

# MATTHIAS KNOX BOLON

he/they | non-union  
matthiasbolon.com

## EDUCATION

### **M.F.A in Shakespeare & Performance**

2023-2025, Mary Baldwin University, Shakespeare & Performance Program. Concentrating in directing and acting for the early modern stage, with additional experience in intimacy choreography, playwriting, dramaturgy, and prop design.

### **M.A. in Theatre & Performance Studies**

2022-2023, University of Colorado, Boulder, Department of Theatre & Dance. Training in intimacy choreography, consent-based practices and transgender depictions in theatre.

### **B.A. with honors in Theatre**

2019-2022, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO. Training in acting, carpentry, and design basics.

### **A.A in General Studies**

2019, Front Range Community College, Longmont, CO.

### **Continuing Education – Short Courses and Focused Symposia**

- 2023 Creating with Consent: Onstage Intimacies; July 10th-23rd. Instructors Amanda Rose Villarreal, Greg Geffrard, Laura Rikard, Raja Benz. California State University Summer Arts, Fresno.
- 2023 Introduction to Trauma-Informed Communication; February 18th. Instructor Roque Rodriguez. Intimacy Directors & Coordinators, Zoom.
- 2022 Level 2 - Foundations of Intimacy; Nov. 13-Dec. 18. Instructors: Charlie Baker and Zoe Burke. Intimacy Directors & Coordinators, Zoom.
- 2022 Working with Trans and Non-Binary Artists; November 5th. Instructors: Raja Benz and Joy Brooke Fairfield. Intimacy Directors & Coordinators, Zoom.
- 2022 Level 1 - Foundations of Intimacy; October 5-28. Instructors: Nicole Perry and Claire Wilcher. Intimacy Directors & Coordinators, Zoom.
- 2022 Anatomy of an Apology; September 21. Instructors: Charlie Baker. Intimacy Directors & Coordinators, Zoom.
- 2022 Best Practices; September 10. Instructors: Greg Geffrard and Emily Rollie. Theatrical Intimacy Education, Zoom.

## PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

**Theatre Silco**, Silverthorne, CO - August 2024 - January 2026

VIVO Teaching Artist, instructing elementary school students K-5 on theatre basics in acting, ensemble, movement, technical design, warm ups, cool downs, vocal and physical health. The program is dual language (English-Spanish); teachers with low Spanish comprehension had daily lessons to improve understanding and support student needs.

**Mary Baldwin University Shakespeare & Performance**, Staunton, VA - August 2023 - May 2025

Social Media Coordinator, managing the Shakespeare & Performance program's social media accounts and digital marketing content. This primarily focused on Instagram, Facebook, semester newsletters, and weekly digests.

**Mary Baldwin University Theatre Department**, Staunton, VA - August 2024 - December 2024

Course Instructor, instructing undergraduate students on acting techniques, performance preparation, public speaking, and script analysis for THEA 121: Acting 1.

**Mary Baldwin University Grafton Library**, Staunton, VA - August 2023 - May 2024

Student Library Assistant, managing front desk tasks, checking in and out library materials, reshelving materials, organizing book displays, and assisting with basic research inquiries from MBU students.

**University of Colorado Boulder**, Boulder, CO - January 2023 - May 2023

Teaching Assistant, assisting with grading and lecturing for WGST 2050: Gender, Sexuality and Popular Culture with Dr. Shannon Leone.

**University of Colorado Boulder**, Boulder, CO - August 2022 - December 2022

Teaching Assistant, assisting with grading and lecturing for THTR 1009: Theatre & Society with PhD Candidate Heather Kelley. Lecture topics: *Gender* and *Applied & Documentary Theatre* (co-lecturer).

**Colorado Shakespeare Festival**, Boulder, CO - May 2022 - August 2022

House Manager. Managing the outdoor Mary Rippon Theatre during evening shows for, primarily, *The Book of Will* and, occasionally, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*. This position required organizing a team of nine staff members, fixing ticket machine errors, handling conflict resolution, and smooth running of the front of house and audience experience.

**University of Colorado Boulder**, Boulder, CO - May 2022 - August 2022

Theatre Scene Shop Employee. Duties include carpentry work (measuring and cutting wood, building sets), painting (scenery backgrounds), basic metal work (cutting, welding), and electrics (hanging lights, tying cable).

