

2005

Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas Conference Brochure, June 10-12, 2005

Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas

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Conference Presenters



Kirk Watson • A public affairs consultant and attorney practicing in Austin, Watson has a distinguished background in public office and economic development. In 1997, he was elected mayor of Austin. Watson was named "Best Mayor in Texas for Business" by *Texas Monthly Biz* magazine. While he was mayor, *Forbes* and *Fortune* magazines named Austin the best city or place in America for business. He received the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce Highest Award for his economic development efforts and vision. The Real Estate Council of Austin presented him with its highest award for his common-sense approach to land-use planning, and the Downtown Austin Alliance gave him its "Impact Award" for his "leadership and vision in revitalizing downtown Austin."

Rude Mechanicals (a.k.a. Rude Mechs) is an ensemble-based theatre company located in Austin, committed to the collaborative creation of brave new works for the stage with an aesthetic that is intellectually and politically nerdy, physically ecstatic, and visually striking. Founded in 1995 as a regionally based company, Rude Mechs has exploded onto the national and international scene in recent years touring to such prestigious venues as The Walker Art Center (Minneapolis, MN), The Wexner Center (Columbus, OH), UCLA Performing Arts (Los Angeles, CA), On the Boards (Seattle, WA), the Philadelphia Live Arts Festival (Philadelphia, PA) and Szene Salzburg (Austria). In 2001, Pulitzer Prize-winning theatre critic Margo Jefferson identified Rude Mechs as one of three companies in the United States that is "making theatre that matters." The Rude Mechanicals Co-Producing Artistic Directors are: Madge Darlington, Lana Lesley, Kirk Lynn, Sarah Richardson, and Shawn Sides.

Sharon Bridgforth is the Lambda Award winning author of the *bull-jean stories*, and *love conjure/blues*, a performance/novel published by RedBone Press. Bridgforth is an Alpert Award Nominee in the Arts in Theatre. Her work has been anthologized and produced widely and has received support from the National Endowment For The Arts Commissioning Program; The National Endowment For The Arts/Theatre Communications Group Playwright in Residence Program; National Performance Network; Rockefeller Foundation Multi-Arts Production Fund Award; and Funding Exchange/The Paul Robeson Fund for Independent Media. For more information go to: www.sharonbridgforth.com.

Robert Faires is Senior Arts Editor for *The Austin Chronicle*, where he has been covering the local performing and visual arts scene for 20 years. His writing and criticism has been recognized with awards from the Association of Alternative Newsweeklies and has also appeared in *American Theatre* and *Stagebill*. As a member of the American Theatre Critics Association, he co-founded and helped facilitate the Austin Young Critics Seminar, a weekend training program benefiting critics from around the country. He has served on the faculty of the O'Neill Critics Institute at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center. He belongs to the Austin Critics Table, through which he co-founded the Austin Arts Hall of Fame, recognizing the achievements of the city's cultural pioneers.

Conference Presenters

Steve Moore has been a working playwright for the past thirteen years, first in Chicago and then in Austin. In 1994, he helped found Austin's **Physical Plant Theater** and has since written or had a hand in writing eleven of its fourteen shows. His recent play *Not Clown*, co-written with Carlos Treviño, was voted Best Alt-Theater Play of 2004 (*Austin American-Statesman*) and is currently gearing up for a tour. Another recent play *Nightswim* was voted Best Play of 2004 (*Austin American-Statesman*) and is currently a finalist for the ATCA/Steinberg New Play Award. He was the recipient of the David Mark Cohen New Play Award in 2003 for *The Kindermann Depiction* and is currently a Playwriting Fellow at the Michener Center.

C. Denby Swanson is a graduate of Smith College, the National Theatre Institute, and the University of Texas Michener Center for Writers. She has been a William Inge Playwright in Residence, a Playwrights' Center Jerome Fellow and McKnight Advancement Grant recipient, and her work has been commissioned by the Guthrie Theater and featured in the Southern Playwrights Festival, the Women Playwrights Project, the Estro-Genius Festival, and PlayLabs 2002. Her work has received world premieres at Salvage Vanguard Theater and at 15 Head—a Theater Lab. She is published by Smith & Kraus, Heinemann, Accompany Publishing, and Playscripts, Inc. She is the Artistic Director of Austin Script Works, a playwright services organization with 120 member writers. She is the Austin-based Conference Organizer for LMDA Conference '05.

