a workshop in Telekinetic Powers Combat for the Stage. Emphasis placed on precise body isolations, the use of breath, and connection with a partner. Students were introduced to fundamental techniques, basic vocabulary, and the class concluded in pairs performing choreography.

University of Central Florida, Oviedo, FL, Teaching Assistant

"Stage Combat I" - Spring 2014

Course in Unarmed stage combat with an introduction to Single Sword. A thorough training in safety, partnering, physical control and isolation, and a dynamic use of body and voice in physical storytelling.

New York University, New York, NY, Instructor

"Basics of Stage Combat - Endurance/Instinct Training" - Summer 2011

For NYU Summer High program, exercises in instinct and endurance training, sharpening the senses and invigorating the awareness of the physical instrument. Basics of unarmed stage combat with an emphasis on safety, partnering, and effective communication.

Assisting Fight Master & SAFD President J. David Brimmer, New York University, New York, NY, 2009-2011, Teaching Assistant

"Stage Combat I"

"Stage Combat II: Unarmed"

"Stage Combat III: Broadsword"

"Stage Combat IV: Rapier & Dagger"

"NYU Summer Session: Stage Combat"

"Philadelphia Master Class: Choreographers Workshop"

## **RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS**

Stage Combat, Contact Improv, Grotowski, Martial Arts for the Actor, Creating Original Physical Theatre, Meditation & Mindfulness, Site-Specific Theatre, Interactive/Immersive Theatre.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

"Fight Theatre: Experiments in Site-Specific Fights and Audience-Combatants" in *The Fight*

*Master: The Journal of the Society of American Fight Directors*, Spring Issue 2015

## **HONORS & AWARDS**

MFA Teaching Award, University of Pittsburgh, PA, 2017

Elizabeth Baranger Excellence in Teaching Award, University of Pittsburgh, PA, 2016

Patron's Pick Award, Bring Your Own Venue Category, Orlando International Fringe Theatre Festival, Orlando, FL, 2014

James Finney Memorial Award "for the greatest determination in life and/or in stage combat", awarded by the College of Fight Masters, SAFD National Stage Combat Workshop 2016

National Stage Combat Workshop Scholarship, awarded by the Society of American Fight Directors, 2016

Voted "Best Actor" by University of Pittsburgh Theatre Arts faculty & students for the 2014-2015 UP Stages season

Nominated by undergraduate students for the Elizabeth Baranger Excellence in Teaching Award, University of Pittsburgh, PA, 2015

NYU Tisch Drama Studio Award, 2011

## **RESIDENCIES**

Celebration Barn Theater Artist Residency, South Paris, ME, 2015

Downtown Art Artist Residency, New York, NY, 2012

## **STAGE COMBAT TRAINING**

9 years as a member of the Society of American Fight Directors. Advanced Actor Combatant

Certifications in all 8 Weapons: Unarmed, Broadsword, Rapier & Dagger, Quarterstaff, Knife,

Single Sword, Smallsword, Sword & Shield. 2008-Present

The National Stage Combat Workshop, Advanced Workshop, Winston-Salem, NC, 2016

The Fredricksen Stage Combat Intensive, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, 2015

The Tourist Trap Stage Combat Workshop, Orlando, FL, 2014

Winter Wonderland Stage Combat Workshop, Chicago, IL, 2011

The Philadelphia Cheesesteak Stage Combat Workshop, Philadelphia, PA, 2010

The Summer Sling Stage Combat Workshop, New York, NY, 2010

## **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

Contact Improv Intensive w/ K.J. Holmes - MELT, Movement Research, New York, NY, 2015

Technique Intensive w/ Jeremy Nelson - MELT, Movement Research, New York, NY, 2015

Celebration Barn Physical Training Theater, Summer 2014 & 2015

Synetic Masterclass for Teachers, Southeastern Theatre Conference, Chattanooga, TN, 2015

Synetic Masterclass for Performers, Southeastern Theatre Conference, Chattanooga, TN, 2015

Kristin Linklater Masterclass, Southeastern Theatre Conference, Chattanooga, TN, 2015

Immersive/Interactive Intensive w/ Jeff Wirth, Celebration Barn, South Paris, ME, 2015

Antigravity Aerial Arts Training Center, Orlando, FL, 2013-2014

## **WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

“Stage Combat: Telekinetic Powers Fighting”, Southeastern Theatre Conference, Chattanooga, TN, 2015

“Creating Site-Specific Theatre”, Southeastern Theatre Conference, Chattanooga, TN, 2015

“Basic Unarmed Stage Combat”, invited by student group The Performance Collaborative, University of Pittsburgh, PA, 2014

“Stage Combat: Unarmed”, NJ Thespian Festival, Kean University, Elizabeth, NJ, March 2014

“Stage Combat: Unarmed and Knife”, Downtown Art, New York, NY, Sept 2011

“Basics of Stage Combat”, NYC Festival of Young Artists and Leaders, New York, NY, June 2011

## **PROFESSIONAL TEACHING**

“Introduction to Contact Improv”, Workshop, Pittsburgh, PA, Summer 2015

“Playwriting 101”, 3-Month Course, In the Limelight Acting Studio, Orlando, FL, Spring 2014

“Basics of Stage Combat”, Workshop, In the Limelight Acting Studio, Orlando, FL, Spring 2014

“Contact Improv: Application to Unarmed Stage Combat”, 4-Month Training, with Fight Theatre, New York, NY, Spring 2011

