

Milad Azarm

Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre History and Dramatic Literature
Department of Theatre & Dance | College of the Holy Cross
Citizenship: Iranian
Visa Status: F-1 Student Visa

CONTACT

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OFFICE

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Worcester, MA 01610

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Arts (Theater and Performance Studies)

Ohio University, Athens, OH — Jan 2022 – Expected 2027
Dissertation: *The Fictive Cosmos and the 21st-Century American Theater*
Comprehensive Exams Completed:

- Primary Area: Contemporary American Theater and Dramaturgy
- Secondary Area: Form, Aesthetics, and Philosophy

Committee:

- Dr. Matt Cornish (Chair)
- Dr. Vladimir Marchenkov (Secondary Advisor)
- Dr. Edmond Y. Chang (Member)

M.A. in Theatre Directing

Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran — Sep 2014 – Jan 2017
Thesis: *The Concept of Subject in Brecht's Works*

B.Sc. in Civil Engineering

Daneshpajoohan Pishro Higher Education Institute, Isfahan, Iran — [Sep 2009 – Feb 2012]

ENGLISH ARTICLES

"Beyond Cultural Appropriation: Re-evaluating Peter Brook's *Mahabharata*." *Global Performance Studies*. Under Review.

"Tekyeh Dowlat: Unraveling Misconceptions and Reassessing Its Legacy." *TDR: The Drama Review*. Accepted for Publication (Sep 2026).

Review of *At the Threshold: Contemporary Theatre, Art, and Music of Iran*, by Rana Esfandiary. *Theatre Topics* 35, no. 2 (2025): 163-164 ([link](#)).

"Feminist Rereading of Shabih'khani in Iran." *New Theatre Quarterly* 40, no. 2 (2024): 125–41 ([link](#)).

"Shadow Performance in Iran." *Iranian Studies* 56, no. 4 (2023): 793–809 ([link](#)).

"Investigating Early Dramaturgy and Theatre Directing in the Shabih'khani of the Qajar Era." *TDR: The Drama Review* 66, no. 1 (2022): 7–36, with Reza Kouchek-zadeh ([link](#)).

"The Historical Evolution of the Concept of the Subject and the Contemporary Humanitarian Crisis." *Balkan Journal of Philosophy* 9, no. 2 (2017): 139–148, with Mohammadreza Khaki and Sadegh Mirveisinik ([link](#)).

TRANSLATIONS

Rae, Paul. *Theatre and Human Rights*. Translated into Persian. Tehran: Nimaj, 2022 ([link](#)).

PERSIAN PUBLICATIONS

(Book Chapter) "Paykan; Slacklining on Capitalist Towers." In *Kamran Shirdel; Alone in the Frame*, edited by Alireza Arvahi, 159–178. Tehran: khoobb Pub, 2021 ([link](#)).

(Book Chapter) "Disney Does America: A Political History of Children's Film." In *Cinematograph 4*, edited by Cinema Specialized Office, 369–376. Isfahan: Esfahan Farhang Pub, 2021 ([link](#)).

(Book Chapter) "Documentary or Hagiography? Three Songs of Lenin." In *Cinematograph 3*, edited by Cinema Specialized Office, 92–113. Isfahan: Esfahan Farhang Pub, 2020 ([link](#)).

(MA Thesis) "Concept of Subject in Brecht's Works," MA thesis, Tarbiat Modares University, 2017 ([link](#)).

ARTICLES/FEATURES PUBLISHED IN NEWS OUTLETS

"Ph.D. Student Milad Azarm Helps Rewrite Theater History with Groundbreaking Research." *OHIO News*, Oct 3, 2025 ([link](#)).

"Peter J. Chelkowski: A Life of Scholarship and Cultural Exchange." (Including an Interview with Mohammadreza Khaki). *The Theatre Times*. Dec 1, 2024 ([link](#)).

Pari Saberi: "A Pioneering Woman in Iranian Theatre Passes Away At 92." *The Theatre Times*, Oct 1, 2024 ([link](#)).

INTERVIEWS

Interview with Milad Azarm by Richard Schechner. *Origins of Theatre Directing in Iran with Possible Parallels to Theatre Directing in the West*. Cambridge University Press. Feb 11, 2022 ([link](#)).

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

Liminal Dramaturgy in Contemporary American Theatre: presented at the Humanities Symposium, hosted by the School of Art + Design, Ohio University, Athens, OH, April 11, 2026.

Staging the Real: Bodies, Symbols, and Spectatorship in Times of Crisis: presented at the Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Online, July 31, 2025.

Playwriting: The Keywords; Aristotelian Drama: presented at the Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Online, July 29, 2025.

"Takyeh Dowlat and Misconceptions: A Historical Perspective." Invited presentation at the symposium *Ta'ziyeh: Rethinking a Devotional Tradition*, hosted by the Program for the Study of Religion, UC San Diego, San Diego, CA, March 10, 2025.

