

***Holly Cate***  
Associate Professor  
Department of Theatre & Dance  
Muhlenberg College  
hollycate@muhlenberg.edu  
646.319.5594  
hollycateactor.com

## EDUCATION

---

**Brandeis University, M.F.A. Professional Theatre Training Program – Acting, 1992**

**Harvard University, A.B. *cum laude*, English History & Literature, 1989**

## TEACHING

---

Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA

2006-present

### ***On-Camera Acting***

An advanced acting course designed to introduce students to the skills required to work effectively on camera while also adding tools to their toolbox. Taught in collaboration with a professional cinematographer and a team of student editors. Typically, each actor films at least one television monologue, two television scenes (one multi-cam and one single-cam) and a film scene. Actors have the opportunity to leave the course with a professional-quality reel.

### ***Changing Lenses: Creating Embodied Performance for Digital Media***

An online interdisciplinary course co-taught at the intersection of Dance and Theatre with an emphasis on structure and composition in creating embodied performance pieces for digital media as well as nurturing each individual performer's unique creative voice. Designed for intermediate performers from across disciplines. Technique work drawn from the worlds of both Theatre and Dance, including Zornitsa Stoyanova, Ruth Zaporah, Viola Spolin, Dr. S. Ama Wray and Frantic Assembly.

### ***Acting I: Process***

An intensive Stanislavski-based technique course designed to introduce students to the fundamental building blocks of the actor's process. The first half of a yearlong foundational acting technique sequence.

### ***Acting II: Scene Study***

A rigorous physical course rooted in exploring the specifics of behavior necessary to create a three-dimensional character. Technique work is drawn from Stanislavski, Lecoq, Laban, and Ruth Zaporah. The second half of the foundational acting sequence.

### ***Stanislavski's Psycho-Physical Technique***

An intermediate acting technique course rooted in Stanislavski's psycho-physical technique, designed for students who want to go deeper with realist scene study. This course offers actors the opportunity to work somatically to find the specifics of a character's behavior and truthful moment to moment *doing*. Additional somatic work drawn from Laban, Lecoq, Grotowski and Ruth Zaporah.

### ***Movement for the Actor***

A studio practicum course designed to give students the opportunity to explore the storytelling potential of the body while also working through personal habits and tensions. Open to all bodies, this course invites students to expand their movement vocabulary while also nurturing their unique storytelling voice through the creation of physical theatre pieces. Technique work drawn from Frantic Assembly, Ruth Zaporah, Liz Lerman, Complicité, contact improv, and Dr. S. Ama Wray.

# Holly Cate

## **Audition Workshop**

An advanced acting course taught in collaboration with industry professionals from New York (directors, agents, casting directors) designed to give upper-level actors experience in a variety of audition structures. Mock auditions include generals, cold-readings, self-tapes, callbacks and a selection of genre-specific auditions, including musical theatre, classical verse/Shakespeare, and on-camera.

## **Introduction to Physical Theatre**

A studio practicum course designed to give students the opportunity to explore the storytelling potential of the body with an emphasis on improvisatory creation. Technique work drawn from Frantic Assembly, Ruth Zaporah, Liz Lerman, Complicité, contact improv and yoga.

## **Improvisation**

A studio technique course rooted in the work of Ruth Zaporah and designed to give actors and dancers concentrated exposure to the key skills of the successful improviser, with a particular emphasis on compositional structure and making the “tasty” choice.

## **Bodies of Knowledge**

A multi-disciplinary course co-taught with colleagues from Neuroscience and Sociology which used one topic area – the human body – to introduce students to multiple ways of knowing. In putting the three disciplines of neuroscience, theatre, and sociology into conversation with each other, the course sought to create a new interdisciplinary space in which the body may be understood.

## **Violence: Investigating Humanity’s Dirty Little Secret**

A first-year writing intensive seminar designed to introduce students to college-level writing, thinking and critical discourse. Readings included Konrad Lorenz, Margaret Mead, Hannah Arendt, and Bill Buford.

