

# David Prete

## UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

**M.F.A.** Northwestern University, Directing, 2014

**B.A.** The University of Memphis, Theater and Creative Writing, 2009

## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

**Acting Conservatory:** New Actors Workshop, New York City, 1995

**Master Class:** “Pedagogy of the Mask,” School For Theater Creators, Padua, Italy, 2018.

**Master Class:** Mike Nichols, Acting/Directing, New York City, 1996-2005.

**Master Class:** Andre Gregory, Grotowski’s *Plastiques*, New York City, 2003-2005.

**Master Class:** Ayad Aktar, Grotowski’s *Plastiques*, New York City, 2005-2006.

**Master Class:** Brian Bedford, Speaking Shakespeare, New York City, 1998.

## UNIVERSITY TEACHING

<b>Instructional Assistant Professor</b> , Illinois State University	Fall 2017- Present
<b>Visiting Instructor</b> , (Undergrad) San Jose State University	Fall 2016
<b>Acting Instructor</b> , (Undergrad) Northwestern University	Winter 2013 to Spring 2013
<b>Directing Instructor</b> , (Undergrad) Northwestern University	Fall 2011to Fall 2012
<b>Acting Instructor</b> (MFA program), New School For Social Research, NYC	Fall 2005 to Spring 2009
<b>Acting Instructor</b> , (Undergrad) University of Memphis, TN	Fall 2007 to Fall 2008
<b>Writing Instructor</b> , (Undergrad) University of Memphis, TN	Fall 2007 to Fall 2008
<b>Writing Instructor</b> (Undergrad), Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA	August 2005 to December 2005
<b>Writing Instructor</b> (MFA Program), Chatham College, Pittsburgh, PA	August 2005 to December 2005

## PROFESSIONAL TEACHING AND COACHING

<b>Founder, Instructor</b> , The Plastiques Project	Summer 2018 to Present
Visiting Instructor, Changxingyangxu Cultural Media Studio, Beijing, China,	June, 2019.
<b>Visiting Artist</b> , San Jose State University	Spring 2017
<b>Studio A.C.T. San Francisco</b> , Acting Instructor	Winter 2016
<b>Speak By Design</b> , Executive Coaching	2015 to Present
<b>Off The Page</b> , Reading and Public Speaking Coaching	2005 to Present

<b>Company Drama Coach</b> , Yaa Samar Dance Theater, NYC	2008 to Present
<b>Private Acting Instructor</b> , Memphis, TN	Spring 2009 to Summer 2010
<b>Solo Performance Instructor</b> , Memphis, TN	Spring 2009 to Summer 2010
<b>Company Drama Coach</b> , Dance Alloy, Pittsburgh, PA	August 2005 to January 2006
<b>Acting Instructor</b> , Public School 6, NYC	September 2000 to May 2001
<b>Assistant Teacher</b> , New Actors Workshop, NYC	June 1998 to September 1998

## **VOLUNTEER TEACHING**

<b>Instructor</b> , “Prison Stories,” Mark H. Luttrell Correctional Center, Memphis, TN	May 2010 to June 2010
<b>Presenter</b> , Illinois Prairie and Community Foundation	Winter 2019

