

## Art Babayants

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### Education

- 2017                    PhD in Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies, University of Toronto  
                          Thesis: *“In Unknown Languages” : Investigating the Phenomenon of Multilingual Acting.*
- 2011                    MA in Second Language Education/Applied Linguistics  
                          Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE/UT)  
                          Thesis: *Acting and Second Language Pragmatics: Pedagogical Intersections.*
- 1997                    BEd. Teachables: English, Russian, Literature.  
                          Moscow State Pedagogic University  
                          Thesis: *The Motif of “the Feast in the Plague Times” in Russian and English Dramas of the Romantic Period.*
- 1996                    BA in Philology  
                          Moscow State Pedagogic University

### Publications

#### *Peer-Reviewed*

#### Edited Volumes

2017. Babayants, A., & Nolette, N. (Eds.) Bousculer la scène unilingue. *Theatre Research in Canada/Les Recherches théâtrales au Canada* 38.2.

2015. Babayants, A., & Fitzsimmons-Frey, H. (Eds.). *Theatre and Learning*. Cambridge Scholars: Newcastle upon Tyne, England.

**Scholarly Essays**

(Forthcoming) Multilingual Actors' Phonological Troubles: A Queer Phenomenological Perspective. *Theatre Research in Canada/Les Recherches Théâtrales au Canada*.

2004. Babayants, A. Tekhnologuiya stimulatsii real'nogo obsheniyua na uroke inostrannogo yazyka. [Promoting genuine communication in a language classroom]. *Inostrannyie yazyki v shkole* [Foreign Languages at School Journal], 3, 2004, 60-66. Moscow.

1999. Babayants, A. Smert' i chuma u Pushkina i Wilson'a. [Death and Plague in Pushkin's and Wilson's dramas]. *Literatura. Pervoye Sentyabrya*. # 10. Moscow

1996. Babayants, A. Gde skrulis' khany, gde garem. Bakchisaraiskii Fontan. [Where did the khans hide? Where's their harem? Pushkin's The Fountain of Bakhchisarai]. *Literatura. Pervoye Sentyabrya*. # 45. Moscow

**Book Chapters**

(Forthcoming, 2020) Babayants, A. Resisting the Monolingual Lens: Queer Phenomenology and Multilingual Dramaturgy. *Dramaturgy of Migration: Staging Multilingual Encounters in Contemporary Theatre*. Ed. Yana Meerzon and Katharina Pewny. Routledge: 2019.

2019. Babayants, A. & Moosavi, M. Moments of Encounter: Canadian-Iranian Immigrant Theatre. *Performing Canadian Frontiers. Theatre and (Im)migration. New Essays on Canadian Theatre. Vol 9*. Ed. Yana Meerzon. Playwrights Canada Press.

2017. Babayants, A. The production of musicals in Russia at the turn of the twenty-first century: Navigating across socialism, capitalism, occidentalism and nostalgia. *The Palgrave Handbook of Musical Theatre Producers*. Eds. Willian Everett and Laura MacDonald. London: Palgrave.

1999. Babayants, A. Pushkin i Wilson: comparativnoye issledovaniye. [Pushkin and Wilson: comparative investigation.] *Pushkin i teoretiko-literaturnaya mysl'*. Pod red. Yu. Boreva [Borev, Y. (Ed.). Pushkin and The Theory of Literature.]. 90-110. Moscow: Naslediye.

**Monograph**

(In progress) *Multilingual Acting: Phenomenology, Training, Reception*. Scheduled for 2022.

***Non peer-reviewed*****Book Reviews**

2018. *Staging Strangers* by Barry Freeman. *New Theatre Quarterly. Vol. 34. Issue 2*. P. 196.

**Script Publications**

2019. Toronto Laboratory Theatre. "In Sundry Languages". *Scripting (Im)migration. New Canadian Plays*. Ed. Yana Meerzon. Playwrights Canada Press. Pp. 411-446.

## Other

2018. Babayants, A. The Unreal Self: An Introduction to “*Dear Armen*” by Kamee Abrahamian and Lee Williams Boudakian. In *Queer Canadian Theatre*. Ed. Dalbir Singh. Playwrights Canada P.

2019 Babayants, A. & Liebembuk, S. Devising “In Sundry Languages”: A Conversation about Process. *Scripting (Im)migration. New Canadian Plays*. Ed. Yana Meerzon. Playwrights Canada Press. Pp. 447-456.

2005. Babayants, A. The Tap Story: Tap-Dance was born in an African village [Istoriya stepa: Step rodils’ya v afrikanskoi derevne]. *World Dance*. Moscow.