Creativity in Confinement: The Resilient Spirit of Iranian Theater Post-1979 Revolution: presented at the Association for Theatre in Higher Education, Atlanta, GA, August 3, 2024.

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA

Visiting Assistant Professor

- Theatre History, Lecture in Theatre History and Dramatic Literature, Spring 2027
- Women on Stage, Lecture in Theatre History and Dramatic Literature, Spring 2027
- Global Theatre and Performance, Lecture in Theatre History and Dramatic Literature, Spring 2027
- Middle Eastern Theatre & Film, Lecture in Theatre History and Dramatic Literature, Fall 2026
- Modern Drama, Lecture in Theatre History and Dramatic Literature, Fall 2026

Ohio University, Athens, OH

Instructor

- Post-dramatic Theaters, Seminar in Theater History and Drama, Spring 2026
- Contemporary American Playwrights, Seminar in Theater History and Drama, Fall 2025
- 21st-Century American Avant-Garde Theaters, Seminar in Theater History and Drama, Spring 2025
- Practicum in Dramaturgy, Laboratory Course, Spring 2025
- Hybrid Forms in American Theater, Seminar in Theater History and Drama, Fall 2024
- 21st-Century American Avant-Garde Playwrights, Seminar in Theater History and Drama, Spring 2024

Instructor of Record

- Viewing the Arts (Athens Campus & eCampus)
Spring 2026, Fall 2025, Spring 2025, Fall 2024, Spring 2024, Fall 2023, Spring 2023

Teaching Associate

- Theater and Performance History I & II
Fall 2023, Spring 2023, Fall 2022, Spring 2022

Drizhno University of Arts, Farokhshahr, Iran

Instructor | Spring 2020 – Fall 2021

Courses: Fundamentals of Acting for Children, Voice and Speech Training, Mime and Pantomime, Dance and Choreography, Ritual and Traditional Performances, Film Viewing and Analysis, Introduction to Cinema, Iranian Theatre Performance Techniques, Fundamentals of Directing, Stanislavski's Acting Techniques, Comedy Performance Workshop, Fundamentals of Solo Performance, History of Western Theater, Styles and Methods of Performance

Kamal-ol-Molk University, Nowshahr, Iran

Instructor | Fall 2020 – Fall 2021

Graduate Courses: Advanced Directing I & II, History of Theatre in Iran

Undergraduate Courses: Fundamentals of Directing, Directing Workshop III, Contemporary Western Theatre Theories, Theatre in Asia, Comparative Eastern & Western Theatre Theories

Raha Film School, Shahrekord, Iran

Instructor | Summer 2020

Introductory Acting Course

Bamboo School of Performing Arts, Isfahan, Iran

Instructor | Summer 2020

Comprehensive Acting Course

Hum Theater School, Tehran, Iran

Instructor | Dec 2019 – Jan 2020

Viewpoints Acting Method

Kavosh School of Performing Arts, Isfahan, Iran

Instructor | Nov – Dec 2019

Viewpoints Acting Method

Hamin Havali School of Performing Arts, Isfahan, Iran

Instructor | Summer 2018

Courses: Dramaturgy, Introduction to Acting

School of Performing Arts, Semirom, Iran

Instructor | Summer 2015

Acting Workshop

Various Schools, Isfahan, Iran

Volunteer Theater Instructor | 2010 – 2014

Led theater workshops for elementary and middle school students focused on performance, creativity, and collaboration.

PRACTICAL THEATER AND FILM EXPERIENCES

[Appropriate]

Director: Milad Azarm

Playwright: Branden Jacobs-Jenkins

Theater

Date: October 29-31, 2026, and November 5-7, 2026, at 7:30 p.m.

November 1 and 8, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

Location: Boroughs Theatre, College of the Holy Cross (Worcester, MA)

[The Re-Declaration of Independence]

Organizer: Milad Azarm

Director: Dan Dennis

Producer: Matt Cornish

Performance, Dance, and Choral Staged Reading of the Declaration of Independence

Produced in celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the U.S. Declaration of Independence, in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, local community groups, and Ohio University.

Date: September 10, 2026, at 6 p.m.

