

Zander Brietzke
<https://zanderbrietzke.com>

133 Ponce de Leon Court
Decatur, GA 30030

zbrietzke@gmail.com
973-356-9384 (mobile)

Education

PhD Drama (Directing & Criticism), Stanford University, 1993
MFA Theatre (Directing), University of Alabama, 1985
BA Theatre, Missouri Southern State College, 1982

Employment History

Independent Scholar, 1998–present
Adjunct Lecturer, Columbia University, 2006–2013, 2019
Editor, *Eugene O’Neill Review*, Suffolk University, 2004–2010
Adjunct Lecturer, Montclair State University, 2002, 2007
Assistant Professor of Theatre, The College of Wooster, 1994–1998
Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre, Lehigh University, 1992–1994

Current Research

Epic Ambitions: Centuries of Slavery in the Cycle Plays of Eugene O’Neill and August Wilson (monograph)

Books

Eugene O’Neill and the Ashcan Artists: The Influence of the New York Art Movement on the Plays (McFarland 2024)
Magnum Opus: The Cycle Plays of Eugene O’Neill (Yale 2021)
Action and Consequence in Ibsen, Chekhov & Strindberg (McFarland 2017)
Teaching with The Norton Anthology of Drama: A Guide for Instructors (Norton 2009, 2014)
American Drama in the Age of Film (Alabama 2007)
Jason Robards Remembered, co-editor (McFarland 2002)
The Aesthetics of Failure: Dynamic Structure in the Plays of Eugene O’Neill (McFarland 2001)

Courses Taught

Columbia University (Department of English & Comparative Literature)

Modern Drama (Büchner to Churchill)
Modern Drama: Ibsen, Strindberg and Chekhov
Drama and the American Dream: O'Neill, Williams, and Miller
David Mamet: Action Talks
Contemporary American Drama
Text and Performance
Drama, Theatre, Theory

Montclair State University (Department of Theatre)

Play Analysis
Theatre History

The College of Wooster (Department of Theatre)

Directing
Theatre History
Playwriting
Beyond Broadway: American Theatre since the 1930s
O'Neill and his Contemporaries
Artifice and the Actor (dramatic criticism)
Styles of Acting: Shakespeare
Styles of Acting: Restoration
Acting I, Acting II, Voice for the Actor

Lehigh University (Department of Theatre)

Moral Dilemmas in Modern Drama (First Year Seminar)
Theatre History
Shakespeare in Performance (First Year Seminar)
Dramatic Literature
Acting I

Stanford University (Department of Drama)

Directing Workshop
Acting I

The University of Alabama (Department of Theatre)

Theatre Appreciation
Voice and Diction

Directing & Dramaturgy

Warnings Before Breakfast (dramaturgy), Eugene O'Neill Foundation
The Threepenny Opera, College of Wooster
Three Sisters, College of Wooster
The Man of Mode, College of Wooster
Temptation, College of Wooster
The Wild Duck, Lehigh University
As You Like It, Lehigh University
The Seagull, Stanford University
Twelfth Night, Stanford University
The Brute (The Bear), Stanford University
Silence, Stanford University
Richard III (assistant to Ed Stern), Alabama Shakespeare Festival
Misalliance (assistant to Tony Van Bridge), Alabama Shakespeare Festival
Master Harold . . . and the Boys (assistant to Stephen Hollis), ASF
The Beaux' Stratagem (assistant to Edmond Williams), MFA company, ASF
Brigadoon, SummerShow, Tuscaloosa, Alabama
My Own Bisnis (original play), University of Alabama
True West, University of Alabama
God's Attic (original play), University of Alabama
The Dumb Waiter and The Lover, University of Alabama
Beyond Therapy, University of Alabama
Catch-22, Missouri Southern State College

Fellowships, Grants and Awards

Eugene O'Neill Medallion, Eugene O'Neill Society, 2022
 Finalist, Richard Wall Memorial Award, Theatre Library Association, 2008
 Ralston Research Grant (American Theatre), College of Wooster, 1994
 New York Shakespeare Festival, Education Department, 1990
 Graduate Fellow, Stanford University, 1987–1991
 Outstanding Service to the Theatre, University of Alabama, 1985
 Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Fraternity, 1985
 Spencer-Bartlett Respect Award, Missouri Southern State College, 1982

Professional Service

Book Editor, *Eugene O'Neill Review*, Penn State UP (2019–present)
 Chair, Board of Directors, Eugene O'Neill Society (2023–present)
 Editorial Board, *Eugene O'Neill Review* (2011–2018)
 Manuscript Reader (peer review): Palgrave-Macmillan, University of Alabama
 Press, Routledge Press, Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, *South Central
 Review*, *Journal of Narrative Theory*, *Theatre History Studies*

