

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017

BREAKOUT SESSION THREE: 2:10 P.M. - 3:25 P.M.

BEYOND CASTING AND CHARACTERIZATION: NEW DEPLOYMENTS OF DISABILITY IN DRAMA AND PERFORMANCE | ODYSSEY

MODERATOR: Ann M. Fox, Ph.D., Davidson College, Professor of English

Disability and the Art of Quiet Protest

Carrie Sandahl, The University of Illinois at Chicago, Associate Professor of Disability and Human Development

The Problem of Reception: A Call for Disabled Artists to "Radically Disregard" the Audience

Samuel Yates, The George Washington University, PhD Candidate in English

"Boy Falls From the Sky": Managing Disability, Actor Safety, and Spectacle in Spider-Man

SYNOPSIS: While inclusive casting and the characterization of disability remain important topics, the consideration of disability in drama and performance is moving into new creative and critical areas. This panel represents such diversification, bringing together four presentations that explore new artistic and critical deployments of disability in drama and performance; they include a solo performance piece that also uses graphic medicine to tell its story of traumatic brain injury; essays that explore, conversely, how artists and playwrights can negotiate audience misreads of the spectacle of disability; and an essay that considers how the specter of disability in a popular musical becomes both figurative and literal. Taken together, they represent a consideration of disability as an identity, aesthetic, activist creation, and cultural studies paradigm.