Location: College Green, Ohio University (Athens, OH)

[Anthrax at the Kovic Center]

Actor: Milad Azarm

Director: Eric R. Williams

Short Film

Date: April 2026

[Reza Rohani & Sara Naeini Live in Columbus]

Host (MC): Milad Azarm

Live Concert

Date: November 8, 2025

Location: Lincoln Theatre, Columbus, Ohio

[Six Stops around Latona]

Co-writer and Actor: Milad Azarm

Director: Eric R. Williams

Short Film

Date: October 2025

[Pofak]

Director Consultant: Milad Azarm

Director: Joyce Miyake

Short Film

Date: Post-Production

[Ava's Escort]

Actor: Milad Azarm

Director: Robin Stone

Playwright: Richard Ballon

Play reading

Date: August 3, 2024

Location: Mercer Ballroom, Loews Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia

[Colony]

Director Consultant: Milad Azarm

Director: Ali Ekbatani

Short Film

Release Date: April 18, 2024

Premiere at the Minor Theatre in Arcata, California (Humboldt Int'l Film Fest)

[The Charismatic Excellency]

Director: Milad Azarm & Benyamin Ahmadi

Documentary Film

Release Date: Nov 19, 2020

Premiere at Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran

[Vakil Metro Subway Station]

Director & Editor: Milad Azarm

Video advertising

Sponsor: Nooraneh Lighting Industry

Release Date: 2020

[Pasargadae Complex]

Director & Editor: Milad Azarm

Video advertising

Sponsor: Nooraneh Lighting Industry

Release Date: 2020

[National Architecture Day]

Director & Editor: Milad Azarm
Video advertising
Sponsor: Nooraneh Lighting Industry
Release Date: 2020

[Far East, Near East]

Director & Editor: Milad Azarm
Video advertising
Sponsor: Kavosh Theatre Group
Release Date: 2019

[Far East, Near East]

Assistant Director, Production Planner, and Music Conductor: Milad Azarm
Director: Ehsan Janami
Playwright: Hamid-Reza Naeimi
Theatre production
Date: 2019
Location: Farshchian Cultural and Art Complex & Isfahan Theater Festival, Isfahan, Iran

[The Tailor by Slawomir Mrozek, Trans: M. R. Khaki]

Event Coordinator: Milad Azarm
Play reading
Date: April 20, 2019
Location: Qashqai Hall, City Theater, Tehran, Iran

[The Astronomer by Didier Van Cauwelaert, Trans: Asghar Noori]

Event Coordinator: Milad Azarm
Play reading
Date: March 2, 2019
Location: Qashqai Hall, City Theater, Tehran, Iran

[Here I Am, I Came by Zhirayr Ananyan, Trans: Andranik Khechumyan]

Event Coordinator: Milad Azarm
Play reading
Date: Feb 2, 2019
Location: Qashqai Hall, City Theater, Tehran, Iran

[Only the End of the World by Jean-Luc Lagarce, Trans: Z. Khadem-Haghighat]

Event Coordinator: Milad Azarm
Play reading
Date: Jan 13, 2019
Location: Qashqai Hall, City Theater, Tehran, Iran

[Football by Pol Quentin & Bellak George Bellak, Trans: M. R. Khaki]

Event Coordinator: Milad Azarm
Play reading
Date: Dec 15, 2018
Location: Qashqai Hall, City Theater, Tehran, Iran

[Collaborators by John Hodge, Trans: N. Afshari]

Event Coordinator: Milad Azarm
Play reading

Date: Nov 17, 2018

Location: Qashqai Hall, City Theater, Tehran, Iran

[20ARA Beauty Salon]

Director & Editor: Milad Azarm

Video advertising

Sponsor: Ms. Shahrzad Toyserkani

Release Date: 2018

[2.5 Impression]

Playwright & Director: Milad Azarm

Play reading

Date: 2017

Location: Porsesh Institute of Political-Economic Studies, Tehran, Iran

[The Guardian]

Director & Playwright: Milad Azarm

Theatre production

Date: 2017

Location: Dr. Khaki Theater Hall, Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran

[Man Equals Man]

Director: Milad Azarm

Playwright: Bertold Brecht

Theatre production

Date: 2016

Location: Khaki Theater Hall, Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran

[Salome]

Director and dramaturge: Milad Azarm

Playwright: Oscar Wilde

Theatre production

Date: 2015

Location: Khaki Theater Hall, Tarbiat Modares University, Tehran, Iran

[Deja vu an adaptation from No Man's Land by Harold Pinter]

Assistant Director: Milad Azarm

Director & Playwright: Masoud Delkhah

Theatre production

Date: 2015

Location: Iranshahr Theater, Tehran, Iran

[Les Sentinelles]

Assistant director: Milad Azarm

Playwright: Pierre-Robert Leclercq

Director: M. R. Khaki

Theatre production

Date: 2014

Location: City Theater & International Fadjr Theatre Festival, Tehran, Iran

[Isfahan-0]

Actor: Milad Azarm

Director: Amin Panahi]

Off Stage Theatre Production
Date: 2014
Location: Malek Vineyard, Isfahan, Iran

[The Root in the Soil]

Actor: Milad Azarm
Director: A. H. Jafari
Movie
Date: 2012
Premiere on Iranian National Channels

[Foot-and-Mouth Disease]

Actor: Milad Azarm
Director: Kazem Ma'asoumi
Movie
Date: 2012
Premiere at Iranian National Channels & Detective Film Fest, Moscow

