

## **Christopher C. Collins**

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### **Education**

- Ph.D.           Speech Communication, Southern Illinois University,  
Dissertation Title: "Food and Performance in the Prison System"  
Advisor: Dr. Nathan Stucky  
Specialization: Performance and Prison/ Performance of Food  
Areas of Study: Rhetorical Theory and Criticism, Performance of  
Literature, Autoethnography, Performance Art, Critical Theory,  
Conversational Performance and Analysis.
- M.A.           Speech Communication, Miami University of Ohio (May 2004)  
Master's Thesis and One-Man Show: Poetry Performance as a Tool of  
Emancipation: An Analysis of Marginal Groups, Public Spheres, and  
Communicative Action.  
Advisor: Dr. Ben Voth  
Specialization: Rhetoric  
Primary Coursework: Rhetorical Theory, Research Methods, Teaching  
Essentials
- B.A.           Theater, West Texas A&M University (2002)  
Specialization: Performance, Public Speaking  
Primary Coursework: Theatre Performance

### **Research Experience**

#### ***Publications***

Collins, Christopher C. "Final Meals: The Theatre of Capital Punishment." Theatre Annual 62 (2009): 88-102.

#### ***Publications in Newspapers***

Collins C. "Kings Cross Crossroads" *The Guardian, Nigeria* 18 July 2010: 41. Print.

Collins C. "The Wisdom of Black Thought" *The Guardian, Nigeria* 18 July 2010: 41-42. Print.

Collins C. "English Parliament" *The Guardian, Nigeria* 18 July 2010: 42. Print.

Collins C. "Note to Future Self" *The Guardian, Nigeria* 1 August 2010: 46. Print.

Collins C. "Will I The Western I" *The Guardian, Nigeria* 1 August 2010: 46. Print.

Collins C. "Will I II The African I" *The Guardian, Nigeria* 1 August 2010: 46. Print.

*Pending:*

Collins C. "Walking/Dancing into the Desert" *Qualitative Inquiry*. November 2011.

### ***Conference papers***

Collins C. "Power Trouble: Playing Devil's Advocate in the "Come to Jesus" Discourse of Doing Autoethnography." Performance with Tami Spry. International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL (May 2011).

Collins C. "Walking with My Father." Performance. International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IL (May 2011).

Collins C. Chair "Political Performance of/as Social Justice." Central States Communication Association, Milwaukee, WI (April 2011).

Collins C. Chair "Reflexively Writing Home: Autoethnographic Narratives of Traumatic Family Relationships." Central States Communication Association, Milwaukee, WI (April 2011).

Collins C. Chair: "Top Papers in Performance Studies and Theatre." Central States Communication Association, Milwaukee, WI (April 2011).

Collins C. "Featuring Voice and Voices: Incorporating Autoethnographic Research into Forensics." National Communication Association, San Francisco, CA (Nov 2010).

Collins C. "Building Bridges through Ekphrasis: Performing the San Francisco Beats." National Communication Association, San Francisco, CA (Nov 2010).

Collins, Christopher C. "Blood Like Water." National Communication Association, San Francisco, CA (November 2010).

