**William W. Demastes**

**LSU San Diego II Alumni Professor of English**

**Education**

University of Wisconsin‑Madison-----------------------------------Ph.D. English, December 1986

University of Georgia, Athens-----------------------------------------------M.A. English, June 1979

University of California‑Berkeley---------------------------------------A.B. Philosophy, June 1977

**Publications**

*Understanding John Guare.* Columbia: U of South Carolina P. 2017.

*The Cambridge Introduction to Tom Stoppard*. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2012.

*Spalding Gray’s America.* New York: Limelight Editions, 2008.

*Comedy Matters: From Shakespeare to Stoppard.* New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2008.

*Staging Consciousness: Theatre and the Materialization of Mind*. Ann Arbor: U Michigan, 2002.

*Theatre of Chaos: Beyond Absurdism, Into Orderly Disorder*. New York: Cambridge UP, 1998.

*Clifford Odets: A Research and Production Sourcebook*. Westport, CT: Greenwood P, 1991.

*Beyond Naturalism: A New Realism in the American Theatre*. Westport, CT: Greenwood P, 1988.

In Progress

*The Quality of Altruism: Theatre Against Mere Reciprocity*.

Edited Books

*Best American Short Plays, 2015-2016.* New York: Applause Theatrebooks, 2017.

*Best American Short Plays, 2014-2015.* New York: Applause Theatrebooks, 2016.

*Best American Short Plays, 2013-2014.* New York: Applause Theatrebooks, 2015.

*Best Monologues from* Best American Short Plays, Vols 1, 2 & 3. New York: Applause Theatrebooks, 2014, 2014, 2015.

*Best American Short Plays, 2012-2013.* New York: Applause Theatrebooks, 2014.

*Best American Short Plays, 2011-2012.* New York: Applause Theatrebooks, 2013.

*Best American Short Plays, 2010-2011.* New York: Applause Theatrebooks, 2012.

*Interrogating America Through Theatre and Performance,* co-edited with Iris Smith Fischer. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.

*Irish Playwrights, 18801995: A Research and Production Sourcebook.* co-edited with Bernice Schrank. Westport, CT: Greenwood P, 1997

*Realism and the American Dramatic Tradition*. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1996.

*British Playwrights, 1880-1956: A Research and Production Sourcebook*. co-edited with Katherine E. Kelly. Westport, CT: Greenwood P, 1996.

*British Playwrights, 1956-1995: A Research and Production Sourcebook*. Westport, CT: Greenwood P, 1996.

*American Playwrights, 1880-1945: A Research and Production Sourcebook*. Westport, CT: Greenwood P, 1994.

Selected Articles

“Stoppard’s ‘Science Plays’.” *Stoppard in Context*. New York: Cambridge UP, forthcoming.

“That Looney Juney Far Side of the Moon: Tom Stoppard Celebrates Forty Years of *The Dark Side of the Moon* with *Darkside, a Radio Play*.” *Hot Rocks: Songs and Verse in Five Points: A Journal of Literature and Art* 16.3 (2015): 146-156.

“Tom Stoppard’s Big Picture: The Chaos that is Our World.” *Interdisciplinary Sciences Reviews.* Special Issue: “New Directions in Theatre & Science” 39.3 (2014: 202-212.

“Portrait of an Artist as Proto-Chaotician. Tom Stoppard Working his Way to *Arcadia*,” *Narrative* 19.2 (May 2011): 229-240.

“Hamlet in His World: Shakespeare Anticipates/Assaults Cartesian Dualism.” *Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism* (Fall 2005): 27-39.

“Miller’s 1970s ‘power’ plays.” *The Cambridge Companion to Arthur Miller*. Ed. C.W.E. Bigsby. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1997: 139-51.

“Arthur Miller’s Use and Modification of the American Realist/Naturalist Tradition.” *Approaches to Teaching Arthur Miller’s DEATH OF A SALESMAN*. Ed. Matthew C. Roudané. New York: MLA Press, 1995: 74-81.

“The Playwright and the Professors: An Interview With Tom Stoppard” (with Kate Kelly). *South Central Review* 11.4 (Winter 1994): 1-14.

“Re-Inspecting the Crack in the Chimney: Chaos Theory From Ibsen to Stoppard.” *New Theatre Quarterly* 10, no. 39 (Aug. 1994): 242-54.

“Jessie and Thelma Revisited: Marsha Norman’s Conceptual Challenge in *‘night, Mother*.” *Modern Drama* 36.1 (March 1993): 109-19.

“Of Sciences and the Arts: From Influence to Interplay Between Natural Philosophy and Drama.” *Studies in the Literary Imagination* 24.2 (Fall 1991): 75‑89.

“The Future of Avant‑Garde Drama and Criticism: The Case of Sam Shepard.” *Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism* 4.2 (Spring 1990): 5‑18.

“Spalding Gray’s *Swimming to Cambodia* and the Evolution of an Ironic Presence.” *Theatre Journal* 41.1 (Mar. 1989): 75‑94.

“Understanding Sam Shepard’s Realism.” *Comparative Drama* 21.3 (Fall 1987): 229‑248.

“Charles Fuller and *A Soldier’s Play*: Attacking Prejudice, Challenging Form.” *Studies in American Drama, 1945-Present* 2 (1987): 43‑56.

**Significant LSU Administrative Assignments:**

LSU Faculty Athletics Representative, 2012-2020.

Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, 2001-2004.

Director, Undergraduate Studies, Dept. of English, 1999-2001, 2010-2011, 2019.

Associate Chair, Dept. of English, 1998-1999.

Director, Master of Arts in Liberal Arts [MALA]) Program, 1996-2004.

Director of Graduate Studies, Dept. of English, 1992-1994, 2005-2006.

**Significant Committee Assignments**

Committee Member, University Review and Assessment Council (URAC). (2013-2019). Includes chairing review committees for Mass Communications, Theatre, Political Science, Agriculture, Honors, and Architecture.

Chairperson, LSU Athletics Program Effective Accommodations Committee. (2012-2020).

Chairperson, LSU Athletics Hall of Fame Committee. (2012-2020).

**Honors, Awards**

LSU Distinguished Research Master, 2019.

Tiger Athletic Foundation Undergraduate Teaching Award Honors College, 2013.

Harry Ransom Summer Fellowship, University of Texas, Summer 2011.

Tiger Athletic Foundation Undergraduate Teaching Award University College, 2010.

San Diego IIAlumni Professorship, 2009-Present.

LSU Rainmaker (Top 100 Faculty) 2009.

Board of Regents Research Grant, Fall 2008.

ATLAS Grant (Award to Louisiana Artists and Scholars) recipient, 2006-2007.

LSU Distinguished Faculty Award, 2002.

President, American Theatre and Drama Society, 2001-2003.

LSU Alumni Association Faculty Excellence Award, 2000.