## **UNIVERSITY COURSES TAUGHT**

<b>World Arts: Theater</b> , Illinois State University	Fall 2019 – Present
<b>Stage Movement II</b> , Illinois State University	Spring 2019 - Present
<b>Acting for the Camera</b> , Illinois State University	Spring 2018 - Present
<b>Acting II</b> , Illinois State University	Fall 2018 - Present
<b>Auditioning</b> , Illinois State University	Fall 2018 - Present
<b>Experiencing Theater</b> , Illinois State University	Fall 2017 - Present
<b>Advanced Directing</b> , Illinois State University	Fall 2017 - Present
<b>Voice and Movement</b> , San Jose State	Fall 2016
<b>Acting</b> , San Jose State	Fall 2016
<b>Fundamentals of Directing</b> , San Jose State	Fall 2016
<b>Grotowski’s Plastiques I</b> , Northwestern	Winter 2012
<b>Grotowski’s Plastiques II</b> , Northwestern	Spring 2013
<b>Fundamentals of Directing</b> , Northwestern	Fall 2012
<b>Stage and Page: Solo Performance</b> , University of Memphis	Fall 2007, Fall 2008
<b>Acting Techniques</b> , University of Memphis	Fall 2007, Fall 2008
<b>Introduction to Theater</b> , University of Memphis	Fall 2007, Spring 2008
<b>Character Research</b> , University of Memphis	Fall 2007, Spring, 2008
<b>Creative Writing, Fiction</b> , University of Memphis	Fall 2007, Spring, 2008
<b>The Art of Public Readings</b> , The New School, New York	Fall 2005 to Spring 2009
<b>The Short Story</b> , Chatham College, Pittsburgh, PA	Fall 2005
<b>Writing Across the Curriculum</b> , Duquesne, Pittsburgh, PA	Fall 2005

## MENTORING

At Illinois State I mentor MFA directors through their entire research, rehearsal, and tech processes. I have worked closely with two thesis students to help them gain entrance into PhD programs. Under my guidance and coaching, my acting students have received numerous grants for their theatre companies, and have been cast at The Public Theatre, Steppenwolf, and Steep Theatre Company.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

- 1) *Say That to My Face*, short stories, published by W.W. Norton, 2003
- 2) *August and Then Some*, a novel, published by W.W. Norton, 2012

### Essays and Stories and Reviews

*Three Thursdays In The Bronx*, Narrative Magazine, Story of the Week

*Say That To My Face*, Crowd Magazine

*Phantom Curtain Call*, Other People's Stories

*Graves Like Beds*, GSU Review

Review: *The Film Club: A Memoir*, American Book Review

## SCRIPT CONSULTING

HBO/Harpo Productions, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*

## AUDIO RECORDINGS

*Walking Around Money*, by Donald E. Westlake, anthologized in *Transgressions: Price of Desire*.

## TALKS, WORKSHOPS & LECTURES

- 1) Visiting Instructor, Changxingyangxu Cultural Media Studio, Beijing, China, "Grotowski's Plastiques: A Workshop," June, 2019.
- 2) Key Note Speaker, Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Nanjing, China "Theater in America," June, 2019.
- 3) Presenter, Youth Engaged in Philanthropy, "Professional Presence," February, 2019.
- 4) Visiting Lecturer, San Francisco State University, "Stage Relationships," February, 2016.
- 5) Visiting Lecturer, North Central High School, Chicago, "Living History Education Program," November, 2015.
- 6) Visiting Lecturer, Columbia College, Chicago, "Character Through Movement," October, 2014.