- Collins, Christopher C. "An Institution of Consumption: Prison Food and the Resistance of an Organizational Identity." National Communication Association, San Francisco, CA (November 2010).
- Collins, Christopher C. "Abominist Manifesto: Bob Kaufman's Poetry as a Method for Embodying 'Poetic Living'." National Communication Association, San Francisco, CA (November 2010).
- Collins, Christopher C. "Hemo/Solo." Qualitative Inquiry Conference, Champaign, IL (May 2010).
- Collins, Christopher. "Honoring the Dead/Text or (Re)Scripting Good Eats!." Central States Communication Association, Madison, WI (April 2008).
- Collins, Christopher. "Performing Family/Family Performing: A Prison Show." Western States Communication Association, Broomfield, CO (Feb 2008).
- Collins, Christopher. "Defending A Murderer: A Lesson of Ethics Found in Forensics." National Communication Association, Chicago, IL (Nov 2007).
- "The Academy." Performer. National Communication Association, Chicago, IL (Nov 2007).
- Collins, Christopher. "Hemophobia: (Self)Abjection and Autoethnography." Central States Communication Association, Minneapolis, (Mar-April 2007).
- "The Good Life: Everyday Life Performance." Performer. Central States Communication Association, Minneapolis, MN (Mar-April 2007).
- Collins, Christopher. "My Mouth Is My Prison: An Analysis of Organizational Performance and Prison Radio." Western States Communication Association. Seattle, WA (February 2006).
- Collins, Christopher. "Moving Beyond Defensiveness: Co-Teaching Whiteness from Different Positionalities." Western States Communication Association, San Francisco, CA (February 2005).
- Collins, Christopher. "Lived Bodies and Awakened Minds: Dreaming as Poetic Narrative for Understanding Character Construction of the 'Other' within the Performance of Poetry." Presented at the National Communication Association. Boston, (November 2005).
- Collins, Christopher., Amy Darnell. "Improving the Past: Preserving Memory and Integrity in Death and Performance" Presented at the National Communication Association. Boston, MA (November 2005).

- Collins, Christopher. "Eating the Words, Sounds, and Cultures of Others through Poetry Performance: An examination of how poetry in forensics has become the impetus of understanding and innovation in interpretation performance." National Communication Association, Miami, FL (November 2003).
- Collins, Christopher. "The Symbiotic Relationship of Forensics and The Basic Public Speaking Course: Studying the Effects of a Forensics Team on Public Speaking Instruction." Central Speech Communication Association, Miami, FL (Nov 2003).
- Collins, Christopher. "Words Made Flesh: Alternative Modalities in the Construction of the Poetic in Poetry Interpretation." National Communication Association, New Orleans, LA (November 2002).

### **Creative Work**

#### ***Creative Research and Scholarship***

- Collins, C "African Lives." Professional Development Forum. Angelo State University, TX (February 2011).
- "Studio One" Performance Group. Co-Director with Jake Simmons. Angelo State University (January 2011 - Present).
- Studio One "Education" Communication Banquet. Angelo State University, TX (February 2011).
- Studio One "Education" ASU Discover Program. Angelo State University, TX (February 2011).
- "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" Co-Director with Jake Simmons. Modular Theatre. Angelo State University, TX (April 2011).
- Student Performance Spotlight Hour. Co-Director with Jake Simmons. Angelo State University (April 2011).
- Invited Lecture. "African Lives." The Shaw Theater, London. July 2010
- Invited Lecture. "African Lives." Ecowas Abuja. July 2010
- Invited Lecture. "African Lives." Cultural Center, Calibar. July 2010
- Invited Lecture. "African Lives." Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Asaba. July 2010

Invited Lecture. "African Lives." Lagos State University, Lagos. July 2010

Invited Lecture. "African Lives." University of Ife, Osun State. July 2010

Invited Lecture. "African Lives." University of Ibadan, Oyo State. July 2010

"Through the Earlobe" Directed by Christopher Collins. Written by the Players Performance Group. St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN Spring, 2010.

"Through the Earlobe" is a piece about the ways in which we alter the human body. The script focuses on the ritualistic importance of tattoos, piercing, and other body modifications.

*Invited Guest Performance:*

"Preemptive." Barbados Errol Hill Theater, University of the West Indies. June 2010.

"Seven." Barbados Errol Hill Theater, University of the West Indies. June 2010.

"Preemptive." The Shaw Theater, London. July 2010

"Seven." The Tabernacle Theater, July 2

"Preemptive." Muson Center, Lagos. July 13

"Seven." Ecowas in Abuja, July 24

"Seven." Cultural Center, Calibar July 21

"Preemptive." Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Asaba, Delta State. July 2010

"Seven." University of Ife, Osun State. July 2010

"Seven." Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Asaba, Delta State. July 2010

Collins, Christopher C. Performance of Norman Denzin's "'". Central Communication Association, Cleveland, OH (April 2010).