## **Mentor – Independent Studies**

**Acting I Teaching Assistants** – Summer training program plus semester-long mentorship focused on the pedagogy of teaching acting technique; by invitation only, for select students who function as TAs for the Acting I course.

**On-Camera Acting production assistants** – Mentorship provided in collaboration with the professional cinematographer of the On-Camera Acting course; for select students in Film Studies seeking a hands-on approach to life on set. Areas of emphasis included directing, cinematography and lighting, and editing.

**Dana Scholars** – Mentorship provided for self-designed programs by Muhlenberg’s elite Dana Scholars; topics include audition techniques and life in the professional theatre.

Denison University, Granville, OH

2005

### **Acting: Realism I**

A rigorous, semester-long course designed to introduce both majors and non-majors to basic Stanislavski technique, with an emphasis on storytelling with the body.

The Actors Institute, New York, NY

2000-2003

### **Co-chair - Actor’s Craft Program**

A one-year program designed for beginning actors that drew its faculty from a diverse group of teaching artists. Liased with other faculty to ensure unity of artistic vision and program cohesion.

### **On-Camera Acting Technique**

A 16-week, beginning-level acting class that combined basic acting exercises, theatre games, and improv with an emphasis on becoming aware of the power of the camera as audience and scene-partner.

### **Introduction to Soap Opera**

A five-week introductory course to the world of daytime television.

Private Acting/Audition Coaching

1998-present

# Holly Cate

## PERFORMING (represented by KMR Talent – NYC)

---

### **BROADWAY**

*AN IDEAL HUSBAND*

Lady Jane Barford  
u/s – Mabel Chiltern

Sir Peter Hall, Dir.

### **TELEVISION/WEB**

*THE OTHER F WORD*

*TEAM UMIZOOMI*

*AS THE WORLD TURNS*

Orly (lead)  
Supporting (VO)  
Janice Maxwell  
(contract)

Amazon Prime / Fox Meadow Films  
Nickelodeon  
CBS

### **NEW YORK THEATRE**

*ATTRACTIVE WOMEN ON THE TRAIN*

Bonnie

**Winner – Best Actress**

*THE UMBRELLA PLAY*

*PASSIONATE WOMEN*

*SEVERITY'S MISTRESS*

Simone  
Marianna  
Covette

Turnip Theatre Festival / Ron Russell  
Actors Theatre Workshop / Margaret Perry  
LaMaMa / Joumana Rizk  
Soho Rep / Jim Peck, Dir.

### **REGIONAL THEATRE**

*STEAL HER BONES*

*GOD OF CARNAGE*

*THE CHERRY ORCHARD*

*JUDITH/DRESSES/JOE*

*THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST*

*THEN ATHENA*

*THE TEMPEST* +

Ellen Travis  
Veronica  
Lyubov Ranevskaya  
Woman  
Lady Bracknell  
Steve/Laney/Leslie  
Prospero

InterAct Theatre / Seth Rozin  
Civic Theatre / Will Morris  
Muhlenberg College / Matt Moore  
Philly Fringe Festival / Jim Peck  
Muhlenberg College / Jim VanValen  
Philly Fringe Festival / Troy Dwyer  
Muhlenberg College /

*MAD FOREST*

*THE JEWISH WIFE*

*CAW* - an original dance theatre piece+

Dog/Angel/Translator  
Judith  
Xanthara

Charles Anderson & Troy Dwyer  
Muhlenberg College / Beth Schachter  
IJC / Jim Peck  
Muhlenberg College /

*BLITHE SPIRIT*

*AN IDEAL HUSBAND*

*BLOOD WEDDING*

*ALL MY SONS*

*ARMS AND THE MAN*

*VENUS*

*A DOLL HOUSE*

*HAY FEVER*

Elvira  
Mabel  
Mother  
Ann  
Raina  
Mother-Showman  
Helene  
Sorel

Charles Anderson & Troy Dwyer  
Portland Stage / Sari Ketter  
Pioneer Stage Co. / Victor Pappas  
Muhlenberg College / Francine Roussel  
American Stage Theatre / Sondra Lee  
Asolo Theatre / Brian Murray  
Muhlenberg College / Beth Schachter  
Baltimore Center Stage / Jackson Phippin  
Mt. Holyoke Summer Theatre /  
Michael Walker

