

# Barbara Blatner

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## Education

State University of New York at Albany, Doctor of Arts in English, 1984  
Smith College, Education Program credits, 1975  
Boston University, M.A. in Creative Writing, 1973  
Vassar College, B.A. in Music Composition, 1971  
Albany Academy for Girls, 1968

## Playwriting Workshops

HB Playwrights, 2010-  
Pulse Ensemble Playwrights Workshop, 2008-  
Milan Stitt's Master Playwright Seminar, 2005-2009  
Abingdon Playwrights Group, 2003-  
Robert McKee "Story" Seminar, 2003

## Professional Memberships

Dramatists Guild  
Author's Guild  
Poets & Writers  
Poetry Project

## Biographical Sources/Articles/Reviews

Listed in Somerville, MA authors, 2000  
Article, "Area Playwrights Front and Center," *Boston Globe*, 6/1995  
Review, "Playwright's Parade," Amy Sparks, *Cleveland Gazette*, 1/1994  
Article, "New Play Fest presents strong show of women's voice," Barry Daniels, *Gay People's Chronicle*, 1/1994  
Article, NeWorks Festival showcases playwright, neighborhoods, *Boston Globe*, 1/1996  
Article, "Play-in-progress will be read Dec. 1," *Boston Globe*, 12/1993  
Review, *City River of Voices* (poetry anthology), *Boston Review*, 2/1993  
Interview and article, "Writing and Producing Radio Drama," by Scott Gregory, *Worcester Magazine*, 9/1992  
Who's Who in U.S. Writers, Editors & Poets, 1986-87  
Review/article on poetry collection, *The Pope in Space*, Stephen Levy, *Media Exposure*, 1986  
Article, "Two new plays prove engaging works-in-progress," *Times-Union Newspaper*, 5/1980  
Article, "Giving young playwrights a stage," Vinny Reda, *The Times Record*, 6/1980  
Article, "They're Keyed-Up down by the riverside," Georgia Urgan, *The Entertainer*, 8/1979

## **Awards, Honors, Grants**

Grant (\$10,000) from Driehaus Foundation to Scripts Up!, New York, NY, to develop my plays, 2009  
"Listen" nominated by Heliotrope Magazine for Best Poem, Pushcart Poetry Prize, 2007

National Public Radio broadcast tape of verse play, *No Star Shines Sharper* acquired by Museum of Television and Radio, 1994

Somerville (Massachusetts) Arts Lottery grant, for library reading of *Clearing*, full-length play, 1994

Award for "The Choice," short video on childbearing, produced with Diane Woodbrown, International Women's Film and Video Festival, 1991

Honorable Mention, Actors and Writers Play contest, for *Shadow Play*, 1989

Writer's residencies:

Virginia Center for the Arts, VCCA-France, Auvillar, France, 7-8/2010

AnamCara Artists and Writers Retreat, Eyeries, Beara, Ireland, 7/2008

Ragdale Foundation, 8/2007

Banff Center, Leighton Studio Fellow, 6/2007

Montana Artists Refuge, 7/2006

Byrdcliffe Arts Colony, Woodstock, NY, 7/1995, 7/1996, 7/1999, 7/2003, 7/2004, 6/2005, 6/2006, 6/2008

Wellspring Retreat for Writers, 4/2005, 4/2009, 2010

Virginia Center for the Arts, 7/1998.

Blue Mountain Center, Blue Mountain Lake, NY, 7/1989; 6/1992

Award for Public Service Announcement script (for PBS/TV), by Institute for Mental Health Initiatives, Washington, D.C., 4/1988.

Teaching Fellowship, SUNY-Albany, 9/1979-6/1984.

Best Chapbook series, "Z" Reviews, 1986

Graduate Fellowship, Boston University, 9/1972-6/1973

Atlantic Monthly's Honorable Mention in poetry, 10/1973

Suffield Writer's Conference poetry prize, 5/1973

## **Teaching Appointments**

Yeshiva University, Full-time Lecturer, Writing and Creative Writing, 8/2002-present

Somerville High School Music Coach/Conductor, 1-6/2000

Clark University, permanent adjunct faculty, English Department, 9/1992-5/2002

Grubstreet Writers, adult writing school, Playwriting Faculty, 8/1998-8/2001

Bentley College, adjunct Assistant Professor, Scriptwriting, Expository Writing, 9/1997-5/2002

Reader/Respondent, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Writing Requirement Program, 7/1993.

