AYCAN AKÇAMETE, PhD, MA

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Department of Comparative Literature
Department of Theatre Arts
University of Oregon
akcamete@uoregon.edu

EDUCATION

2023 Ph.D., Comparative Literature Program, The University of Texas at Austin
2010 M.A., Program in British Cultural Studies, Hacettepe University
2007 B.A., Dept. of English Language and Literature, Hacettepe University

APPOINTMENTS

University of Oregon, Eugene

2024-present Assistant Professor, Department of Comparative Literature
Assistant Professor, Department of Theatre Arts

University of Texas at Austin

2019-2022 Instructor of Record, Department of Rhetoric and Writing
Instructor of Record, Texas Language Center
2017-2019 Teaching Assistant, Undergraduate Studies & English Department

Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul

2010-2017 Lecturer, School of Foreign Languages

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

"Rethinking Intercultural Theatre Event: Theatre Criticism and *How to Hold Your Breath* in Istanbul and London (Under peer review at *Contemporary Theatre Review*).

"A Theatre of Networks: Reconceptualizing Theatre Criticism and Theatre as an Event." *Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism*, vol. 38 no. 1, 2023, p. 9-28. *Project MUSE*, https://doi.org/10.1353/dtc.2023.a925029.

"Problematization of the Savior Metaphor in Gillian Plowman's *Yours Abundantly, From Zimbabwe." B.A.S. Journal of British and American Studies,* Spring/Fall 23, 2017, pp. 27-37.

"The Burst of the Real and the Law in Philip Ridley's *Mercury Fur.*" *Interactions Ege Journal of British and American Studies,* Spring/Fall vol. 26.1-2, 2017, pp. 1-13.

Non-Peer Reviewed

Book Chapter

"Constructing Political Narratives: The Reception of *#WeAreArrested* in London." *Performing Resilience: Intersectionality and Agonistic Solidarity for Another Turkey*, Pieter Verstraete, Deniz Başar, and Eylem Ejder, editors. Routledge (Forthcoming, 2027)

Translation

Akçamete, Aycan, translator. *Postdramatik Tiyatro [Postdramatisches Theater],* by Hans-Thies Lehmann. Imge Kitabevi. (Under Review)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Book Manuscript

The Public Life of Performance: Networks, Criticism, and Intercultural Events at London's Arcola Theatre (working title) (65,000 words).

PRESENTATIONS

Panels Organized

"Taking Stock of the State of Performance Criticism in the Aftermath of Crisis: New Directions for a New Landscape," co-convened with Dr. Michelle MacArthur, *American Society for Theater Research (ASTR) Annual Conference,* Minneapolis, November 2026.

"Playwrights and Practitioners of MENA/SWANA in Conversation: Voices of Change."*Association for Theater in Higher Education (ATHE) Annual Conference,* Virtual, August 2025.

"Revising Theater History, Curricula, and Repertories: Theatre Aesthetics from Türkiye." *Association for Theater in Higher Education (ATHE) Annual Conference,* Virtual, August 2024.

"MET Focus Group Emerging Scholars Panel" *Association for Theater in Higher Education (ATHE) Annual Conference,* Atlanta, August 2024.

"Launching The Middle East Theatre Handbook: A digital guide to teaching and producing MENA in the academy," *Association for Theater in Higher Education (ATHE) Annual Conference,* Austin, August 2023.

Select Conference Participation

"Stock as Structural Base: Critics, Paratexts, and the Public Life of *Silver Birch House*," *American Society for Theater Research (ASTR) Annual Conference,* Minneapolis, November 2026.

"Affinity Jam Session with Affinity Group Leaders," Middle Eastern and North African Theatre Makers Alliance Convening, San Francisco, October 2026.

"Teaching MENA/SWANA Theater: Syllabus Development and Classroom Strategies," *Association for Theater in Higher Education (ATHE) Annual Conference,* Virtual, March 2025.

"Global Crisis and Intercultural Critique: The Reception of *How to Hold Your Breath* in Istanbul." *American Society For Theater Research (ASTR) Annual Conference,* Seattle, November 2024.

"CreatAthon: Middle Eastern North African Theatre Handbook: A Digital Guide to Teaching and Producing MENA in the Academy." *Association for Theater in Higher Education (ATHE) Annual Conference,* Atlanta, August 2024.

"Reimagining Glamour in Performance: A Case Study of *Podacto* Productions." *American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) Annual Conference,* Montreal, March 2024.

"Human Rights Narratives in the Stage Adaptation of Can Dündar's *#WeAreArrested." Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Annual Conference,* Denver, December 2022.