"Good Eats!" Directed and Written by Christopher Collins. Northern Plains Performance Festival. University of Northern Iowa. Cedar Falls, 2007

Good Eats focuses on the embodiment of the capital punishment system as a form of consumption. Particularly my research focus upon the inequalities produced by the prison system and offers the body as a site of connection between the audience and the condemned. "Good Eats!" also employs Amiri Baraka's theory of Revolutionary Theatre in relationship to the audience.

*Performances Scholarship:*

“Cyber Communication: Stalking Revisited” Directed by Christopher Collins. Written and compiled by the Players Performance Group. St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN Spring, 2010.

“The National Stalking Resource Center reports that 3.4 million people over the age of 18 are stalked in the U.S., and one in four reports being stalked through the use of technology” (“Women’s Center”). In connection with the Women on Wednesday series, Players Performance Group will create a show about the relationships between technology and power. The show focuses on the impact of cyber communication in various forms such as: information gaining, cyberstalking, and cyberbullying. The show will have a brief talk back session at the end for open dialogue about the subject and process of the performers.

“Inhale the Water: The Discursive Tongue of Torture” Directed by Christopher Collins. Compiled by Elyse Pineau and Christopher Collins. St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN Fall, 2009.

"Inhale the Water" investigates mediated discourse surrounding the current debate on torture. How is torture defined and negotiated in our current war on terrorism. What are the arguments for and against the ethical treatment of detainees in Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo? "Inhale the Water" breathes life these questions in order to investigate some of the deeper theoretical and philosophical issues surrounding torture.

“Breath Meter: The Poetics of Us” Co-Director with David Sharp, Benjamin Haas, David Hanley-Tejeda. Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL Fall, 2008.

Breath Meter: Poems on the stage; spoken and not, embodied, alive. Playing in the poetic, Breath Meter recognized the poetry of the everyday, the poetry in the body, the lung, the legs and the pulse. Poetry should be sung. A disciplined language experiment, read, seen, heard and felt, an interrogative identity excavation, this is the poetics of us.

“Expression Pig: A Dancing Lucid Dream.” Co-written and directed with Jake Simmons, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL, Nov, 2005

Expression Pig is an investigation into the production of dream theatre and the performance practices of the avant-garde. Primarily this show focused on the method of staging dreams and the impact performance can have on the interpretive process.

“Poetry Performance as a Tool of Emancipation: An Analysis of Marginal Groups, Public Spheres, and Communicative Action.” Miami University of Ohio, Oxford,

My work in this show focuses on the use of contemporary poetry performance and how it can be used as a vehicle for emancipatory change in the public sphere.

### ***Public Performances***

“Soul of a People.” Performer. St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN 2009.

“NAACP: Freedom Fund Banquet.” Performer. Southern Illinois University, Carbondale IL 2008.

“Veterans Against Foreign Wars Memorial.” Performer. Southern Illinois University, Carbondale IL 2008.

“Drowning a Diary.” Adapted and Written by Alison Fisher and Co-directed by Alison Fisher and Elyse Pineau. Performance Consultant. Southern Illinois University, Carbondale IL 2007.

“Cataclysm!” Adapted and Directed by Jake Simmons. Character: Stas, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale IL 2007.

“The Good Life” Directed by Nathan Stucky. Performer. Southern Illinois University (2007)

Graduate spotlight hour. Performer. Southern Illinois University (December 2006)

“Skinless Boneless” by Michael Rose, Directed by Thomas Michael Campbell, Character: Hector, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 2006

Regional Finalist at Collegiate Slam Poetry Competition, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 2006.