Assumption College, Assistant Professor, Poetry, Autobiography and Scriptwriting, 9/1991-6/1996.

Regis College, Lecturer in English, 1991

Bunker Hill Community College, Lecturer in Composition and Literature, 1990

Wheelock College, Lecturer, Introductory Literature, 9/1989-6/1990

ESL Instructor, The Boston Language Institute, 9-6/1987

ESL Instructor, The Kilmartin Company, 9/1986-9/1987

Northeastern University, Lecturer in Composition, 9/1987-6/1990

Poetry Workshop Leader, Clifton Park Nursing Home, funded by Schenectady County Library, 7/1986

Kutztown University, Playwright in Residence, lecture/workshop: "Uses of Silence," 3/1986

Boston University, College of Basic Studies, Associate Instructor in Rhetoric, 9/1986-6/198

Skidmore College, Writing Mentor, returning students, 1-6/1983

State University of New York at Albany, Graduate Teaching Fellow in English, 9/1979-6/1985

Albany Academy for Girls, 3-6/1973

### Lectures, Conferences, Adjudication, etc.

Panelist, "Writing Plays About the Holocaust," Jewish Studies Conference, 1992  
Chairperson/Panelist, "American Writers on the Holocaust," Jewish Studies Conference, 1993  
Chairperson/Panelist, "Women Playwrights Read their Work," Associated Writing Programs Conference, 2007  
Artist adjudicator, Cambridge Arts Council grants program, 1999.  
Literary Consultant, New Voices (playwrights' theatre), 3/1987-11/1990.  
Adjudicator, Blue Mountain Center admissions committee, 1991  
Script Reader/Evaluator, Capital Repertory Company, CBS/FDG News Plays Program, 1985  
Coordinator, New Plays Readings, "Critical Stages: Women in Theatre Conference," sponsored by SUNY-Albany and the NY State Council on the Arts, 1983.

### Play Productions

#### One-acts:

*Advances in Communication*, Pulse Ensemble "Courage" Festival, New York, NY, 6/2011  
*Guernica 2003*, reading, Abingdon Theatre Company, New York, 2/2009  
*Clay/Paint/Poetry* (original libretto and score), Byrdcliffe TheatreWorks, Woodstock, NY, 6/2006  
*Betty and Mortie* (musical), Woodstock Theatre Festival, 2004  
New Theatre's NeWorks Festival, Boston, MA, 2/2000  
*Grassy Knoll*, first Boston Play Marathon, 4/1999,  
*Grassy Knoll*, Turnip Theatre Short Play Festival, 2/1996.  
*Years of Sky (10-minute version)*, New Theatre's NeWorks Festival, 1998  
*Betty and Mortie* (musical), produced by Playwrights' Platform/Three Speed Limits, Boston Center for the Arts, Boston, MA, 1995. Funded by Cambridge Arts Lottery grant.  
*Tuesday*, produced in New Theatre's NeWorks Festival, Boston, MA, 1995.  
*Shadow Play*, workshop production, Cleveland Public Theatre New Play Festival, 1994.  
*No Star Shines Sharper*, a verse play for Epiphany, produced by Mystic Theatre onstage and broadcast on wfdu.fm radio in 2003/05/06, produced for radio by New Voices/Public Media Foundation at Christain Monitor Studios, Boston, MA, aired on Christmas night on National Public Radio Stations, 1992/93. Tape of play acquired by the Museum of Television and Radio, New York, NY, 1994  
*Cathedral*, Albany Theatre Project, Albany, NY, 9/1983  
*Postures*, reading, Capital Repertory Company, Albany, NY, 8/1983.  
*The Fair*, Playwrights Workshop, Albany Arts Office, funded by CETA grant, Albany, NY, 1980

#### Full-lengths:

*Years of Sky*, ongoing script development, upcoming production, 2012, Scripts Up!, NY City, 2009-  
*Marilyn Monroe in the Desert*, reading at The Living Theatre, NY City, 10/2008  
*Clearing*, reading, Abingdon Theatre Company, NY City, 10/2004  
*White Ashes*, reading, Abingdon Theatre Company, NYC, 9/2006  
*Marilyn Monroe in the Desert*, reading, Abingdon Theatre Company, 5/2007  
*Years of Sky*, reading, Yeshiva College Book Project event, 3/2007.  
*Clearing*, reading, Yeshiva College Book Project event, 11/2003  
*Marilyn Monroe in the Desert*, commissioned by New Theatre, Boston, MA. Workshop production, 11/1999