Chapters Published in Other Books

- “Eugene O’Neill.” *Twentieth Century Literary Criticism*. Academic Advisor. Gale-Cengage Research. Layman Poupard, 2024.
- “Eugene O’Neill: Love and Loss of the Soul.” In Felicia Hardison Londré, *Modern American Drama: Playwriting in the 1940s*. Bloomsbury 2018. 101–124.
- “Condensed Comedy: The Neo-Futurists Perform O’Neill’s Stage Directions.” *Eugene O’Neill’s One-Act Plays: New Critical Perspectives*. Ed. Michael Y. Bennett and Benjamin J. Carson. Palgrave 2012. 193–201.
- “Eugene O’Neill and the Nobel.” *Critical Insights*. Ed. Steven F. Bloom. Ipswich, MA: EBSCO/Salem Press, 2012. 222–237.
- “The Reel O’Neill in Reds.” *Eugene O’Neill and His Early Contemporaries*. Ed. Eileen J. Herrmann and Robert M. Dowling. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2011. 194–209.
- “Masks and Mirrors.” *Eugene O’Neill: Bloom’s Modern Critical Views*. Ed. Harold Bloom. Updated ed. New York: Infobase, 2007. 129–160.
- Headnote, *Desire Under the Elms*. *Thomson Anthology of American Literature*, Volume 4 (1910-1945), ed. Martha J. Cutter. Thomson/Gale 2007.
- Student Exercises for Stuart Vaughan’s *Directing Plays: A Working Professional’s Method*. White Plains: Longman Press, 1993.

Articles in Journals and Periodicals

- “The New York Tenderloin of John Sloan in Eugene O’Neill’s Last Plays.” *Eugene O’Neill Review* 44:2 (2023): 17–42.
- “Eugene O’Neill, George Bellows, and the Lincoln Arcade.” *Eugene O’Neill Review* 42:1 (2021): 32–51.
- “Sara Melody Harford: Stripped Stark Naked in the Cycle.” *Eugene O’Neill Review* 40:1 (2019): 49–67.
- “About the Play.” *The Dance of Death*. Lucille Lortel Theatre, New York City. *Playbill*, April 2013.
- Jason Robards, *American National Biography* (Online Edition), 2008.
- “The Gift of Ric Burns.” *Eugene O’Neill Review* 28 (2006): 113–130.
- “Too Close for Comfort: Biographical Truth in Long Day’s Journey Into Night.” *Eugene O’Neill Review* 25 (2001): 24–36.
- “Tragic Vision and the Happy Ending in ‘Anna Christie’.” *Eugene O’Neill Review* 24 (2000): 43–60.

Performance Reviews

- Long Voyage Home: Eugene O’Neill’s Plays of the Sea*. Hunter College and South Street Seaport Museum. New York City. *Eugene O’Neill Review* 40.2 (2019): 247–250.
- O’Neill (Unexpected)*. Metropolitan Playhouse, NYC. *Eugene O’Neill Review* 38.1–2 (2017): 165–169.

Performance Reviews (cont'd)

- A Moon for the Misbegotten*. With Audra McDonald at The Williamstown Theatre Festival. *Eugene O'Neill Review* 37:1 (2016): 139–143.
- “Launchpad of the American Theatre: the O'Neill Since 1964.” Exhibition Review. *Eugene O'Neill Review* 36:1 (2015): 108–110.
- All God's Chillun Got Wings*. At the Jack in NYC. *Eugene O'Neill Review* 35:1 (2014): 118–121.
- The Big Show: A Reimagination of Eugene O'Neill's Thirst through the Life Story of Frances Farmer*. Working Artists Theatre Project, NYC. *Eugene O'Neill Review* 35:1 (2014): 130–132.
- Ah, Wilderness!* and *The Emperor Jones*. *Theatre Journal* 50 (October 1998): 382–385.

Book Reviews

- Long Day's Journey Into Night: Critical Edition. Ed. William Davies King. *Eugene O'Neill Review* 36:1 (2015): 90–92.
- Empty Houses: Theatrical Failure and the Novel. *The European Legacy* 20:4 (2015): 404–05.
- The American Play. *Eugene O'Neill Review* 32 (2010): 186–189.
- O'Neill: Long Day's Journey Into Night. *Eugene O'Neill Review* 25 (2001): 107–109.
- Eugene O'Neill: Beyond Mourning and Tragedy. *Theatre Journal* 52 (October 2000): 431–32.
- George Jean Nathan and the Making of Modern American Drama Criticism. *Eugene O'Neill Review* 23 (1 & 2, Spring & Fall, 1999): 156–158.

Selected Papers and Presentations

- “The Curated Career of Eugene O'Neill.” American Literature Association Conference, Boston, MA, May 26, 2023.
- “The Ashcan in O'Neill.” 11th International Eugene O'Neill Conference, Boston, MA, June 2022.
- “How to Teach American Drama . . . and Why Bother.” Roundtable Panel. MLA Conference, Washington, D.C., January 2022.
- “McSorley's and The Iceman Cometh: Paintings by John Sloan in O'Neill's Play.” 44th Comparative Drama Conference, Orlando, FL, October 2021.
- “A Conversation with Zander Brietzke” (book-launch talk for *Magnum Opus*). Hosted by the Eugene O'Neill Foundation as Zoom event, April 22, 2021. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-6dJjv_vsgY
- “Philosophy, Modernism, and Postmodernism in American Drama.” Roundtable Panel. MLA Conference, Online, January 2021.
- “Eugene O'Neill: An Irish-American Boyhood.” Post-show conversation with Turlough McConnell. The Consulate of Ireland New York. NYC, Feb. 3, 2020.

