

Sarah-Berry Pierce

Education

2024-Present **PhD Student in Theatre and Performance Studies**
Tufts University

2022-2023 **Masters of Arts in Performance Studies**
New York University, Tisch School of The Arts
The Leigh George Odom Memorial Award for Distinguished MA Student
M.A. Performance Studies Student Representative

Master's Thesis: "She's Not Like the Other Girls": Queering the Categories and Performances of Fat Girlhood

Notable Coursework: Theories of Spectatorship, Reading Art as Confrontation, Queer Theory and Psychoanalysis, Black Performance: Violence, Female Cultural Rebels in Modern Times

2018-2022 **Bachelors of Arts with Honors, Women's Studies and Drama**
Vassar College
Eloise Ellery Fellowship for Graduate Study Recipient
June Ross Mark's Travel Fund Recipient for Art Study in France

Thesis in Women's Studies: "Not Another Cinderella Story: Re-imagining the Princess Through Camp in Sofia Coppola's *Marie Antoinette* (2006)."

Thesis in Direction: *Our Dear Dead Drug Lord* by Alexis Scheer. Presented by the Experimental Theatre of Vassar College, December 2021.

Conference Presentations

2024 **The 2024 American Society for Theater Research Conference**
"Fatness in the End Times"

"You'll grow out of it": Exploring the Relationship between Fatness and Queer Time in Childhood and Adulthood.

2023 **The 2023 American Society for Theater Research Conference**
"The Monstrous Utopias"

“Making Weigh for the Monster: Examining the Liberatory Power of Fat Performance from Celesta Geyer to Veronika Merklein”

2023 **UCLA Department of Theater and the Center for Performance Studies Graduate Student Conference**
Plenary Panel on The Body

“Fearing Fat and Appearing Fat: Performances of Fatphobia, Embodied Fatness, and the Queer Possibilities of Bodily Excess”

2022 **Harvard National Undergraduate Research Conference, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.**

“Let Them Eat Cake: Marie Antoinette’s Historical Legacy through Aesthetic Theme, Fashion, and Performance.”

Academic Service

2022-2023 M.A. Performance Studies Student Representative, New York University Tisch School of the Arts, New York, NY.

2022-2023 David Payne Carter Award Committee, New York University Tisch School of the Arts, New York, NY.

2022-2023 Faculty Search Committee, Performance Studies at, New York University Tisch School of the Arts, New York, NY.

2021-2022 Women’s Studies Research Assistant, Vassar College
Serves as a research assistant for all faculty members of the Women’s Studies Steering Committee. Served as academic assistant and hosted weekly office hours.

Awards and Fellowships

2023 The Leigh George Odom Memorial Award for Distinguished MA Student, New York University Tisch School of the Arts

2022 Vassar College—Honors in Drama

2022 Vassar College—Honors in Women’s Studies

2022 Eloise Ellery Fellowship for Graduate Study, Vassar College

2021 June Ross Marks ’49 Travel Fund for archival research in Paris, France.

Theatrical Work/Professional Experience

- 2022 **Marketing Associate**, New York Stage and Film.
- 2019-2021 **Stage Management Intern**, Vassar College Drama Department
Taught weekly course in Stage Management to undergraduate beginner and intermediate stage managers.
- 2018- 2022 **Idlewild Theatre Ensemble**
President (2021-2022), Member (2018-2022) Production Manager (2018-2021)
- 2019 **Assistant Production Manager**, Powerhouse Theater Training Company with New York Stage and Film
- 2016-2018 **Production Stage Manager**, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS.

Directing Work

- 2022 *Horse Girls*, by Jenny Rachel Weiner, Idlewild Theatre Ensemble, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.
- 2021 *Our Dear Dead Drug Lord*, by Alexis Scheer, The Experimental Theatre at Vassar College
- 2021 Assistant Director, *As You Like It*, by Shakespeare, Vassar College, dir. Christopher Grabowski, Poughkeepsie, NY.
- 2020 *Fefu and Her Friends*, by María Irene Fornés, The Experimental Theatre at Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.
- 2018 *Dogfight*, Future Waitstaff of America, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.

Theatrical Management Work

- 2021 Production Manager, *Dead Bitch*, by Zoe Nelms, Idlewild Theatre Ensemble, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.
- 2019 Production Stage Manager, *Fun Home*, by Lisa Kron, The Experimental Theatre at Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.
- 2019 Take Back the Night, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY. “The Witching Hour”
- 2018 Production Manager, *It’s True, It’s True, It’s True*, Idlewild Theatre Ensemble, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.

- 2018 Production Stage Manager, *Phantom of The Opera*, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS.
- 2018 Take Back the Night, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.
Organized a night of performances honoring survivors of sexual assault.
- 2017 Stage Manager, *Rock of Ages*, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS.
- 2017 Stage Manager, *James and the Giant Peach*, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS.

Dramaturgy

- 2021 *Untitled*, Idlewild Theatre Ensemble, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.
- 2020 *If You Give A Witch A Bath*, Idlewild Theatre Ensemble, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.

Performance

- 2022 Trish, *Horse Girls*, by Jenny Rachel Weiner, Idlewild Theatre Ensemble, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY.