

# CHRISTIN EVE CATO, M.F.A.

AEA | Dramatists Guild of America | WME Agency (Literary Representation)

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## ARTISTIC STATEMENT

I am an Afro-Latina playwright and performing artist from the Bronx. My Puerto Rican and Jamaican heritage is deeply rooted in my artistic expression. My aesthetic is made up of the world that has nurtured me: the roaring city, the aroma of arroz con guandules and jerk chicken, the fabrics of family drama, the silenced cries of neighborhood tragedies, the vibrant colors of adolescent curiosity, the soft ballads of first love, and the resilient terrains of poverty. I write political, philosophical, and character-driven plays that explore what it means to *exist*, focusing on human wounds and needs, the role of patriarchy, the Afro-Diaspora culture, and the systems in which we live.

## EDUCATION

Indiana University: Master of Fine Arts, Playwriting, 2021

Fordham University: Bachelor of Arts, Political Science & Philosophy, 2009

LaGuardia High School of Music, Art, & Performing Arts: Vocal Music & Theatre, 2001

## PLAYWRITING EXPERIENCE

## PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTIONS & DEVELOPMENT HISTORY

### ***O.K.!***

- **World Premiere/Off-Broadway**, INTAR Theater, NYC, May 2025\*\*
- Workshop Production, WP Theatre, Pipeline Theatre Festival NYC, April 2024
- Workshop & Staged Reading, Egg & Spoon Theatre Collective, NYC, March 2024
- Workshop & Staged Reading, Repetorio Español, NYC June 2023 (*Miranda Family Foundation Finalist\**)

### ***Sancocho***

- **New York Premiere /Off-Broadway**, WP Theatre (co-produced by The Latinx Playwrights Circle and The Sol Project), NYC, March 2023\*\*  
*2024 Obie Award Winner for Best Performance*
- **Midwest Premiere**, Visión Latino, CLATA Destinos Festival, Chicago, Oct 2022\*\*
- Workshop Development, The Playwrights Center, Minneapolis, March 2022

### ***The Diamond***

- **World Premiere**, Commissioned by The People's Theatre Project, opened at Pregones Theatre (Bronx, NY), April 2023\*\*
- Workshop & Staged Reading, The People's Theatre Project, Jan 2023

### ***Hell In The Kitchen (An Audio-Play Journey)***

- **New York Premiere**, Commissioned by Playwrights Horizons and The Parsnip Ship, NYC Sept 2022

### ***Stoop Pigeons*** (O'Neil NPC Semi-Finalist, 2020\*)

- **Smith College Mainstage**, Mendenhall Center for Performing Arts, Oct 2021
- Texas State University | Black & Latino Playwrights Celebration, Workshop & Staged Reading, Sept 2020
- Classical Theatre of Harlem, Future Classics Reading Series, Staged Reading, Lincoln Center, Jan 2020

## **STAGED READINGS & WORKSHOPS (FULL LENGTH PLAYS)**

### ***Beneath The Land of Cockpit Country***

- The Playwrights Center, Workshop & Staged Reading, Jan 2025

### ***Cedarwood***

- The People's Theatre Project, Workshop & Staged Reading, (NYC) Dec 2024

### ***Tap In, The Musical*** (currently in development for 2025)

- New York Stage and Film, Workshop & Staged Reading, July 2023

### ***The Black & Brown Guerrillas***

- The Latinx Playwrights Circle, Staged Reading, Kabayitos Theater, NYC Sept 2021
- Indiana University, **MFA Thesis Production** (Virtual), March 2021

### ***What's Up With Marjorie?***

- Teatro Vivo, Austin Latino New Play Festival, Emma Barrientos Cultural Center (TX), Workshop & Staged Reading, April 2019
- Indiana University, At First Sight Festival, Workshop & Staged Reading, Dec 2018

## **THEATER FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES PLAYS (PRODUCTIONS & DEVELOPMENT)**

### ***The Weather Busters of Beach Castle*** (Commissioned play for POP Tour)

- **Staged Production**, La Jolla Playhouse, San Diego, CA, March 2025\*\*

### ***The Water Witch*** (Commissioned play for NYC tours)

- **Staged Production**, Only Make Believe Productions, NYC April 2024

### ***A Royal Roar In Brooklyn*** (Commissioned musical- Book & Lyrics)

- **Staged Production**, The Brooklyn Children's Theatre, NYC August 2022

### ***Not So Fair-Y Tales*** (Commissioned musical- Book & Lyrics)

- **Staged Production**, Piper Theatre Productions, NYC June 2022

### ***Jelly Beans*** (Recipient of the 2021 Re-Imagine Plays in TYA grant\*)

- **School Production**, Piper Theatre Productions, NYC Oct 2021
- **School Production (Virtual)**, Mc Allen High School, Oct 2020
- **Workshop Production**, Indiana University, Feb 2020

### ***Genie in a Pumpkin*** (Commissioned play for Theatre At Home)

- **Anthology Publication**, Cardinal Stage, Bloomington, IN, Oct 2020

## **SHORT PLAYS & ONE ACTS - PRODUCTION & DEVELOPMENT HISTORY**

### ***The Good Cop***

- **Production**, Open Hydrant Short Play Festival, The Point (NYC) Dec 2024
- **Production**, Downtown Urban Arts Festival, Theatre Row (NYC) June 2022

### ***Salty Clowns***

- **Production**, Open Hydrant Short Play Festival, The Point (NYC) March 2024
- **Production**, Harlem 9, 48 Hour Play Festival, Ntl Dance Institute, Aug 2023

### ***It's So Hard***

- **Production**, Harlem 9, (48 Hour Play Festival), Pregones Theatre, Feb 2024

### ***American Made***

- **Staged Reading**, Samuel French Off-Off Broadway Short Play Festival, Playwrights Horizons (NYC) August 2022, Finalist\*

### ***Foul Shouts***

- **Production**, INTAR Theatre, Micro Teatro Festival (NYC), June 2021

### ***A Woman's Armor***

- **Production**, Pivot Arts: Re-Imagining Utopia Festival, The Edge Theater (Chicago), April 2021

### ***Black Pain (Covid Monologues)***

- **Production (virtual)**, Two Strikes Theatre Collective, Feb 2021

### ***The Anarchists of Nueva Yol***

- **Production (virtual)**, The Latinx Playwrights Circle, Oct 2020

### ***From Hunts Point to Whitlock***

- **Production**, Harlem 9, 48 Hour Play Festival, Pregones Theater, April 2019

### ***Just a Visit***

- **Production**, Play Your Part Festival- *More Than Maria, A Puerto Rican's Guide to Survival*, (Seattle, WA) Oct 2018

## **DRAMATURGY**

### **Hamlet (Bilingual Adaptation), Translator & Dramaturg**

Dec 2022- Ongoing Project (*Ford Foundation Collaborators: Reynaldo Piniella and Emily Lyons*)

- A bilingual adaptation of a Blacktino Hamlet in English, Spanish, & Spanglish
- Dramaturgy Process: applying cultural understanding to discern specific meanings of classical Shakespearian and contemporary themes
- Translation & Adaptation Process: Translated text from English to Spanish, and to Spanglish; Replicated flow, poetry, style, and overall meaning of original texts while developing new creative ideas for the storyline
- Development Workshops & Residencies: The Public Theatre; The Classical Theatre of Harlem; The Folger Theatre; and The Acting Company

## **The Public Theatre (NYC), Dramaturg**

May 2023- June 2023

- Worked closely with the creative and Mobile Unit production team of *Comedy of Errors*, providing academic and dramaturgical support with Shakespeare adaptation
- Partnered with the design team to create and shape a strategic dramaturgy map for audience knowledge and engagement

## **Geva Theatre Center (Rochester, NY), Dramaturg**

July 2022 - Oct 2022

- Curated the dramaturgy process for the production of *Somewhere* by Matthew Lopez; including a dramaturgy packet, a music dramaturgy playlist, and essay for the playbill
- Assisted with casting and attended rehearsals with the director and choreographer, offering historical information about the world of the play; Created a lobby display and pre-show discussion prompts to encourage audience engagement

## **Pregones/Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre (NYC), Resident Dramaturg**

Jan 2021- Jan 2022

- Spear-headed a digital archive of the legacy of Pregones/PRTT's theatrical works in order to preserve the cultural and theatrical achievements made throughout the company's history
- Curated the dramaturgy process for the production of *Torched!*

## **PLAYWRITING RESIDENCIES**

- The Playwrights Center (MN), *In The Lab Residency*, Jan 2025
- The People's Theatre Project (NYC), *Playwriting Unit*, Sept 2024- Dec 2024
- William Inge Center For The Arts (KA), *Resident Playwright*, Oct- Nov 2024
- WP Theatre Lab, *Playwrights Lab/Residency* (NYC), 2022- 2024
- Labyrinth Theatre Intensive (NYC), *Guest Playwright*, August 2024
- Mercury Store (NYC), *New Play Residency*, April 2024 & May 2024
- The Sol Project Writers Retreat (Ithaca, NY), November 2023
- New York Stage & Film, *Summer Residency* (Poughkeepsie, NY), July 2023
- The Artist Co-Op (Virtual/NYC), *Playwriting Cohort*, May 2022- Oct 2022
- The Playwrights Center (Virtual/Minneapolis), *Core Apprentice*, 2021- 2022
- Silverton Theatre Mine (CO), *Featured Playwright/ New Play Festival*, May 2019

## PLAYWRITING AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

- **67<sup>th</sup> Obie Awards**, (SANCOCHO by Christin Eve Cato) 2024 Obie Award for Best Performance: Zuleyma Guevara for her portrayal of *Caridad*
- **Negocios Now: Latinos 40 under 40 (Class of 2023)**, showcasing remarkable individuals making a significant impact in their respective fields
- **2023 Miranda Family Voces Latinx National Playwriting Competition, Finalist\***
- **HOLA Awards (Hispanic Organization of Latin Actors) 2023**  
**Nominations:** Outstanding Achievement in Playwriting; Outstanding Production (Sancocho); Outstanding Theatrical Design (Sancocho); Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble Cast (Sancocho)
- **Re-Imagine Plays in TYA Grant, Recipient, 2021**
- **NYC Artist Corps, Grant Recipient, 2021**
- **The Greater Good Commission (Latinx Playwrights Circle), Recipient, 2020**
- **Covid Monologues Commission, Recipient, 2020**
- **Eugene O'Neill National Playwrights Conference 2020, Finalist\***

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### TEACHING PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

Storytelling plays a significant role in preserving a culture's traditions and history. Like historians, storytellers bear witness to human experiences through their narratives. Therefore, I encourage my students to view plays as archives and draw inspiration from their authenticity. My teaching approach emphasizes meticulous research, attentive observation, exploration of origin stories, and the discovery of personal mythologies. This approach ultimately enriches our understanding of the worlds we create in our stories. When it comes to playwriting, I believe in delving into the subconscious. I encourage my students to tap into their instincts and imaginations to create memorable stories and dynamic characters that resonate with audiences. This process is often spiritual and inspires emotional depth, healing, and introspective reflection. As an educator, I am committed to providing equal opportunities and fostering inclusive and supportive learning environments where students can thrive. Every student has the potential to excel, and I strive to create a nurturing environment where all students feel valued and respected.