“Metamorphosis: A Revolutionary Nomad Come Undone” Written and Directed by Rachel Hastings. Assistant Director/Performer. Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 2006

“Phrenologists Daughter” by Craig Gingrich-Philbrook, Character: Noel Cliché, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 2006

Graduate spotlight hour. Performer. Southern Illinois University (May 2005)

“Embodied Empathy and Art-Activism: Performative responses to children’s wartime art”. Performer as member of SPCM 570 – Performance Methodologies course. Written by Elyse Pineau (2005)

‘Tucked Away,’ by Amy Darnell. Co-directed with Amy Darnell, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL, 2005.

“Yours Truly, Yamuna” Written and Directed by Vaidehi Chitre, Character: Gopal, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL, 2005

“Harold and Janice Face the End of the Universe” by Michael Rose, Directed by Kevin Heckman, Character: Barry Vance, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL, 2005

Graduate spotlight hour. Performer. Southern Illinois University (December 2004)

### **Teaching Experience**

**Assistant Professor, Department of Communication, Mass Media and Theatre, Angelo State University, 2010 – Present.**

#### *Undergraduate*

CMMT 1351: Fundamentals of Human Communication.

CMMT 2331: Performance Studies

CMMT 2301: Public Speaking

CMMT 4351: Communication Theory

#### *Graduate*

CMMT 6303: Communication Theory

#### *Pending classes for Summer/Fall 2011*

3321: Principles of Persuasion

6381: Performance Theory and Criticism

**Assistant Professor, Department of Communication Studies, St. Cloud State University, 2009 – 2010.**

CMST 192: Introduction to Communication

CMST 192 focuses on communication ethics, interpersonal, small group, and oral presentation.

CMST 210: Performance and Everyday Life

CMST 210 focuses on performance in various modalities, such as narrative construction and aesthetic performance.

CMST 310: Performance and Literature

CMST 310 focuses on the performance of poetry as a method of dialogic engagement.

**Teaching Assistant, Department of Speech Communication, Southern Illinois University 2004 – 2009.**

*Instructor of Record:*

SPCM 101: Introduction to Oral Communication: Speech, Self and Society

Speech, Self and Society is a hybrid course of interpersonal, intercultural, small group, and critical theory approaches to communication.

SPCM 101: Introduction to Oral Communication

The “SPCM 101: Introduction Course” focuses upon public speaking techniques in applied contexts.

SPCM 102: Speaking With Confidence

Speaking With Confidence applies to apprehensive speakers in various public speaking situations. SPCM 102 is a preparation course to the basic public speaking course.

SPCM 221: Advanced Public Speaking

The Advanced Public Speaking course focuses upon extending elements of public speaking in heightened audience situations.

SPCM 201: Performing Culture

The Performance of Culture is a course offered to advance diversity in curriculum within the College of Liberal Arts. SPCM 201 is a class designed to engage students in cultural interactions through the performance of literature.

**Teaching Assistant, Department of Communication, Miami University of Ohio 2002 - 04**

*Instructor of Record:*

COM 135: Public Expression and Critical Inquiry

Public Expression and Critical Inquiry is a public speaking course with a primary focus upon public speaking evaluation and rhetorical criticism.

***Lectures and Presentations***

Invited Guest Lecture. Elyse Pineau’s SPCM 371: Storytelling and Oral Traditions.

Southern Illinois University, Spring 2009.

“Hip-Hop Poetry.” Cultural Hip-Hop Festival. Miami University, School of Fine Arts.  
2002.