- 7) Visiting Lecturer, Columbia College, Chicago, “Embodying Fictional Characters,” October, 2013.
- 8) Featured Guest, “Chicago Live!” June, 2012.
- 9) Panel Speaker, Printer’s Row Lit Fest, “When Writers Cohabitate,” Chicago, June, 2012.
- 10) Visiting Instructor, Rhodes College, “Lessons in Acting,” Memphis, TN, October, 2009.
- 11) Roaming Performer/Fire Spitter, Voices of the South’s “Memphis Children’s Theater Festival,” May, 2009
- 12) Instructor, The Hutchison School, “Monologue Workshop,” Memphis, TN, February, 2009.
- 13) Instructor, Voices of the South’s “Solo Performance Workshop,” Memphis, TN, January, 2009
- 14) Visiting Instructor, 412 Creative Nonfiction Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, “The Art of Dialogue,” October, 2008
- 15) Panel Speaker, Arkansas Literary Festival, Little Rock, “Men and Their Novels: Does Gender Matter?” April, 2008
- 16) Visiting Instructor, Lebanon Valley College, “Character as Self,” April, 2007
- 17) Visiting Instructor, Penn State Berks, “The Art of Public Readings,” April, 2007
- 18) Visiting Lecturer, “Book Promotion 101,” The Art of Public Readings,” October, 2007
- 19) Panel Speaker, 412 Creative Nonfiction Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, “Turning Real Life into Fiction,” November, 2006
- 20) Visiting Instructor, Washington College, “The Art of Public Reading,” October, 2006
- 21) Visiting Instructor, Point Park College MFA program, “Grotowski’s Plastiques: A Workshop,” January, 2006
- 22) Visiting Lecturer, Carnegie Mellon University MFA program, “Giving Public Readings: A Workshop,” December, 2005
- 23) Visiting Lecturer, Goucher College MFA program, “Giving Public Readings: A Workshop,” August, 2005
- 24) Visiting Lecturer, Franklin & Marshal College, Writers House Alumni Reading Series, October, 2005
- 25) Guest Speaker, York Country Day School, “Writing From Personal Experience,” October, 2005
- 26) Guest Speaker, Lancaster City Day School, “Turning Life into Fiction,” October 2005
- 27) Visiting Lecturer, “Writing From Life,” Salt Institute, October, 2005
- 28) Instructor, “Book Promotion 101,” October, 2005
- 29) Panel speaker, “Starting a Reading Series and Developing Reading Skills,” Tenth Annual Mid-Atlantic Creative Nonfiction Summer Writers’ Conference, August 9-14, 2005
- 30) Readings Instructor, Tenth Annual Mid-Atlantic Creative Nonfiction Summer Writers’ Conference, August 9-14, 2005
- 31) Writing Instructor, University of North Carolina Young Writers Workshop, June 2005
- 32) Instructor, “Conquering Your Page Fright,” Mediabistro, April 14, 2005

- 33) Instructor, "Giving Public Readings," American Society of Journalists and Authors Annual Conference, April 16, 2005.
- 34) Visiting Instructor, "Giving Public Readings: A Workshop," University of Pittsburgh, April 19, 2005
- 35) Guest Instructor, "Giving Public Readings," New York City Nonfiction Writers Workshop, February, 2005
- 36) Visiting Instructor, "Giving Public Readings: A Workshop," University of Pittsburgh, November, 2005
- 37) Panel Moderator and Guest Speaker, "From Pittsburgh to Hollywood: Adapting Your Creative Nonfiction For Film," University of Pittsburgh Creative Nonfiction Conference, November 13-14, 2004.
- 38) Visiting Instructor, "Giving Good Public Readings," Mediabistro, NYC, December, 2004.
- 39) Visiting Writer and Guest Speaker, "Writing From Personal Experience," Franklin & Marshal College Writers House, October, 2004.

## **PERFORMANCES**

### **Theater Regional**

- 1) THE SCOTTISH COUPLE, Changxingyangxu Cultural Media Studio, Beijing, China.
- 2) OBJECTS IN THE MIRROR, (u/s) Goodman Theatre, Chicago
- 3) SEMINAR, Hammer Theater, San Jose
- 4) THE HARD PROBLEM, A.C.T., San Francisco
- 5) THE SIGN IN SIDNEY BURSTEIN'S WINDOW, (u/s) Goodman Theatre, Chicago
- 6) SPILL, (Jeff Nomination) Timeline Theatre Co., Chicago
- 7) ANTIGONICK, Sideshow Theatre Co., Chicago
- 8) WHAT TO LISTEN FOR, Side Project, Chicago
- 9) THE GOLDEN BOY, Griffin Theatre, Chicago
- 10) VALPONE, Two Pence Shakespeare, Chicago
- 11) REVELS, MOTHERF\*\*\*ER, Two Pence Shakespeare, Chicago
- 12) THE MALCONTENT, Two Pence Shakespeare, Chicago
- 13) SACRED BODIES, Northwestern University
- 14) ALL GOD'S CREATURES, (Solo Performance) Playhouse On The Square, Memphis, TN
- 15) WORDTHEATER, Los Angeles, "Not Because I'm Thirsty"
- 16) A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, Princeton Rep
- 17) ROMEO AND JULIET, Count Basie Theater
- 18) A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, Centenary Shakespeare
- 19) AS YOU LIKE IT, Centenary Shakespeare
- 20) BEIRUT, Philistine Theatre Company