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Theatre Silco**, Silverthorne, CO - August 2024 - January 2026

VIVO Teaching Artist, instructing elementary school students K-5 on theatre basics in acting, ensemble, movement, technical design, warm ups, cool downs, vocal and physical health. The program is dual language (English-Spanish); teachers with low Spanish comprehension had daily lessons to improve understanding and support student needs.

**Bucknell University**, Lewisburg, PA - February 2025

Intimacy Choreographer/Workshop Facilitator, choreographing the intimacy for Bucknell University's *Twelfth Night* and offering a workshop on boundary setting and consent-based practices in theatre.

**Mary Baldwin University**, Staunton, VA - Fall semester, 2024

Course Instructor, instructing undergraduate students on acting techniques, performance preparation, public speaking, and script analysis for the MBU Theatre Department's THEA 121: Acting I.

**University of Colorado Boulder**, Boulder, CO - Spring semester, 2023

Teaching Assistant, assisting Dr. Shannon Leone with grading, discussions, and lecturing for the Women and Gender Studies Department's WGST 2050: Gender, Sexuality and Popular Culture.

**University of Colorado Boulder**, Boulder, CO - Fall semester, 2022

Teaching Assistant, assisting then PhD candidate Heather Kelley with grading, discussions, and lecturing for the Theatre Department's THTR 1009: Theatre & Society. Personal lecture topics included: *Gender* and *Applied & Documentary Theatre* (co-lecturer).

**Colorado Shakespeare Festival**, July 2022 - August 2022

Teaching Assistant. Focused in iambic pentameter, acting technique, character development, and personal growth and exploration. Assisting teacher Jordan Pettis with the *All's Well That Ends Well* day camp.

**Colorado Shakespeare Festival**, July 2022

Teaching Assistant. Focused in collaboration, discovery, character development, and personal growth and exploration. Assisting teacher Kaitlin Nabors with the Kindergarten "Sprites" day camp.

### THEATRICAL DIRECTION / MANAGEMENT

**Production Manager (conflict resolution and community care points)**

2024 - 2025 - Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble, Staunton, VA.

**Co-director, *Best Mayor the King* (staged reading)**

Spring 2025 - Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble's Lamplighter staged reading series, Staunton, VA.

**Co-director / Playwright / Actor, *Pericles: for Young Audiences***

Fall 2024 - Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble's educational touring show, Staunton, VA.

**Assistant Stage Manager, *The Convent of Pleasure***

Spring 2024 - Mary Baldwin University, Shakespeare & Performance, Staunton, VA. Director Abigail Olshin.

**Assistant Stage Manager, *The Two Noble Kinsmen***

Spring 2024 - Mary Baldwin University Shakespeare & Performance, Staunton, VA. Directors Doreen Bechtol and Matt Davies.

**Director, *Queer Joy* (devised piece)**

Summer 2023 - Creating with Consent: Onstage intimacies showcase, Fresno, CA.

**Stage Manager, *All the Time in the World* (staged reading premiere)**

Fall 2022 - CU Sandbox Student Series, Boulder, CO. Director Noah Michael-Carlson.

**INTIMACY CHOREOGRAPHY**

Taming of the Shrew

Intimacy Choreographer, director Kelsey Harrison, Mortal Fools Collective, VA, summer 2025

Much Ado About Nothing

Intimacy Choreographer, director Alaina Shefelton, Endstation Theatre Company, VA, summer 2025

Whirlwind (world premiere)

Intimacy Choreographer, director Constance Swain, Endstation Theatre Company, VA, summer 2025

Twelfth Night

Intimacy Choreographer, Bucknell University, PA, spring 2025

Bartholomew Fair

Intimacy Choreographer Team Lead, Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble, VA, spring 2025

Honest [Wo]man's Revenge, or the Atheist's Tragedy

Intimacy Choreographer Team, Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble, VA, fall 2024.