*This Way for the Gas, Ladies and Gentlemen* (adapted from Tadeusz Borowski's book of same name), commissioned by New Voices, performed at Suffolk University Theatre and Boston Public Library, 10-12/1988

*White Ashes*, reading, New Voices, Boston, MA, 5/1988

*White Ashes*, reading, 1989, Women's Theatre Festival, Cambridge, MA, 3/1990

## **Publications**

### **One-act plays:**

*All that Glitters is Gold; It's Life – not Art, Baby!*, The Ileum & the Odyssey, Swain & Feldman, Eds., Sticks & Stones Publications, New York, 2009

*Shadow Play*, Peppermint Pages, 2004

*Grassy Knoll*, First Boston Play Marathon Anthology, Baker's Plays, Boston, MA, 2001

*Years of Sky* and *Grassy Knoll* (two related 10-minute plays), Compost Magazine, 1999

*No Star Shines Sharper*, A Verse Play for Epiphany, Baker's Plays, Boston, MA, 1990

### **Poetry**

*The Still Position, a verse memoir of my mother's death* (full-length poetry collection), New York Quarterly Books, 2010

*Living with You* (full-length poetry collection), New York Quarterly Books, upcoming publication, March 2012

*The Pope in Space* (poetry collection), Intertext Press, Anchorage, Alaska, 1986

### **Poetry, fiction, reviews:**

Red Mountain Review, Broken Bridge, Skidrow Penthouse, HazMat, House Organ, Heliotrope Peppermint Pages, Big Scream, Shampoo, Poetry Northwest, The New York Quarterly, Sojourner Apache Quarterly, Lift, 13th Moon, City River of Voices, Potato Eyes, Mildred

### **Poetry in anthologies:**

Holy Cow! *Beloved on this Earth: An Anthology of Grief and Gratitude*, 2009 (with poets such as Neruda, Rumi, Oliver, Stafford)

City River of Voices, 1993

13<sup>th</sup> Moon, 1991

## **Music Compositions**

Composer, *No Star Shines Sharper* score, Mystic Theatre Company production, Farleigh Dickinson University experimental theatre, and FM radio station broadcast, 2003

Composer, Musical Director and Performer, Merrimack Repertory Company's Summer 2000 Young Artists at Play programs, Lowell, MA. Original music includes songs for Jason Slavick's adaptation of *Alice in Wonderland*; programs include full production of abridged *The King and I* with 5 & 6<sup>th</sup> graders for the Rogers & Hammerstein Organization Junior Musicals division

Composer, Director and Performer of score for 1996 production of Rosanna Yamagiwa Alfaro's *Pablo and Cleopatra*. New Theatre, Boston, MA. Boston Phoenix review: "impressive score...evocative...expertly performed...abstract originality..."

Artistic Director and Keyboardist/Composer/Arranger for the 8-person vocal and instrumental ensemble Urban Myth, Boston, MA, 1995-1998.

Composer, Boston Shakespeare's Irish Play Festival, Boston, MA, 1989.

Composer, instrumental music for radio production of *No Star Shines Sharper*, Christian Science Monitor Studios, Boston, MA, 1991

### **Poetry Readings/Performances**

Poetry Project, New Year's Day Marathon readings, 1/2007, 1/2009

Monologue reading, Sunday Best Series, Hudson View Gardens, NYC, 10/1008

Assumption College HumanArts Series, Worcester, MA, 4/1993

Melville House reading, funded by Berkshire County Arts Council, Pittsfield, MA, 7/1988.

"Poems, Piano, Drums," poetry and improvisation, funded by the Rennselaer Council for the Arts, Troy, NY, 2/1987

Numerous readings in the Boston, MA., and Albany, NY. Areas, including Word of Mouth Series (Cambridge, MA), Cambridge Public Library, Albany 24-hour Poetry Marathon

### **Related Experience**

Lyrics Writer, Zingagram, Inc., Albany, NY. Wrote high volume of lyrics for successful singing telegram company, 1980-1986

Recreation Therapist, implemented music and general recreational program for 32-bed psychiatric in-patient unit, 1979

Writer/Composer/Director, Albany Arts Office, Albany, NY. Funded by CETA grant. Founded s Potpourri Chorus. Wrote and composed, directed and produced full-length music shows. Founded Playwrights' Workshop; produced plays by area authors, 1975-1979

Writer/Reviewer, *The Washington Park Spirit Newspaper*, Albany, NY. Wrote arts reviews, interviews, articles on area events; assisted in newspaper layout, editing and production, 1973-1974