

VIRGINIA DAKARI

EDUCATION

PhD in American Theatre and Performance **September 2016**
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Dissertation title: "Performing Cancer: Toward an Aesthetic of the Unpresentable"

MA in American Literature and Culture **2008**
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

BA in English Language and Literature **2004**
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

HONORS AND AWARDS

Aristotle University Research Committee Award for Excellence in doctoral research at the School of English. **2011**

IKY Graduate Studies Award for Excellence. **2007**

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Postdoctoral Fellow **November 2017-Present**
Department of American Literature and Culture
School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Greek Representative for the Arts Health Early Career Research Network (ECRN) **2016-Present**

Cancer Society Working Group Member **2017-Present**
Center for Research, Education and Support in Psychosocial Oncology
Greek Cancer Society, Athens

Qualitative field research **Dec 2014-Jan 2015**
Metaxas Cancer Hospital, Piraeus, Attica

PUBLICATIONS

Editorial

1. **Dakari, Vinia** and Catherine Rogers. "Editorial Note on Special Topic Issue 'Medicine and/in Theatre.'" *Critical Stages/Scènes Critiques* 17, June 2018.

Book Chapters

1. **Dakari, Virginia.** "Cancer on the American Popular Stage: Playing to a Sold-out House." In *Old Stories, New Readings: The Transforming Power of American Drama*. Miriam López-Rodríguez, Inmaculada Pineda-Hernández, Alfonso Ceballos Muñoz eds. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars, 2015. 151-169.

2. **Dakari, Virginia.** "Staging the 'C' Word: Performativity of Pain and the 'Recovery of Experience' in Marianne Paget's 'The Work of Talk.'" In *Pain: Management, Expression, Interpretation*. Andrzej Dańczak and Nicola Lazenby eds. Oxford: Inter-Disciplinary Press, 2011. 93-100.

3. **Dakari, Virginia.** "The Cancer Body (Politic) of American Violence: John Guare's A Few Stout Individuals." In *Violence in American Drama: Essays on Its Staging, Meanings and Effects*. Alfonso Ceballos Muñoz, Ramón Espejo Romero and Bernardo Muñoz Martínez eds. McFarland 2011. 250-266.

Articles in Peer-Reviewed Journals

1. **Dakari, Vinia.** "From Heiner Müller's Death in Berlin to Christoph Schlingensief's 'Death' in Venice: Metaphors and Spectacles of Illness on the Occasion of a Nobel Prize" [expanded and revised version]. *Gamma: Journal of Theory and Criticism* 24 (2017): 111-124.

2. **Dakari, Vinia.** "The TED Talk Cure: Cancer and the Transformative Performance of Storytelling." In *Intima: A Journal of Narrative Medicine*, Spring 2017.

3. **Dakari, Vinia.** "From Heiner Müller's Death in Berlin to Christoph Schlingensief's 'Death' in Venice: Metaphors and Spectacles of Illness on the Occasion of a Nobel Prize." In *Critical Stages/Scènes Critiques* 11 (September 2015).

4. **Dakari, Virginia.** "Cancer Landscapes and the (Digital) Art of Pain in Beth Herst's Dark Room /Gray Scale/White Noise". In "The Text Strikes Back: The Dynamics of Performativity." *Gamma: Journal of Theory and Criticism* 17 (2009): 111-127.

Book Reviews

1. **Dakari, Vinia.** Review of *Acts of Undressing: Politics, Eroticism and Discarded Clothing*, by Barbara Brownie. *Gamma: Journal of Theory and Criticism* (forthcoming).

2. **Ντάκαρη, Βιργινία.** «Το γυναικείο σώμα ως κείμενο και η σιωπή ως αντίσταση.» Κριτική του βιβλίου *Η Καλαμπάκα Κλαίει Δύσκολα* της Στέλλας Αλμπάνη. *Εφημερίδα Τα Μετέωρα* (24 Μαρτίου 2011).

INVITED TALKS (IN GREEK)

1. «Από τον Ίψεν στον Τερζόπουλο: Το σώμα του ηθοποιού και η εκφραστική δυναμική του.» Κέντρο για την Υποστήριξη, την Εκπαίδευση και την Έρευνα στην Ψυχοκοινωνική Ογκολογία (ΚΕ.Υ.Ε.Ε.Ψ.Ο.), Ελληνική Αντικαρκινική Εταιρεία. Αθήνα, 20 Απριλίου 2018.