+ ACTF Certificate of Merit for Exemplary Acting

---

**Numerous television and radio commercials** (*list available upon request*)

**Audio Book Narrator for Audible, Inc.** (titles incl. *Run River* by Joan Didion and *In the Mind Fields* by Casey Schwartz [Earphones Award]; full list available upon request)

# Holly Cate

## ORIGINAL WORK/DIRECTING

---

### **Meaner Creatures** (playwright)

Part 3 of *The HENRY Project*, a three-play original adaptation of William Shakespeare's War of the Roses saga. Staged reading directed by Jim Peck scheduled for April 2020 – halted by COVID-19. Developed at the Lark Theater NYC with Margaret Perry as dramaturg/director. Script available.

### **O War** (playwright)

Part 2 of *The HENRY Project*, a three-play original adaptation of William Shakespeare's War of the Roses saga. Directed by Troy Dwyer, choreography by Jeffrey Peterson, violence and intimacy by Claire Warden. World premiere – March 2019, Muhlenberg College. Photos and script available.

### **GLORY** (playwright/director)

Part 1 of *The HENRY Project*, a three-play original adaptation of William Shakespeare's War of the Roses saga. Violence by Michael G. Chin. Scenic design by Susan Zeeman Rogers; costumes by Grier Coleman; lighting by Christina Wantanabe. World premiere – March 2018, Muhlenberg College. Ellen McLaughlin, respondent. Photos, video, scripts and letter of response from Ellen McLaughlin available.

### **The HENRY Project** (creator/director)

A three-play original adaptation of William Shakespeare's *Henry VI* tetralogy. Workshopped as part of The Lark's Roundtable Reading Series, NYC, Summer 2015. An earlier version of Part 1 was performed in the Egner Chapel at Muhlenberg College in March of 2009. Short segments of the piece have also been presented at the "Keepin' Out the Dark Festival", The West End Theatre, NYC, May 2003 and at Denison University, Granville, OH, December 2005. Video and scripts available.

### **The Three Sisters** by Anton Chekhov, translated by Sarah Ruhl (director)

Created in partnership with a student choreographer, this intricate reimaging of Chekhov's masterwork emphasized the rhythm and physical life of the Prozorov household while also highlighting the humanity of Chekhov's richly drawn characters. Muhlenberg College, April 2012. Photos and video available.

### **A Blessed Unrest** (co-creator/director/producer)

An evening of student performance in celebration of the inauguration of Muhlenberg's 12<sup>th</sup> President, John I. Williams, featuring more than 65 performers. Connected by a theme of metamorphosis, the evening included instrumental music, choral arrangements, theatre, dance and musical theatre pieces. Muhlenberg College, October 2015. Video segments available.

### **The Shape of Things** by Neil LaBute (director)

A multi-media presentation of the play with video segments and a three-dimensional soundscape. Opened September 30, 2005 at Denison University, Granville, OH.

### **The More You Look** (creator/director/producer)

An evening of seven short plays written in response to the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle that explored the relationship between the observer and the observed. The seven plays were chosen from a submission group of over 35 original plays; they were then workshopped and presented in a sold-out run at the Access Theater, NYC, Jan. – Feb. 2002. Featured in *Time Out NY* and *Physics World*. Script and video available.