"Redefining Embedded Criticism: A Study of Royal Shakespeare Company's Marketing Network." *American Society For Theater Research (ASTR) Annual Conference,* New Orleans, October 2022.

"Subversion and Censorship: Archiving *Sadece Diktatör* (*Just a Dictator)* in The Public Space and Public Sphere." *Association for Theater in Higher Education (ATHE) Annual Conference,* Detroit, August 2022.

"Towards a New Model of Theater Criticism: A Case Study of The Reviewing Landscape in England." *American Society For Theater Research (ASTR) Annual Conference,* San Diego, October 2021.

"Reclamation of the Stage and the Theatrical Realm: The Adaptation of *It Felt Empty* at Talimhane Tiyatrosu." *Association for Theater in Higher Education (ATHE) Annual Conference,* Virtual, August 2021.

"Theater Criticism and Meaning-Making: Leyla Nazlı's *Silver Birch House* At Arcola Theater." *American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA) Annual Conference,* Virtual, April 2021.

"Watching cross-cultural performances: *How to Hold Your Breath* in Istanbul." *International Playwriting Symposium 2019: Zinnie Harris*, Lincoln, UK, November 2019.

"Politics of Adaptation in Zinnie Harris' *This Restless House*." *Comparative Drama Conference*, Orlando, April 2019.

Invited Talks

"Introduction to Theater and Performance in Egypt through Tawfiq al-Hakim's *Fate of A Cockroach.*" *THEA 202: Modern Theater and Musicals*, College of Southern Idaho, 31 Mar 2026, Virtual.

"Cross-Cultural Collaboration: An introduction & guided conversation for all, hosted by the LMDA BIPOC Affinity Group." Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas (LMDA) Digital Conference, Virtual, February 2024.
"Theater in Southwest Asia and Turkey," BIPOC Affinity Group, Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas (LMDA), Virtual, September 2023.
"Critiquing the Critics: The Reception of SWANA Theater in North America," *No Summary: Conversations with Artists Who Don't Fit in a Box,* organized by Golden Thread Productions and Association for Theater in Higher Education, Virtual, August 2023.
"An Overview of Theater in Turkey from Ottoman Era to the Contemporary." Summer Language Institute, University of Pittsburgh, Virtual, June 2023.
"Poe in the Turkish Language," *Poe and/in the Middle East Colloquium,* Austin, April 2020. (Canceled due to COVID-19 Pandemic)
"Intersection of the Archive, Theater Criticism, and Performance." *Theatre and Thought in the European Tradition Symposium,* Austin, April 2018.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Oregon

Graduate Courses
TA 605 Reading: Intercultural Theatre (Rifa Jakia)
TA 605 Reading: Theatre and Migration (Ifti Shahriar Raian)
COLT 605 Reading: Theatre and Networks (Subhayu Chatterjee)

Undergraduate Courses

Spring 2026	TA 472/572: World Theatre
Winter 2025	COLT 460/560: Performance Theory
Winter 2025	TA 468: History of Theater II
Fall 2024	COLT 450/550: 20th Century World Drama
Fall 2024	TA 400/500: Performance Studies

Doctoral Dissertations
Peyman Shams, Theatre Arts, in progress (Core Member)

Master's Theses
Doug Killingtree, Theatre Arts, in progress (Core Member)
Rifa Jakia, Theatre Arts, in progress (Core Member)
Ifti Shahriar Raian, Theatre Arts, in progress (Core Member)

Faculty Mentor
Meredith Triplett, Global Studies

SERVICE

University of Oregon

2025- present Department of Theater Arts; University Theatre season selection, Tenure Track Faculty search committee, graduate student admissions
2025- present Department of Comparative Literature; graduate student admissions

Service to the Discipline

2024-Present	*Arab Stages* Performance Reviews Co-editor
2024- Present	MENA Theater Makers Alliance (MENATMA) Educators Circle, Core Member
2023	Performance Philosophy 2024 Conference, Organizing Committee
2023- Present	Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas (LMDA); BIPOC Affinity Group

2022- 2024 Association for Theater in Higher Education (ATHE); Middle East Theater Focus Group Member-at-Large
2022 Association for Theater in Higher Education (ATHE); Conference Organizing Committee

Peer Review and Manuscript Evaluation
2026 *Theatre and Performance Notes and Counternotes*
2026 *Arab Stages*
2026 Taylor & Francis
2025 *Theater Topics*
2024 *Modern Drama*

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Op-Ed
Arti Ishak, Aycan Akçamete, and Yasmin Zacharia Mikhaiel. "SWANA Theater Deserves Better Futures." *American Theater,* July 8, 2024, https://www.americantheatre.org/2024/07/08/swana-theatre-deserves-better-futures/.