The Two Noble Kinsmen

Intimacy Choreographer Team, Mary Baldwin University - S&P REN 531 course, VA, spring 2024

Convent of Pleasure (staged reading)

Intimacy Choreographer, Mary Baldwin University - S&P Second Year Showcase, VA, fall 2023

Henry VI Part 2

Intimacy Choreographer, Mary Baldwin University - S&P Second Year Showcase, VA, fall 2023

Troilus & Cressida

Intimacy Choreographer, Meadowlark Shakespeare Players, VA, fall 2023

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Intimacy Choreographer, Meadowlark Shakespeare Players, VA, fall 2023

Macbeth

Intimacy Consultant, University of Colorado, Boulder - Sandbox Student Series, CO, spring 2023

5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche

Intimacy Choreographer, University of Colorado, Boulder - Sandbox Student Series, CO, spring 2023

Yo Soy Una Mujer

Intimacy Consultant, University of Colorado, Boulder - Sandbox Student Series, CO, spring 2023

The Importance of Being Earnest

Intimacy Choreographer, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, fall 2022

Barbeque Apocalypse

Intimacy Choreographer, University of Colorado, Boulder - Sandbox Student Series, CO, fall 2022

The Performers

Intimacy Consultant, University of Colorado, Boulder - Sandbox Student Series, CO, fall 2022

**OTHER THEATRICAL ARTISTIC EXPERIENCE**

**Props Artisan / Swing, *Henry VI Part 3***

Fall 2024 - Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble's small-scale show, Staunton, VA.

**Dramaturg, *Honest [Wo]man's Revenge, or the Atheist's Tragedy***

Fall 2024 - Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble's small-scale shows, Staunton, VA.

**ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Social Media Management

Coordinator, Staunton, VA, Streetlight Shakespeare Ensemble, 2024 - 2025

Intimacy and Improv

Workshop instructor, Boulder CO, Sandbox Student Series, spring 2023

Foundations of Intimacy 2

Workshop instructor, Boulder CO, Sandbox Student Series, spring 2023

Foundations of Intimacy 1

Workshop instructor, Boulder CO, Sandbox Student Series, spring 2023

Trans Identity in Theatre

Lecturer, Sam Collier, THTR 1009: Theatre & Society, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, spring 2023

Trans Identity in Theatre

Lecturer, Dr. Shannon Leone, WGST 2050: Gender & Sexuality in Popular Culture, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, spring 2023

Gender

Lecturer, Heather Kelley, THTR 1009: Theatre & Society, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO, fall 2022

Consent & Communication with Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Workshop instructor, Boulder, CO, spring 2022

Women's Self Defense

Instructing coach, Dark Horse Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, Longmont, CO 2019-2020

Girl Scout Gold Award: *Speak Above the Shoes*

Workshop instructor, Longmont, CO, summer 2017

## INDIVIDUAL STUDENT MENTORING

### *Peer Reviewer*

M.F.A Thesis	Mary Baldwin University	Bell, Austen	2024 - 2025
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### *Peer Reviewer*

M.F.A Thesis	Mary Baldwin University	Roselene Jacob, Jovita	2024 - 2025
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### *Peer Reviewer*

M.F.A Thesis	Mary Baldwin University	Showalter, Kyle	2024 - 2025
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## HONORS

### **Ariel Service Award**

May 2025, The Ariel Service Award recognizes outstanding labor above and beyond normal responsibilities within the Shakespeare & Performance graduate program.

### **Lavender "Antonio" Award**

May 2025, The Lavender "Antonio" award, recognition of those creating space for the LGBTQ+ community at Mary Baldwin University. MFA graduate recipient.

### **Beverly Sears Graduate Student Grant**

Spring 2023, University of Colorado, Boulder. Grant supporting research, scholarship and creative work of graduate students from all departments.

### **Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Fellowship**

Spring 2023, University of Colorado, Boulder. Grant fellowship supporting graduate creative research while promoting equity, inclusion, and academic excellence.

## PRIMARY RESEARCH INTERESTS

Adapting Shakespeare for young audiences; children's horror literature; trans representation in horror; trans representation in theatre; intimacy choreography and boundary practices; consent-based education.

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Articles (\* peer-reviewed)**

- \*1. Bolon, M. Asserting Boundaries and Conflict Resolution with A Midsummer Night's Dream: Consent-Based Practices and Shakespeare. *The Journal of Consent-Based Performance*. Vol. 1, Issue 1, Fall 2022.
- \*2. Bolon, M. Trans Identity On and Off Stage: A Guide for Support Trans Actors Playing Roles Outside Their Gender Identity. *ProQuest LLC*. Coming summer 2023
- \*3. Bolon, M. Identity Awareness in Casting: When Trans Actors Play Roles Outside Their Gender Identity. *The Journal of Consent-Based Performance*. Vol. 2, Issue 2, Spring 2024.