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

---

### SAG/AFTRA

### Actor's Equity Association

### Association of Theatre Movement Educators

Conference Planner for the ATHE Conference – 2013, 2014, 2015

# Holly Cate

## WORKSHOPS and CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

---

Co-leader, Teaching Triangles, Muhlenberg Center for Teaching & Learning, 2022

Laban workshop, EpicNEXT summer program, Epic Theatre Ensemble, 2015 - 19

“Embodied Learning”, Muhlenberg Center for Teaching & Learning, 2020

Conference Planner, Association of Theatre Movement Educators, ATHE 2013 - 15

“Training Actors through Games: When Students Pay to Play, Part 2”, taught Action Theater workshop, ATHE 2013

Respondent, “Adjudicated Acting Exercises Debut Session”, Parts 1 and 2, ATHE 2013

“Refocusing the Lens: Teaching Acting for the Camera for the Digital Generation”, on-camera workshop, ATHE 2012

“Action is Not a Metaphor”, two-part workshop, ATHE 2011

“Breathing into the Body”, conference-wide warm up, ATHE 2011

Respondent, “Adjudicated Workshop of Debut and Adapted Acting Exercises”, ATHE 2011

## ACADEMIC GRANTS and AWARDS

---

**Student Research Assistant Grant, “Changing Lenses: Exploring Embodied Pedagogies for Online Learning”** 2020

Collaborative research project with Dance colleague and eight students designed to develop innovative and effective methods for teaching embodied performance online

**Mellon Program Review Grant, “Future Arts: Creativity and the Digital”** 2019

Inter-disciplinary program investigation with faculty from Theatre, Media/Comm, Film Studies, English, Art and Computer Science

**Summer Research Grant** 2015, 2016

Faculty Development and Scholarship Committee, Muhlenberg College  
Supporting development of *The HENRY Project*, a three-play adaptation of Shakespeare’s War of the Roses saga

**Joint Pedagogical and New Course Development Grant** 2013

Faculty Center for Teaching, Muhlenberg College

**Bridge Builder’s Award** 2007, 2012, 2018

Academic Resource Center, Muhlenberg College

**Summer Research Grant** 2011

Faculty Development and Scholarship Committee, Muhlenberg College

**Summer Research Grant** 2010

Faculty Development and Scholarship Committee, Muhlenberg College

**Pedagogical Development Grant** 2009

Faculty Center for Teaching, Muhlenberg College

# Holly Cate

## COLLEGE SERVICE

---

<b>Member, Academic Renewal Task Force</b> Delivered a set of recommendations to the administration to align faculty resources to more efficiently serve a changing student body while retaining faculty positions and creating a more humane working environment.	<b>2022 - present</b>
<b>Member, Muhlenberg Center for Teaching and Learning Advisory Board</b> Designed and curated programming to support excellence in teaching across campus; led teacher training workshops; innovative pedagogical grant review <b>Led Teaching Triangles initiative in 2022</b>	<b>2019 – 2022</b>
<b>Equity Advocate</b> Responsible for ensuring that faculty and staff searches are inclusive and equitable	<b>2021 - present</b>
<b>Co-curricular Working Group</b> Theatre & Dance department, Muhlenberg College Responsible for shaping production season for AY 2020-21 and 2021-22	<b>2020 – 2021</b>
<b>Curricular Revision Committee - Theatre</b> Theatre & Dance department, Muhlenberg College Developed new curriculum for the Theatre program; wrote and curated new course proposals, particularly in Acting; devised and implemented transition plan	<b>2018 – 2020</b>
<b>Faculty Digital Learning Fellow</b> Camp Design Online summer training - Digital Learning Center, Muhlenberg College	<b>2020 - present</b>
<b>Chair, CUE/Assessment Committee - Theatre</b> Designed assessment instruments for the Theatre program; created interim CUE course to fulfill college-wide mandate	<b>2011 – 2019</b>
<b>Theatre &amp; Dance faculty search committees</b> Chair – Visiting Assistant Professor in Acting (2020, 2018) Equity Advocate – Lighting Design Lecturer (2022)	<b>2017 – 2022</b>
<b>Member, President's Inauguration Committee</b> Produced and directed <i>A Blessed Unrest: A Celebration of Student Performance</i> Curated video installation featuring student work in Theatre, Dance, Media & Communications and Film Studies	<b>2015</b>
<b>Co-director, Center for Ethics - "Memory &amp; Forgetting"</b> Speakers included Philip Gourevitch and Stephanie Coontz	<b>2011</b>
<b>Library Liaison</b> Theatre & Dance department, Muhlenberg College	<b>2009 - present</b>
<b>Scholar-in-Residence</b> Living Learning Community, Muhlenberg College	<b>2010</b>
<b>June Advisor</b> Faculty Center for Teaching, Muhlenberg College	<b>2007 - present</b>
<b>Prospective Student Recruitment – Muhlenberg College</b>	<b>2007 - present</b>