- 21) DANNY AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA, SUNY Purchase
- 22) MODIGLIANI, SUNY Purchase
- 23) HAIR, SUNY Purchase
- 24) THIRTY SECOND SIGN, James Madison University (Author/Actor)

### **Theater NYC**

- 1) ON THE LINE, Mike Nichols, Bill Haber producers, Cherry Lane Theatre
- 2) THE THREE SAME GUYS, Readings: Lincoln Center, Manhattan Theater Club, Joseph Papp Public Theatre, Actor's Theatre of Louisville, Trinity Rep, Mark Taper Forum, New York Theatre Workshop
- 3) THE DEATH OF IVAN ILYCH, Water Theatre Company
- 4) BALEVILLE AND OTHER UNKNOWNNS, Water Theatre Company
- 5) PILGRIMS, Water Theatre Company
- 6) WAITING FOR LEFTY/STILL WAITING, Water Theatre Company
- 7) SPEED THE PLOW, Water Theatre Company
- 8) ALL GOD'S CREATURES, Water Theatre Company
- 9) ROMEO AND JULIET, Water Theatre Company
- 10) ARISTOCRATIC ARCADIANS, Water Theatre Company (Author/Actor)
- 11) I AM LAIKA, HB Playwrights Foundation
- 12) KING LEAR, Gorilla Rep
- 13) SAME OLD STORY, Pulse Ensemble Theatre Festival
- 14) KING OF THE GOLDEN MOUNTAIN, New Actors Workshop
- 15) DEN OF THIEVES, Lark Theatre Company
- 16) LONELY IMPULSE OF DELIGHT, Village Gate

### **Film and Television**

- 1) THE IMMORTAL LIFE OF HENRIETTA LACKS, HBO
- 2) MURPHY'S LAW, Independent Film, Chicago
- 3) THE BIRDCAGE, MGM/UA
- 4) ANOTHER WORLD, NBC
- 5) THE THREE SAME GUYS, Reading: HBO Pictures
- 6) LAUGHING RIVER, Independent Film
- 7) THE THIRD DAY, Independent Film
- 8) FRIENDS FIRST AND FOREMOST, Independent Film
- 9) WHO'S YOUR ANGEL, Independent Film

- 10) ORPHAN, Independent Film
- 11) A WINTER'S TALE, Independent Film
- 12) FOUR LETTER WORDS, Independent Film
- 13) HEADHUNTER'S SISTER, Independent Film
- 14) BASEMENT, Independent Film
- 15) STREETWALKER, Independent Film
- 16) HERITAGE, Independent Film

## **DIRECTING**

- 1) HIT THE WALL, Illinois State University
- 2) I AND YOU, Redtwist, Chicago
- 3) FAT PIG, Steppenwolf Garage, Chicago
- 4) AD: THREE SISTERS, Steppenwolf, Chicago
- 5) LONELY HEARTS, Northwestern University
- 6) SACRED BODIES, Northwestern University
- 7) PURPLE HEART, Northwestern University
- 8) DANNY AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA, Northwestern University
- 9) FOR GOODNESS SAKE, Voices of the South, Memphis, TN
- 10) JACK, Voices of the South, Memphis, TN
- 11) SOMEONE WHO'LL WATCH OVER ME, New Actors Workshop, NYC
- 12) SPIKE HEELS, New Actors Workshop, NYC
- 13) WOMEN OF MANHATTAN, New Actors Workshop, NYC
- 14) ARISTOCRATIC ARCADIANS, Gene Frankel Theater, NYC
- 15) THE LOVER, Mint Theater, NYC
- 16) GRIMS FAIRY TALES, 92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y, NYC