2. «Το γυναικείο Σώμα ως Κείμενο και η Σιωπή ως Αντίσταση [Ανάλυση των γυναικείων χαρακτήρων στο *Η Καλαμπάκα Κλαίει Δύσκολα* της Στέλλας Αλμπάνη].» Δημοτική Βιβλιοθήκη, Καλαμπάκα, 26 Φεβρουαρίου 2010.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. “Old patients, new patients, and future patients in a room”: Breaking the fourth wall of the ‘kingdom of the sick’ and rebranding cancer in musical theatre.” International Conference: *The Politics of Space and the Humanities*, School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki/Hellenic Association for American Studies (HELAAS), December 15-17, 2017.
2. “The TEDtalk Cure: Politics and Aesthetics of Cancer on A Global Stage.”: International Conference: *The War on the Human: Human as Right, Human as Limit and the Task of the Humanities*, Faculty of English Language and Literature National and Kapodistrian University of Athens/HELAAS, December 27-29, 2014.
3. “From Heiner Muller’s Ghost of Europe to Christoph Schlingensiefel’s ‘Ghost’ in Venice: Performing German Maladies,” International Conference: The Viewing of Politics and the Politics of Viewing: Theatre Challenges in the Age of Globalized Communities,” Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, April 18-20, 2013.
4. “Cancer and Its Performative Aporias: When the Representational Collapses into the Real,” 11th International SAAS Conference: “Trans-: The Poetics and Politics of Crossing in the US” University of La Laguna, Tenerife, Canary Islands, March 20-22, 2013.
5. “Cancer Wrapped-up in Romance,” IV International Conference “The Romance of Theatre: American Drama and Its Stories,” Seville, Spain, May 28-30, 2012.
6. “Staging the ‘c’ word: Performativity of Pain and the ‘Recovery of Experience’ in Marianne Paget’s ‘The Work of Talk,’” 2nd Global Conference “Making Sense Of: Pain,” Warsaw, Poland, May 22-24, 2011.
7. “The Cancer Body (Politic) of American Violence: John Guare’s *A Few Stout Individuals*,” III International Conference on American Theatre and Drama, Cádiz, Spain, May 27-29, 2009.
8. “Cancer *Langscapes* and Decaying Bodies: Staging Cancer in Beth Herst’s *Dark Room* and Octavio Solis’s *Prospect*.” HELAAS Graduate Student International Conference: “Ex-centric Narratives, Identity and Multivocality in Anglo-American Cultures,” Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. March 15-18, 2007.

CONFERENCE/PANEL ORGANIZATION

1. Panel Organizer: “Illness, Medicine, and the Arts: Rethinking the Human Across Spaces of Knowledge, Creation, and Healing.” International Conference: *The Politics of Space and the Humanities*, School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki/Hellenic Association for American Studies (HELAAS). December 15-17, 2017.
2. Member of the Organizing Committee. International Conference, “The Viewing of Politics and the Politics of Viewing: Theatre Challenges in the Age of Globalized Communities.” April 18-20, 2013.
3. Member of the Postgraduate Students’ Committee. HELAAS Graduate Student International Conference: “Ex-centric Narratives, Identity and Multivocality in Anglo-American Cultures,” Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, March 15-18, 2007.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest lecturer

Fall 2013

Workshop in Creative Writing: "Understanding Illness and Trauma through Narrative" (Lit7-444)
School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Teaching Assistant

Spring 2010-Spring 2011

Workshop in Critical Writing: Drama (Lit126)
School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

Workshop Instructor

September 2011

"American Corners" workshop series on American Culture in Xanthi, Veria, and Corfu.
Subject: "Cultural Diversity in the USA."
Program funded by the American Embassy.

JOURNAL EDITING

Guest Co-Editor

Special Topic Issue "Medicine and/in Theatre" (Publication date: June 2018)
Critical Stages/Scènes Critiques

Editorial Assistant

2016-present

Critical Stages/Scènes Critiques

OTHER EDITING EXPERIENCE

Program generation for Dennis Kelly's *Orphans*, dir. Takis Tzamargias, National Theatre of Northern Greece. Premiere: 14 April 2018.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2009

School of English, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Library Assistant

2005-2007

English School Library, Aristotle University

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

- Teaching English as Foreign Language in evening schools 2006-Present
- Scientific Article Proofreading 2013-Present
- Website content translation for the Municipality of Kalambaka 2004-2006
(<https://kalabaka.org>)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- International Federation for Theatre Research (*IFTR*)
- Hellenic Association for American Studies (*HELAAS*)
- Hellenic Theatre/Drama and Education Network (*TENet-Gr*)
- Greek Cancer Society

LANGUAGES

- Greek: native
- English: fluent
- French: very good
- Spanish: basic