## Awards and Grants

- 2018 *Canada Council for the Arts, Ontario Art Council and Toronto Art Council*. Total value: 23,700 CAD
- 2017 *Theatre Creators Grant*. Theatre Passe Muraille and Ontario Arts Council (1,000 CAD)
- 2016 *Germany/Europe Travel Award*, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, University of Toronto (5,000 CAD)
- 2015 *Performing Arts Fellowship*. Armenian Benevolent Union, New York, NY (2,000 USD)
- 2015 *Massey College Travel Bursary* (1,000 CAD)
- 2013 *Travel Grant* for research on multilingual theatre in Europe, School of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto (3,000 CAD)
- 2012 Best paper proposal for the *Song, Stage, Screen 7* Conference, University of Groningen, The Netherlands. Awarded by University of Missouri-Kansas City, 2012 (200 USD)
- 2012 *The Arthur Lindsay Fernie Research Fellowship* for research in Europe. Awarded by Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies, University of Toronto, 2012 (2,000 CAD)
- 2011 *Canada Graduate Scholarship (Doctoral SSHRC)*. Awarded by Canada’s Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (105,000 CAD)
- 2011 *OISE Academic Excellence Award* (2,000 CAD)
- 2009 *Canada Graduate Scholarship (MA SSHRC)*. Awarded by Canada’s Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (17,500 CAD)
- 2008 *MA Scholarship*. Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. (15,000 CAD)

- 2004 *Teacher of the Year*. Moscow Council of Education/City Hall (3,000 USD)
- 1999 *Best Syllabus Competition*. Moscow Council of Education, North Branch. (500 USD)

## Conferences and Scholarly Meetings

### Organizer

2016. Panel convener (co-organized with Nicole Nolette). *On Multilingualism, Performance and Communities*. Canadian Association for Theatre Research, University of Calgary.
2015. Bilingual panel convener and moderator (co-organized with Nicole Nolette). *Bousculer la scène unilingue : pratiques théâtrales bi- et plurilingues au Canada / Defying Stage Monoligualism: Bi- and Multilingual Theatre Practices in Canada*. Canadian Association for Theatre Research, University of Calgary. Canadian Association for Theatre Research, University of Ottawa.
2012. *Theatre and Learning*. Co-organized with Heather Fitzsimmons Frey). Festival of Original Theatre (FOOT). Drama Centre, University of Toronto.

### Presentations and Panel Participation

2017. Multilingual Dramaturgy for the Multilingual Anthropocene. CATR, University of Toronto. Stereotypes, accents and the mainstream: Theorizing a multilingual actor's phonological struggles. University of Ottawa.
2016. Understanding a Multilingual Actor. CATR, University of Calgary.
2015. Searching for a New Multilingual Dramaturgy: The Stumbles and Falls of Multilingual Theatre in English Canada. CATR, University of Ottawa.
2015. Introducing the Body Schema to Second Language Teaching and Learning. American Association of Applied Linguistics. Toronto.
2012. Acting in the Second Language: Making a Case for Mimesis and Stanislavski. Paper presented at the conference Langues en motion, Université de Nantes, France
2012. Smudging the Linguistic and Cultural Borders of the American Musical: A Case Study. Paper presented at the conference Song, Stage and Screen VII: The Musical's Global Conquest. University of Groningen, The Netherlands.
2010. *Out of Language... Out of Place...* Paper presentation at F.O.O.T. Conference, Drama Centre, University of Toronto
2009. The Development of ESL Learners' Pragmatic Competence Through Drama. Paper presented at OISE Dean's Conference, Toronto ON, Canada

### Invited Talks and Workshops

2019. Le Besoin d'être mal-armé. Mediating Performance Experiences. Conference, University of Ottawa.
2017. Practice-Based Research. For DRM485Y1 Senior Seminar: Thesis in Theatre Studies (Dr. Seika Boye).
2016. The Dramaturgy of Non-Translation and Inter-Audience Dynamics. The Drama Centre Colloquium: Translation. Multilingualism. Performance. University of Toronto.
2016. The Praxis of Multilingual Dramaturgy. Co-presented with Shelley Liebembuk. For DRA 348H5S Dramaturgy, University of Toronto in Mississauga. March, 2016
2014. Acting and Second Language Pragmatics. Guest lecture for LIN486, Teaching and Learning Cross-Cultural Communication. Instructor: Dr. Vedran Dronjic. University of Toronto, Mississauga. April, 2014
2014. Multilingual Experimental Theatre. DRM362H1, Theatre and the World. Innovation and Experimentation. Instructor: Prof. Antje Budde. University of Toronto. November, 2014
2012. Myths about the Stanislavsky School. Prof. Pia Kleber. DRM230Y1. October 2012.