### Coaching and Forensics Experience

#### *Coach*

<b>2003-2004</b>	<b>Team Award</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
	4 <sup>th</sup> Ranked Speech Team – Division I	NFA
	National Champion – Impromptu Speaking	NFA
	2 <sup>nd</sup> National Finals - Impromptu Speaking, Rhetorical Criticism,	AFA
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Individual Speaker	NFA
	5 <sup>th</sup> National Finals – Persuasion	NFA
	2 Semi-Finalist	NFA
	1 Quarter-Finalist	NFA
	1 Quarter-Finalist	AFA

<b>2002-2003</b>	<b>Team Award</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
	11 <sup>th</sup> Ranked Speech Team in Nation	AFA
	National Champion – Dramatic Duo	NFA
	National Champion – Rhetorical Criticism	AFA/NFA
	3 <sup>rd</sup> National Finals – Extemporaneous Speaking, Informative	NFA
		AFA
	5 <sup>th</sup> National Finals - Dramatic Interpretation	AFA
	4 <sup>th</sup> National Finals - Informative Speaking, Impromptu, Prose, Poetry	AFA/NFA
	2 <sup>nd</sup> National Finals - Persuasive Speaking, Impromptu	AFA/NFA
	3 Semi-Finalists	AFA
	1 Semi-Finalists	NFA
	1 Quarter	AFA

#### *Individual*

<b>1998-2002</b>	<b>Award</b>	<b>Tournament</b>
	National Champion – Poetry Interpretation	AFA-NIET
	2 <sup>nd</sup> National Finals – Duo	AFA-NIET
	3 Semi-Finals	AFA-NIET
	1 Quarter-Final	AFA-NIET
	Qualified 14 Events for the American Forensics Association National Tournament.	
	Duo – Silver	PHI RHO PI

Readers Theatre – Silver

PHI RHO PI

***Speech Camp Instructor***

West Texas A&M University Speech and Debate Camp – 2001-2003

San Antonio College Speech and Debate Camp 1998 – 2000

***Awards***

*Outstanding Performance in Activism*, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL 2006-2007

*Outstanding Performances across the Season*, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL, 2005-2006

*Silver Buffalo*. West Texas A&M University 2001  
The highest bestowed honor of an undergraduate in extracurricular activities.

*Best Actor: Intimate Theater*. West Texas A&M University 2001  
Character: *Third Man*. Paula Vogel's Baltimore Waltz

*Best Actor Nomination: Main Stage Production*. West Texas A&M University 2001.  
Character: *Randle P. McMurphy*. Dale Wasserman's One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest.

*Best Actor: Main Stage Production*. West Texas A&M University 2000.  
Character: *Goldberg*. Harold Pinter's The Birthday Party

*Solo Portion of American College Theater Festival: Nomination and Regional Finalist*.  
West Texas A&M University 2000 and 2001.

***Organizational Memberships***

International Congress of Qualitative Inquiry 2010 - Present  
Central States Communication Association 2006 - Present  
Western States Communication Association 2004 - 2009  
National Communication Association 2002 - Present  
National Forensics Association 2002 - Present  
American Forensics Association 1998 - Present

**Service**

Job Application Search Committee for Communication. Angelo State University. (Nov 2010).

Job Application Search Committee for Theatre. Angelo State University. (Dec 2010).

Library Committee. Communication Studies. St. Cloud State University, 2009- Present

Technology Committee. Communication Studies. St. Cloud State University, 2009- Present

Youth Poetry Writing Workshop. Southern Illinois Library, 2008.

Member of the College of Liberal Arts Grievances Committee. 2006-2007

Librarian. Speech Communication Organization (SCO), Southern Illinois University, (2005-2006).

Assistant Coordinator, Miami University and Talawanda High School Speech Mentor Program. 2002-2004

Co-Founder of the Balcony Poetry Slam. Balcony Bar. Oxford, OH. 2002

### **References**

Dr. Nathan Stucky, Chairperson  
Department of Speech Communication  
Southern Illinois University  
Carbondale, IL 62901  
(618) 453-2291  
[nstucky@siu.edu](mailto:nstucky@siu.edu)

Dr. Ron Pelias,  
Director of Graduate Studies  
Department of Speech Communication  
Southern Illinois University  
Carbondale, IL 62901  
(618) 453-1877  
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