# *Holly Cate*

## **ADVANCED TRAINING** (long-term studies and workshops)

---

### MASTER CLASSES:

Linda Hunt  
Brian Cox

### ACTING:

Sir Peter Hall – acting and directing  
Ted Kazanoff - Stanislavski method  
Valerie Dean and Don Rieder (Cirque du Soleil) - clowning  
Kate Carney - improv and physical theatre

### MOVEMENT:

Ruth Zaporah – Action Theater (Santa Fe intensive and multiple workshops)  
Frantic Assembly – physical theatre (workshop)  
Susan Dibble – movement for the actor and dance  
Annie Loui – movement as theatre and social dance (waltz, tango, foxtrot, etc.)  
Charles Anderson – African dance  
Jeff Bliss – Contact improv (workshop)  
Mike Chin, Robert Walsh – stage combat  
Neil Katz – Alexander Technique (workshop)

### SHAKESPEARE:

Patsy Rodenberg – monologue workshop  
Marya Lowry - verse analysis  
Danny Gidron - text analysis  
Michael Murray - performance and style work

### VOICE/SPEECH:

Marya Lowry – vocal production and text  
Alex Davis – Skinner and dialects  
Roy Hart Theatre – France (workshop)

### TEACHING:

Anna Yeakley and Colette Cann – “How to Talk about Race in College Classrooms”  
Brooke Vick and Connie Wolf – Intergroup Dialogue training  
David Shookhoff – Manhattan Theatre Club Teaching Artist Workshop  
Master Teacher Program – The Actors Institute

# Holly Cate

## REFERENCES

---

Dr. James Peck  
Professor  
Department of Theatre & Dance  
Muhlenberg College  
[jimpeck@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:jimpeck@muhlenberg.edu)  
484.664.3582

Megan Flynn  
Director of Dance  
Artist-in-Residence  
Theatre & Dance Department  
Union College  
[flynnm@union.edu](mailto:flynnm@union.edu)  
860.287.6956

Margarett Perry  
Freelance director, NYC  
[margarettperry@icloud.com](mailto:margarettperry@icloud.com)  
917.446.4447

Teresa VanDenendSorge  
Lecturer of Dance  
Northern Kentucky University  
[vandenendt1@nku.edu](mailto:vandenendt1@nku.edu)  
616.299.5809

Dr. Jeremy Teissere  
Professor  
Biology and Neuroscience  
Muhlenberg College  
[jeremyteissere@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:jeremyteissere@muhlenberg.edu)  
610.295.8654

Greg Roth  
Freelance cinematographer/editor  
[rothyg@gmail.com](mailto:rothyg@gmail.com)  
484.241.6754

Charles O. Anderson  
Professor, Chair  
Dept. of Dance  
The Ohio State University  
[anderson.4357@osu.edu](mailto:anderson.4357@osu.edu)  
614.292.7977

Marya Lowry  
Professor Emerita  
Dept. of Theatre Arts  
Brandeis University  
[maryalowry@rcn.com](mailto:maryalowry@rcn.com)  
617.448.5631

Anthony Dalton  
Digital Cultures Technologist  
Media & Comm Dept./ Instructional  
Technology & Services  
Muhlenberg College  
[anthonydalton@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:anthonydalton@muhlenberg.edu)

Francine Roussel  
Professor Emerita  
Department of Theatre & Dance  
Muhlenberg College  
[roussel@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:roussel@muhlenberg.edu)  
917.837.7386