Selected Papers and Presentations (cont'd)

- “Irreconcilable Desires in Eugene O’Neill.” Eugene O’Neill International Festival of Theatre, New Ross, Ireland, October 10–13, 2019.
- “‘Anna Christie’ and The Mountains Look Different.” Post-show presentation, The Mint Theater on Theatre Row, New York City, June 9, 2019.
- “Finished Business: The Case for More Stately Mansions.” American Literature Association Conference, Boston, MA, May 25, 2019.
- Panelist, “Dramaturgical Curiosities: Eugene O’Neill, Experimentation, and the New York Neo-Futurists.” With Director Christopher Loar. MLA National Convention, NYC, January 2018.
- “Triangulations of Power in More Stately Mansions.” 10th International Eugene O’Neill Conference, Galway, Ireland, 21 July 2017.
- O’Neill (Unexpected). Post-show speaker. Metropolitan Playhouse, New York, NY, June 2016.
- “Talkback” (post-show discussion), *Cyrano de Bergerac*, Resonance Ensemble, The Theatre at St. Clement’s, NYC, 20 February 2016.
- “Bull Session” (post-show discussion), *The Dance of Death*. Produced by the Red Bull Theater, at the Lucille Lortel Theatre, NYC, April 21 & 28, 2013.
- “O’Neill and Adaptation.” Eugene O’Neill Center Annual O’Neill Celebration, Monte Cristo Cottage, New London, CT. 1 Oct. 2011.
- “O’Neill’s Nobel Banquet Speech in Praise of Strindberg.” 8th International Conference on Eugene O’Neill, NYU, NY, 23 June 2011.
- “Tennessee Williams.” *Breaking Through* with W. J. O’Reilly. Egarage.tv. April 2011.
- “Thirst for Innovation: O’Neill and the Provincetown Players.” Target Margin Theater, “The Theater of Tomorrow,” Chocolate Factory, NYC, May 2009.
- “‘Where’s the Whiskey?’: The Reel O’Neill in Reds.” Teaching O’Neill through Adaptation. American Literature Association National Conference, May 2009.
- The Pioneer*. Post-show speaker. Metropolitan Playhouse, New York, NY, December 2007.
- “The Irony of Wish Fulfillment in *Ah, Wilderness!*” Eugene O’Neill Theater Center, Waterford, CT, 13 October 2007.
- “*Long Day’s Journey into Night* and the Teleology of Perfection.” Panel Chair. MLA 2006, Philadelphia, PA.
- “Women and O’Neill.” Panel Chair. Eugene O’Neill Theater Center, Waterford, CT, 14 October 2006.
- “*The Burns/Gelb* Documentary.” Panelist. Eugene O’Neill Society Conference, Tao House, Danville, CA, 6 October 2006.
- “American Drama in the Age of Film.” Alumni Lecture. Stanford University, Stanford, CA, 5 October 2006.
- “Sexing O’Neill.” Panelist. 6th International Eugene O’Neill Conference in Provincetown, MA, June 2005.
- “Family as Fate in *Mourning Becomes Electra*.” Modern Language Association National Conference, Philadelphia, PA, December 2004.

Selected Papers and Presentations (cont'd)

- “Why Produce O’Neill?” Panelist. Eugene O’Neill Theater Center, Waterford, CT, October 2004.
- “O’Neill and Greek Tragedy.” Chair. MLA 2003, San Diego, CA.
- “O’Neill and the Movies: A Vicious Cycle at Sea.” International O’Neill Conference in Tours, France, June 5-10, 2003.
- “The Playwright and Production.” Chair. With Tina Howe, A. R. Gurney, and Romulus Linney. MLA 2002, New York, NY.
- “Too Close for Comfort: Biographical Truth in Long Day’s Journey Into Night.” MLA 2001, New Orleans, LA.
- “Eugene O’Neill: Writing a Novel Drama.” American Literature Association National Conference, Baltimore, MD, May 1999.
- “Directing Perspectives on O’Neill’s Modern Drama.” International O’Neill Conference in Bermuda, January 6-11, 1999.
- “The Simplicity of Desire in O’Neill’s Revision of Greek Tragedy.” Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) National Conference, Chicago, IL, August 1997.
- “The Happy Ending and the Death of the Romantic Ideal in O’Neill’s ‘Anna Christie’.” ALA 1996, San Diego, CA.
- “Hamlet and the Problem of Acting.” Philosophy Roundtable, College of Wooster, November 1996.
- “The Damnable Life and Deserved Disappearance of Dr. Foustka.” Comparative Drama Conference XIX, University of Florida, Gainesville, March 1995.

Professional Affiliations

Eugene O’Neill Society, lifetime member (President 2004-05)
Eugene O’Neill Foundation
Modern Language Association (MLA)
American Literature Association (ALA)
Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)
American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR)

Community Service

St. John’s Episcopal Church, Montclair, New Jersey:

Vestry member (2016–2022)
Hospitality Chair (2015–2024)
Sacristan (2017–2024)
Lector (2015–2024)