Public Seminars
2021 "Postdramatik Tiyatro [Postdramatic Theater]." Moda Sahnesi, Istanbul, Turkey. Virtual.
2020 "Women's Liberation Movement in England and the U.S." Inside Literature. Virtual.

Interviews
Akçamete, Aycan, Interview by Leah Middlebrook. "UO Today: Aycan Akçamete and Mattie Burkert." *UO Today,* 5 Mar. 2025, https://soundcloud.com/oregonhumanitiescenter/uo-today-aycan-akcamete-and-mattie-burkert?si=c2cadb078b9047f28267d33b6135d8a3&utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing.
Akçamete, Aycan, Interview by Lara Akmehmet (ASU 3, UO). *Faculty Luminary Project. https://youtu.be/oOYy94NjBUk?si=4gfRVZ3Zhh_pztUz.*

Projects
"MET Database: The Middle Eastern North African Performance Scholarship Database," co-developed with Dr. Sarah Fahmy and Suzi Elnaggar.

HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS

University of Oregon
2024 New Junior Faculty Research Award

Dissertation Award
Nominated by Comparative Literature Program for Graduate School Outstanding Dissertation Award
Nominated for the Middle Eastern Studies Association Malcolm H. Kerr Dissertation Award

The University of Texas at Austin
Teaching Award
2021 Maxine Hairston Prize for Excellence in Teaching

Research Fellowships
2023 Graduate School Continuing Fellowship
2022; 2023 British, Irish and Empire Studies Fellowship
2022 Graduate School Decentralized Fellowship
2022 Comparative Literature Graduate Excellence Fellowship
2021 Graduate School Continuing Fellowship
2021 Graduate School Dissertation Writing Fellowship
2018 Comparative Literature Summer Research Fellowship

2017 Comparative Literature Graduate Excellence Recruitment Fellowship

Other Fellowships/Awards for Academic Achievement
2018; 2019 Zekiye and Hilmi Selvili Memorial Scholarship, The Texas Exes
2018; 2019 Melih and Selma Selvili Memorial Scholarship, The Texas Exes

PREVIOUS TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The University of Texas at Austin
Instructor of Record, Department of Rhetoric and Writing
2021-2022 RHE 306: Independence, Interdependence, and Community
2020-2021 RHE 309K: Rhetoric of *Hamilton*
2019-2020 RHE 306: Diversity and Inclusion on the College Campus
Instructor of Record, Texas Language Center
2020 TUR 130D: Foreign Languages Across the Curriculum Initiative
Teaching Assistant, Undergraduate Studies & English Department
2017-2018 UGS 303 Modernity, Anxiety, and the Art of the Uncanny
2018-2019 UGS 303 Russian Science Fiction in Literature and Film

Istanbul Technical University
2010-2017 ESL Writing, Grammar, Reading, Listening, and Speaking Classes
2013-2017 Continuing Education Center; General English and Proficiency Exam
2014-2017 Continuing Education Center; TOEFL and IELTS Classes

AFFILIATIONS

American Comparative Literature Association (ACLA)
American Society for Theater Research (ASTR)
Association for Theater in Higher Education (ATHE)
Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas (LMDA)
Modern Language Association (MLA)
The Middle Eastern Studies Association (MESA)

RELATED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

2020-2021 Writing Assessment Specialist, Rhetoric and Writing Division at UT OnRamps
2018 Volunteer and Instructor for "Inside Literature," Austin Pre-Trial Correctional Facilities
2016 Theater Reviewer, *Yeni Tiyatro.* Print, İstanbul
2015 - 2017 Awards Selection Committee, "Direklerarası Seyircileri" Theatre Awards, İstanbul
2012 - 2015 Theater Reviewer and Journalist, *RadikalBlog.* Web, İstanbul Turkey
2011-2017 Theater Reviewer and Journalist, *Tiyatronline.* Web, İstanbul Turkey
2011-2013 Theater Reviewer, *Tiyatro Dünyası.* Web, İstanbul Turkey

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2022 Inclusivity Advocates Certificate, College of Liberal Arts, The University of Texas at Austin
2019 Supervised Teaching in Rhetoric and Writing, The University of Texas at Austin
2015 Acting, Directing, and Dramaturgy, DOT Theater, İstanbul, Turkey

LANGUAGES

Turkish (Native Speaker); English (Near-native Proficiency); German (Professional Working Proficiency); Italian (Intermediate)