### Teaching Experience

#### *University Level*

#### **Course Instructor**

- 2018-2019 (Fall, Winter). *Introduction to Acting. Scene Study. Script Analysis. Directing Devised Theatre. Advanced Studies in Dramaturgy: Post-modern, Intercultural and Multilingual Theatre and Performance.* University of Regina.
- 2009-2018 (Fall, Winter, Summer). *Academic Conversation Skills* course for graduate students. University of Toronto.
- 2015-2018 (Fall). *Oral Presentation Skills* course for graduate students. University of Toronto.
- 2006-2007 (Fall, Winter). *Introduction to Anglo-American Literature*, undergraduate course. Moscow State University

#### **Teaching Assistant**

- 2016-2017. TA for Prof. V.K. Preston for DRM 331 *Dramaturgy*. University of Toronto
- 2014-2015. TA for Prof. Antje Budde for DRM 386 *Special Topics: Dreams. Utopia. Intermediality. Performing Technology*. University of Toronto.
- 2014-2015. TA for Noam Lior and Guillermo Verdecchia for DRM 100 *Drama: Form and Style*. University of Toronto.

### *College Level*

#### **Course Instructor**

2015 (Summer). Professional Development Course for Korean Elementary and High School Teachers. Humber College, Lakeshore Campus. July, 2015.

### *Other Relevant Teaching Experience*

#### **Courses Taught**

2013-Present. *Embodied English: A Drama Course for Advanced English Language Learners*. Principal Developer and Instructor. Toronto Laboratory Theatre.

2009-Present. Teacher Trainer (Adult Education). Canadian Centre for Language and Cultural Studies

2012-Present. Teacher Trainer (Adult Education). Toronto District School Board.

2004-2007. Artistic Director, Acting and Movement Instructor. Moscow

1993-2001. Drama and Movement Instructor. Children's Arts School "Koptevo", Moscow

#### **Workshops (select)**

2017. Clear Speaking: Intonation and Rhythm. Engineering communication program. University of Toronto.

2016. Drama and Pragmatic Competence. ILSC, Toronto.

2015. Embodied Approach to Teaching Pronunciation. TESL Toronto Conference, University of Toronto.

2013. Performing 'the Imaginary Body': Applying the Stanislavsky-Chekhov Technique to Second Language Teaching. Presented at IDEA Paris 2013, Université Paris Diderot 7.

2012. "Brechtling" *Gypsy*. Workshop Series. MESS Studio. Moscow, Russia.

2011. Devising and Musical Theatre. Workshop Series. MESS Studio. Moscow, Russia.

2009. Acting for Musical Theatre. Workshop Series. MESS Studio. Moscow, Russia.

2009. Drama and ESL. Workshop for ESL teachers. TESL Toronto Conference.

#### **Reviewing and Editing Experience**

2016. Co-editor: Theatre Research in Canada/Les Recherches Théâtrales au Canada. Special Issue on Multilingual Theatre in Canada.

2013. Submissions reviewer. The 8th congress of the International Drama and Education Association (IDEA), Université Paris-Diderot.

2005-2007. Submissions reviewer. *Inostrannyye Yazyki v Shkole [Foreign Languages at School*

Journal].

## Departmental Service

- 2018-2019 Member of Reconciliation Action Committee, Graduate Committee, Interdisciplinary Committee.
- 2013-2014 Treasurer, Drama Centre Student Union, University of Toronto.
- 2009-2010 Masters Student Representative, Department of Curriculum, Teaching and Learning, OISE, University of Toronto

## National Media Coverage

2019. CBC. Morning with Matt Galloway. Interview about linguistic diversity in Toronto theatre. June 29.

2017. Radio Canada. Interview with Art Babayants about “*In Sundry Languages*” and diversity dramaturgy at Toronto Fringe. July 07, 2017.

2015. Radio Canada. Interview with Art Babayants and Dr. Gabrielle Houle about multilingual theatre in Canada. In French. Sep 05, 2015.

2007. Uchitelskaya Gazeta [Teachers’ Newspaper]. National newspaper. An article on the production of *Share and Share Alike*, staged at Moscow Theatre of Clown Art (directed by Art Babayants) <http://www.ug.ru/archive/18307>

## Selected Creative Experience

### Artistic Director and Producer

2012-Present. Toronto Laboratory Theatre/Le Théâtre-Laboratoire de Toronto.

### Directing and Assistant Directing

2019. “*In Sundry Languages*”. Tour: Greater Toronto Area and Ottawa.

2018. *Distortion*. Spanish-English Devised Performance. University of Regina.

2017. “*In Sundry Languages 3.0*” Caminos Festival. Native Earth Performing Arts/Aluna Theatre.

“*In Sundry Languages*”. Toronto Fringe Festival. Theatre Passe Muraille.

*Zápisník zmizelého* (The Diary of the One who Disappeared) by Leoš Janáček. One act opera. Walter Hall, University of Toronto.