## **THEATER ORGANIZATIONS & HIGHER EDUCATION**

### **The Playwrights Center, Online Instructor, Oct 2022- Present**

- Instructor for seasonal playwriting seminars and workshops for beginning, intermediate, and professional writers; facilitating lectures and discourse for writers of varying ages, interests, skills, and experiences
- Teaching topics: Short Plays; Character Development; Meditative Writing; The Rewriting Process; Play Format & Structure; Playwriting Fundamentals
- Provide positive reinforcement and clear feedback to help students succeed with their plays and current projects

### **Playwrights Horizons (NYC), Playwriting Workshops Instructor, March - Dec 2024**

- Instructor for (in-person) playwriting workshops, 2024 Season. Teaching Topics: Character Development; First/Rough Draft Tips and Fundamentals; Meditative Writing Techniques

### **Epic Theatre Company (NYC), Teaching Artist, August 2018- Jan 2024 (On & Off)**

- Teach teens and young adults the fundamentals of playwriting; act as a reader for their plays and provide dramaturgy feedback

### **Indiana University, Associate Instructor (Graduate Fellowship) Aug 2019- May 2021**

- Taught undergraduate sections: Introduction to Playwriting; Playwriting Workshop; Advanced Playwriting Workshop; Script Analysis for Theatre
- Curated lessons that focused on playwriting fundamentals, the analysis of contemporary & classical plays, and interdisciplinary theatre making
- Developed course curriculum that studied playwrights of diverse cultural backgrounds and explored various techniques and styles like: Fornes meditative writing practices, Brechtian Epic style theatre, Beckett existentialism and philosophy, theatre of the absurd, devised theatre, TYA, multi-cultural dialogue & dialect, documentary-style theatre, immersive & experimental theatre, and the influence of Black & Latiné Theater
- Encouraged class discussions by building discussions into lessons, actively soliciting input, asking open-ended questions to encourage student participation; Provided students with constructive, encouraging and corrective feedback on their plays; Graded tests and assignments and uploaded to Canvas; Maintained regular office hours for students
- Collaborated with faculty to improve DEI practices; sat on hiring and theater season planning committees

## ADDITIONAL WORKSHOPS/SEMINARS

### **Wellness/Goal Setting Workshops & Independent Writing Courses, Instructor**

July 2023- Ongoing/Current (Self-Employment)

- Created a tailored made curriculum of my expertise and organized a series of online workshops that assist writers with their spiritual and creative wellbeing; Facilitated goal setting workshops for creative writers

### **Geva Theatre Center, Connectivity Workshop, Facilitator, Rochester NY, Sept 2024**

- Facilitated a workshop on world-building and character development for plays

### **ScriptWorks, 48 Hour Play Online Workshop Facilitator, Oct 2023**

- Created a workshop that provided tips for writing a short play in 48 hours

### **HowlRound Theatre Commons, Online Workshop Facilitator, May 2023**

- Organized and led an hour-long playwriting workshop on character development, working with writers of varying age and skill levels.

### **The Kennedy Center, KCACTF Guest Respondent, Jan 2022**

- Provided feedback for selected student plays (Region III); facilitated a character workshop

## PUBLICATIONS & BOOK CONTRIBUTIONS

- ***Sancocho***, by Christin Eve Cato (full-length play); Concord Theatricals, 2024
- ***Storytelling as a Means of Documentation***, by Christin Eve Cato (chapter); Hostos Review, International Journal of Literature and Culture: Back to the Future 20th Anniversary Edition; Latin American Writers Institute, 2024
- ***Can't Do Theatre By Yourself***, interview & essay by Christin Eve Cato (online); Howlround Theatre Commons, 2024
- ***Interview with Debra Ann Byrd- Founder of Harlem Shakespeare***, by Christin Eve Cato (chapter); Latinx Actor Training, Routledge Publishing, 2023
- ***Black Pain*** (monologue), by Christin Eve Cato; *Audience Response to Covid Monologues: Research- Based Theater on the Societal Impact of Covid-19*, American Journal of Health Promotion; doi:10.1177/08901171231216204 Hurley, E. A., Tharmarajah, S., de Mahy, G., Rassp, J., Salvatore, J., Jones, J. P., & Harvey, S. A., (Online, 2023)
- ***The Good Cop***, by Christin Eve Cato (short play); We're Not Neutral- Reset Series 2020 Collected Short Plays, Conch Shell Press 2020