[Tell Me I'm Here]

Actor: Milad Azarm
Director: A. M. Fallah
TV Series
Date: 2011
Premiere on Iranian National Channels

[Heaven]

Host: Milad Azarm
Director: M. M. Rasooli
Live TV Show
Date: June 2010
Location: IRIB TV2, Iran

[Maternal]

Actor: Milad Azarm
Director: Ehsan Janami
Playwright: M.J. Jouzani
Theatre production
Date: 2010
Location: Hall of Art, Isfahan, Iran & Mah Theatre Festival, Tehran, Iran

[Premature Burial]

Assistant director: Milad Azarm
Director & Playwright: Jalil Alipour
Theatre production
Date: 2010
Location: Hall of Art, 1st Young Theater Festival, Isfahan, Iran

[Macbeth]

Actor: Milad Azarm
Playwright: Shakespeare
Director: Ehsan Janami
Theatre Production
Date: 2010

Location: Farshchian Cultural and Art Complex, Isfahan, Iran

[Doubt]

Stage Manager: Milad Azarm
Director: Ehsan Janami
Playwright: R. Sabery
Theatre Production
Date: 2010
Location: Hall of Art, Isfahan, Iran

[Al]

Stage Manager: Milad Azarm
Director: Ehsan Janami
Playwright: A. Faridzadeh
Theatre Production
Date: 2009
Location: Sooreh Movie Theater, Isfahan, Iran & Regional Theatre Festival, Masjedsoleiman, Iran

[Another Place]

Actor: Milad Azarm
Director: Ehsan Janami
Playwright: H. Hejazifar
Theatre Production
Date: 2009
Location: Sooreh Movie Theater, Isfahan, Iran

[50 KM]

Stage Manager: Milad Azarm
Playwright: Arash Abbasi
Director: Ehsan Janami
Theatre Production
Date: 2009
Location: Isfahan University of Technology, Isfahan, Iran

[Yerma]

Stage Manager: Milad Azarm
Playwright: Federico García Lorca
Director: Ehsan Janami
Theatre Production
Date: 2009
Location: Sooreh Movie Theater, Isfahan, Iran

[Tarane Ab]

Set Crew: Milad Azarm
Director & Playwright: E. Janami
Theatre Production
Date: 2008-2009
Location: Farshchian Cultural and Art Complex & Isfahan Theatre Festival & Mah Movie Theatre, Tehran, Iran

[Sleep, Directed by H. Moshkabadian] Actor

Short Film
Date: 2008

Location: Iranian National Short Film Festivals, Tehran, Iran

[Absurd Paradise]

Actor: Milad Azarm

Director: M. Baghestani

Short Film

Date: 2007

Location: Iranian National Short Film Festivals, Isfahan, Iran

[Parseh Team]

Actor: Milad Azarm

Director: J. Es'haghi

Short Film

Date: 2006

Location: Iranian National Short Film Festivals, Isfahan, Iran

HONORS AND AWARDS

Finalist in the Three-Minute Thesis (3MT®) Competition, Ohio University (March 2026)

Recognized as the Seigfred Outstanding Teacher for excellence in teaching based on student evaluations, Ohio University (May 2025)

Recipient of the I Hollis Parry/Ann Parry Billman Fine Arts Graduate Award for Project Development, Ohio University (April 2025)

Nominated for Gerald Kahan Scholar's Prize for the best English-language essay, "Investigating Early Dramaturgy and Theatre Directing in the Shabih'khani of the Qajar Era", as recognized by The American Society for Theatre Research and TDR. (August 2023)

Summer Continuum Fellowship by Ohio University (Summer 2023)

Award for Best Research for *An Essay on the Recognition of Popular Dramatic Literature* at the Khandestan Festival, Isfahan, Iran (December 2021)

Recognized as a Distinguished Instructor by Drizhno University of Arts (November 2021)

Recipient of Academic Excellence Award and Recognized as the Top Graduate in Theater Directing, Tarbiat Modares University (2018)

Recognized as Outstanding Instructor by Naghshkhaneh Acting School for Exceptional Contributions (2016)

Recognized as an Outstanding Instructor by Bazigar School of Theater Arts for Successful Advanced Courses in Acting and Stage Directing (2015)

Recognized as an Active Theater Educator in Isfahan on World Theatre Day (2014)

Recognized for Outstanding Performance in the Play *Maternal* at the 22nd Isfahan Province Theater Festival (2010)

Recognized for Excellence in Stage Management for the Play *Tarane Ab* at the 20th Isfahan Province Theater Festival (2008)

SERVICE

Peer Reviewer, *Medieval English Theatre (METH)*. Blind review of the article "The Ta'ziyeh Episode of The Noble Prophet Ayoub: a Translation" by E. Lucy Deacon, June 2026 ([link](#)).