“Contact Improv: Application to Knife Stage Combat”, 3-Month Training, with Fight Theatre, New York, NY, Spring 2011

“Endurance/Strength Training for the Actor”, 6-Month Training, with Fight Theatre, New York, NY, Summer-Fall 2011

“Endurance/Instinct Training for the Actor”, 8 Workshop Series, Pittsburgh, PA, Fall 2014

“Sparring & Advanced Contact Hits”, 2-Month Training, with Fight Theatre, New York, NY, Summer 2011

“Zombie Apocalypse Combat Training & Tactics”, 3-Month Training, with Fight Theatre, New York, NY, Summer 2012

“Advanced Telepathic Powers Choreography”, 2-Month Training, with Fight Theatre, New York, NY, Spring 2012

“Composing Choreography: Fights Set to Music”, 3-Month Training Unarmed & Weapons, with Fight Theatre, New York, NY, Fall 2010

Autism/Special Education Aide for 2 years, New York, NY, 2011-2013

Working one-on-one with a teenage boy with severe autism and extremely violent tendencies. Responsibilities included: lessons in physical control/coordination/strength, lessons in physical independence, Facilitated Communication (typing aid), transportation, preventing self-harm and the administration of medicine.

**DIRECTING - ORIGINAL WORKS** \*Playwright \*\*Playwright, Fight Choreographer

**\*\*WINNER OF THE PATRON'S PICK AWARD**, Orlando International Fringe Theatre Festival:

The Ride-Along: An Immersive Theatre Adventure for Two, Orlando, FL, May 2014

and Oviedo, FL, March 2014

\*Welcome to the Table: An Interactive Theatre/Party Event at Celebration Barn, South Paris,

ME 2015

\*Berlin Bound, site-specific, at Celebration Barn, South Paris, ME, 2014

\*Shower Piece, audience-of-one, at Celebration Barn, South Paris, ME, 2014

\*\*Fr. José Projection Battle at Celebration Barn, South Paris, ME, 2014

\*\*The Battle of Taco Hill, site-specific, at The Hill, Cherokee, NC, 2013

\*\*Street Mystery: An Audience-Of-One Experience on the streets of Greenwich Village, New

York, NY, 2013

\*Dr. Robert's Audio Tour at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY, 2013

\*\*FIGHTER at The Rose Theater, Kansas City, MO, 2012

Times Square Arts Center, New York, NY 2011

New York University, Experimental Theatre Wing, 2011

\*\*ZOMBIES: A Workshop, a one-man show. As a part of the Downtown Art Residency.

Downtown Art, New York, NY, 2012

\*\*Snowball Battle Field, site-specific, at Riverside Park, New York, NY, 2012

\*Jog-Jog MP3, site-specific Athletic Art, at the Hudson River Walkway, Bayonne, NJ, 2011

\*The Wall Street Run, site-specific, Financial District, New York, NY, 2010

## **ACTING**

Working as a Standardized Patient - University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, portraying medical cases for clinical exams, providing feedback to medical students in regards to physical exam techniques and interpersonal skills. 2016-Present

Vice Principal Panch - The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee directed by Rob Frankenberry, University of Pittsburgh, PA, 2017

Deputy Hank Dobbs (and fight captain)- The Last Huzzah at Camp Maine and immersive/interactive show written and directed by Jeff Wirth, Celebration Barn Theater, South Paris, ME, 2015

Teodoro - Dog in the Manger by Lope de Vega, directed by Dennis Schebetta, University of Pittsburgh, PA, 2015

David - 'Til Death Do Us Part (staged reading) by Sarah Scheid, directed by Julian Stetkevych, Young Playwrights Festival, City Theatre Pittsburgh, PA, 2015

Subconscious - Appointment directed by Aaron Landsman, Gammage BEYOND Series, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, 2014

Jake (and fight captain) - Unto These Hills by Kermit Hunter, directed by Marion Waggoner, Mountainside Theatre, Cherokee, NC, 2013

The Iroquois (and fight captain) - Time of War fight choreographer Jake Guinn, Oconaluftee Indian Village, Cherokee, NC, 2013

Aerial Cube & Wall Run - Antigravity Orlando choreographed by the company, Antigravity Aerial Theater, Orlando, FL, 2013

Rich - Sheeple written by Mara Wilson, directed by Max Reuben, Fresh Ground Pepper New Works Festival, New York, NY, 2012

Minion/Drummer - Orpheus and the Plastic Masquerade conceived and directed by Sanaz

Ghajarrahi, Built for Collapse, Galapagos Arts Space, New York, NY 2010

The Child - Coyote and Uncle Dale's Sack of Stones directed by Karmenlara Seidman, Galapagos

Arts Space, Joe's Pub, New York University, 2009

Shevaughn - Red House written and directed by John Jesurun, Experimental Theatre Wing, New

York, NY, 2009

Dance Corps - Dance Dance Revolution directed by Alex Timbers, Les Freres Corbusier, The Ohio

Theater, New York, NY, 2008

Fleance/Young Siward - Macbeth directed by Marc Beaudin, 303 Arts Collective, Saginaw, MI, 2006

### **ADDITIONAL TRAINING**

Advanced Free Fall Skydiving Certification, Skydive Space Center, Titusville, FL, 2013

## **LIST OF REFERENCES**

J. David Brimmer  
Former President, Society of  
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