

TARA WHEELWRIGHT

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Slavic Studies, Brown University, *Expected May 2024*

Dissertation: “Creating a National Style: Soviet Drama-Ballet and the Elevation of the Word”

Committee: Profs. Fabrizio Fenghi (advisor), Svetlana Evdokimova & Vladimir Golstein

M.A., Theater Arts and Performance Studies, Brown University, 2021

M.A., Slavic Studies, Brown University, 2018

M.A., Regional Studies: Russia, Eurasia and Eastern Europe, Columbia University, 2014

B.A., Biology, minor in Russian Studies, Hamilton College, 2011

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

“Harmony in the Ballroom: Tolstoy and Social Dance,” *South Atlantic Review* 85.3 (2020): 185-97

Translations

Marina Tsvetaeva, Selections from Poems to an Orphan, In Translation in *Brooklyn Rail*, April 2019

Academic Reviews

Victoria Hallinan. *The Moiseyev Dance Company Tours America: “Wholesome” Comfort During a Cold War* (Amherst and Boston: University of Massachusetts Press, 2023) in *H-SHERA, H-Net Reviews* (forthcoming)

Elizabeth Kattner. *Finding Balanchine’s Lost Ballets: Exploring the Early Choreography of a Master* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2020) in *H-SHERA, H-Net Reviews* (Jan 2023)

Dassia N. Posner and Kevin Bartig, ed., with Maria De Simone. *Three Loves for Three Oranges: Gozzi, Meyerhold, Prokofiev* (Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Press, 2021) in *Slavic and East European Journal* 66.2 (2022)

Anthony Shay. *The Igor Moiseyev Dance Company: Dancing Diplomats* (Chicago: Intellect, The University of Chicago Press, 2019) in *Slavic and East European Journal* 64.4 (2020): 735-736

Irena R. Makaryk. *April in Paris: Theatricality, Modernism, and Politics at the 1925 Art Deco Expo* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2018) in *Slavic and East European Journal* 63.2 (2019): 296-297

Popular Press and Blogs

“Countering *byt* with *bytie*: Ludmila Ulitskaya’s Balm for Motherhood,” *All the Russias*, NYU Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia. January 31, 2023

“Televising Soviet Ballet in the Twenty-First Century,” *All the Russias*, NYU Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia. September 22, 2022.

“Firebird: From Slavic Mythology to American Identity,” *All the Russias*, NYU Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia. February 19, 2021.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Global Mobility Research Fellowship for research in Tbilisi, GE, Brown University, Fall 2022

Public Scholars Award, Melikian Center, Arizona State University, September 2022

Joukowsky Summer Research Travel Award, Brown University, Summers 2018, 2019, 2022

Fulbright U.S. Student Grant for research in Moscow, Russia, U.S. Department of State, Spring 2022 (terminated early due to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine)

Critical Language Enhancement Award, Russian, U.S. Department of State, Spring 2022

Language Scholarship, DAAD/German Academic Exchange Service, Summer 2021 (declined)

Open Graduate Education Travel Award, Brown University, Summer 2020

Open Graduate Education Fellowship to pursue secondary M.A. in Theater Arts and Performance Studies, funded by the Mellon Foundation, Brown University, AY 2019-20

Fulbright-Hays Fellowship, American Councils Advanced Russian Language and Area Studies Program in Moscow, Russia, U.S. Department of Education, Summer 2019

Doctoral Research Travel Grant, Brown University, Summer 2018

International Research Travel Grant, Brown University, Summer 2018

PepsiCo Fellowship for Research and Study, Columbia University, Spring 2014

Master of Arts Regional Studies Student Fellowship, Columbia University, AY 2013-14

Harriman Institute Language Fellowship, Columbia University, Summer 2013

TEACHING**Brown University**

RUSS1150: Russian/Soviet Performing Arts: Dance, Opera & Theater, Spring 2024

RUSS0100: Introductory Russian, Fall 2023

RUSS1810: Tolstoy, Spring 2021 (TA)
RUSS1820: Dostoevsky, Fall 2018 (TA)

SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

“From National Rebel to Othello: Georgian Ballet and the *Dekady* of National Art,” Association for Slavic, East European & Eurasian Studies Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, Dec 2023

“Choreographing Georgia: Chabukiani from Leningrad to Tbilisi,” Central Eurasian Studies Society, Virtual, Oct 2022

“*Romeo and Juliet* Returns West: Transcending Translation in Soviet Ballet,” Panel on “The USSR and the External World,” Graduate Student Conference “Vectors of Russian Development,” Moscow School of Social and Economic Sciences, Virtual, April 2022

“Soviet Drama-Ballet in the 1930s: The Rise of Logocentric Choreography,” British Association for Slavonic & East European Studies Annual Conference, Cambridge, England, April 2022

“Pushkin’s ‘The Fountain of Bakhchisarai’ and the Elevation of the Word in Soviet Ballet,” Association for Slavic, East European & Eurasian Studies Annual Conference, Virtual, Dec 2021

“From Slavic Mythology to American Identity: The Transformative Power of *Firebird*,” Dance Studies Association Conference, Evanston, IL, Aug 2019

“Projecting Soviet Dominance in Ballet: Adaptations of Foreign Canonical Works in Socialist Realism,” Association for Slavic, East European & Eurasian Studies Annual Conference, Boston, MA, Dec 2018

“Harmony in the Ballroom: Tolstoy and Social Dance,” Central Slavic Conference, St. Louis, MO, Oct 2018

“Stalin’s Vision of the Motherland in *Romeo and Juliet*,” Northeastern Slavic, East European & Eurasian Conference, New York, NY, April 2018

INVITED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

“On Page and On Stage: Reading Russian Literature Through Dance,” presentation for the Graduate School and Open Graduate Education Fellows, Brown University, November 2023

“The Autonomous Path of Soviet Georgian Ballet,” lecture in the Works-in-Progress Series, Caucasus Research Resource Center, Tbilisi, Georgia, November 2022

“Getting the Most Out of Advisors and Mentors,” speaker on a panel for incoming doctoral students on strategies for finding mentors, Brown University, September 2020

“Interpreting Tolstoy Through Dance,” presentation for graduate students and faculty on approaches to interdisciplinary research, Brown University, November 2019

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Fellowship Advisor, Brown University, 2021– Present

Advise students applying for the Fulbright, Marshall, Rhodes, Truman, and Mitchell fellowships on all components of the application. Draft institutional letters of nomination on behalf of Brown for UK fellowships. Conduct mock interviews for finalists.

Writing Associate, Sheridan Center for Teaching & Learning, Brown University, Summer 2021

Work one-on-one with undergraduate and graduate student writers from a variety of disciplines.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Graduate representative of the Departmental Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan, Slavic Studies, 2023-24

Member of the internal Brown University committee for Fulbright applications, ETA in 2021, Study/Research awards 2022 – Present

Member of internal hiring committee for the Brown University Assistant Director of Academic Affairs position, February 2021

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION

Professional Workshop in Public Scholarship, Melikian Center, Arizona State University, 2022

Certificate in Russian, Russian State University for the Humanities (RGGU), 2022

Course Design Seminar, Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University, 2020

Reflective Teaching, Sheridan Center for Teaching and Learning, Brown University, 2018

AFFILIATIONS

Association for Slavic, East European & Eurasian Studies (ASEEES)

British Association for Slavonic & East European Studies (BASEES)

Dance Studies Association (DSA)

Central Eurasian Studies Society (CESS)

American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages (AATSEEL)

LANGUAGES

Russian (advanced), Spanish (heritage speaker), Georgian (beginner), French & German (reading knowledge)