2016. *A Moment of Silence* by Mohamad Yaghoubiee. AD, directed by M. Yaghoubiee. Toronto, Factory Theatre, SummerWorks Festival.
2014. *Godspell*. Music by Stephen Swartz and book by John-Michael Telebak. Moscow Puppetry Theatre.
2014. *The... Musician. An Étude*. (by Art Babayants. After Vladimir Korolenko), Toronto Laboratory Theatre, Dancemakers Centre for Creation .
2012. *Gypsy. A Musical Fable*. By Jule Styne, Stephen Sondheim, GITIS Theatre.
2009. *Seussical. The Musical* (by Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Arhens), M.E.S.S. Theatre, Moscow.
2009. *The Fall of the Western Dan* (by Robin Whittaker), Robert Gill Theatre, Toronto.
2008. *Couldn't We Be* (by Vladimir Milman), Phoenix Theatre, Toronto.
2007. *Share and Share Alike* (by Geoff Morrow), Moscow Theatre of Clown Art.
2004. *Up the Down Staircase* (by Bell Kaufman. Festival of Youth Theatre. Moscow Youth Theatre.

### Acting

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|---|--------------------|--|
| 2017. <i>"In Sundry Languages"</i>  | Casting Director   | Toronto Fringe/Theatre Passe Muraille          |
| 2016. <i>A Moment of Silence</i>  | All Male Voices    | Factory Theatre/Summerworks.                   |
| 2011. <i>Miss Toronto Acts Back</i>                                       | Male Lead, Pianist | DitchWitch Brigade / Unit 401, Parkdale        |
| 2010. <i>Miss Toronto Gets a Life in Parkdale</i> (Dir. A. Budde)         | Male Lead, Pianist | DitchWitch Brigade/The Theatre Centre, Toronto |
| 2009. <i>Tosca</i> by V. Sardu (Dir. J.Blum)                              | Baron Scarpia      | Studio Theatre /UofT, Toronto                  |
| 2008. <i>True Irish Hearts</i> by MacCarthy (Dir. J. Gardiner)            | Villain            | Robert Gill Theatre/UofT, Toronto              |
| 2007. <i>Share and Share Alike</i> by G. Morrow (Dir. A.Babayants)        | Sergeant Lawman    | M.E.S.S.Theatre, Moscow                        |
| 1998. <i>Chekhov's Short Stories</i> (Dir. J.Babayants)                   | Detective          | At the Friends' Studio Theatre, Moscow         |
| 1991. <i>Two Precious Maidens Ridiculed</i> by Molière (Dir. J.Babayants) | La Grange          | Hermitage Theatre, Moscow                      |

### Dramaturgy and Other

2014. *The Frog Prince*. Music Director and Piano Accompanist. Helen Gardiner Phelan Theatre,



Toronto. Dir. by Heather Fitzsimmons Frey.

2015. Producer and Co-creator. *Vivisection. Performance+Photography+Lighting*. Toronto Nuit Blanche 2015

2014. Lighting Designer. *The Legend of Newroz*. Dance Show. Directed/choreographed: Fethi Karakecili, Isabel Bader Theatre.

2011. Lighting Designer. *Mem and Zin: A Kurdish Ballet*. Directed/choreographed: Fethi Karakecili, Isabel Bader Theatre.

2010. Assistant Dramaturge, *Ecce Homo Theatre, Toronto*. Dir: Alistair Newton.

2008. Music Dramaturge; Accompanist. *Futurism*. A silent film. Dir: J. Blum.

2008. Dramaturge, *Scarbaranggggg: A Futurist Cabaret*. Studio Theatre, Toronto. Dir: Stephen Johnson.

1993. Composer and Music Dramaturge. *The Fountain of Bakhchisarai* by Pushkin. Dir: J.Babayants.

1992. Set and Lighting Designer. *Two Precious Maidens Ridiculed* by Molière. Dir. J.Babayants.

## Language Skills

### Fluent

English, French, Russian

### Reading Competence, Basic Conversational Ability

Spanish, Armenian

## Citizenship

Canadian

## Professional Associations

International Federation for Theatre Research

Canadian Association for Theatre Research

Theatre Ontario

## References

**Kathleen Gallagher**, Distinguished Professor, Canada Research Chair, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto. Email: [kathleen.gallagher@utoronto.ca](mailto:kathleen.gallagher@utoronto.ca)

**Kathleen Irwin**, Professor, Faculty of Media, Art and Performance, University of Toronto. Email: [kathleen.irwin@uregina.ca](mailto:kathleen.irwin@uregina.ca)

**Tamara Trojanowska**, Associated Professor, Director of the Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies, University of Toronto. Email: [t.trojanowska@utoronto.ca](mailto:t.trojanowska@utoronto.ca)