Hotels

Note: The Radisson and the Inter-Continental are within walking distance of the conference venues. The Homestead Suites is located 15 minutes away via public transportation.

Radisson Hotel

\$109 /night
111 Cesar Chavez
Austin, TX 78701
Reservations Line: 512-478-9611 or 1-800-333-3333, reference Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas. Book online: www.radisson.com/austintx/ use the promotional code DTURGS.

Deadline: 5/20/05. Reserve early, otherwise rooms are \$189+.

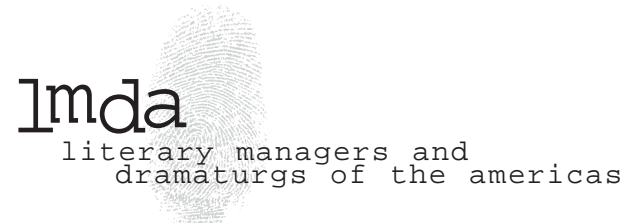
Inter-Continental Stephen F. Austin

\$89 /night
701 Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701
Contact the Reservations Department at 512-457-8800 and reference Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas. Book online at: reservations-ausha@ichotelsgroup.com

Deadline: 5/19/05. After this date, rooms are as high as \$229. There are LIMITED ROOMS, so please reserve early.

Homestead Studio Suites Hotel

\$40 /night (singles and doubles)
507 S. First Street
Austin TX, 78704
(512) 476-1818
Contact Ann Marie. Reserve early. This rate is available on a "first come, first served" basis.



lmda conference 2005

austin live
june 10 - 12
austin, texas



photo: Cynthia SoReile

Join us for LMDA's 2005 conference: *Austin Live*. A vibrant city where the arts help create a vital culture, Austin is the consummate place for a celebration of live performance.

LMDA Conference 2005

Literary Managers and Dramaturgs, perhaps more than any other theatrical collaborators, understand the importance of process in the creation of work. Dramaturgs can also attest to how widely production or play development processes can vary. What models for the creation of new work are currently in use? What new methods can we invent? And what role does live performance play in our communities? This year's conference is taking place in the lively arts scene of Austin, Texas, and taking time to explore live performance.

Austin Live

Austin has been described as the "laid-back city in the lake-laced hills, home to cyberpunks and environmentalists, high culture and haute cuisine. [...] Austin has been compared to Berkeley and Seattle, but it is at once its own place and entirely of Texas" (*Frommer's* online). Come learn how this city's lively culture has exploded into a performance mecca.

Creation of Work

The conference program includes workshops and panel presentations, many featuring Austin-based artists. Check out the Conference Overview and Bios (at right) for more information on these artists and companies. The conference will serve as an occasion for the creation of five new works through its Collaboration Project. Five groups of artists will assemble for the weekend; each group (one writer, one musician, and one dramaturg) will begin collaboration on a piece. We will experience the fruit of this initial investigation at the conference on Saturday.

LMDA's 20th Anniversary

As part of our celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the founding of LMDA, we are taking time to reflect on the history of our organization, both to mark the distance covered by LMDA and the field of dramaturgy and to help gauge where we would like to go next. Don't miss the special 20th Anniversary presentation at the banquet on Saturday night.

For Early Career Attendees

The conference features special sessions geared to the needs and goals of early career members. There will be several opportunities for early career attendees to gather tools of the profession and form connections with dramaturgs and literary managers in the field.

University Caucus

University Caucus includes those who work in college and university settings. The Caucus is organizing a Friday session entitled: "Rehearsal: Aesthetics, Ethics, Education."

The single most important educational arena in college and university theatre programs is not the classroom but the rehearsal hall. What, by word and example, are students learning there?

All are welcome to attend the session. Conference attendees are also invited to present papers during this session. Please contact Geoff Proehl at gproehl@ups.edu for more information.

Conference Overview

Thursday, June 9

Travel Day. Plan to arrive by Thursday evening to take in some Austin nightlife! More information on this will be available soon at www.lmda.org. **The conference kicks off early Friday morning!**

Friday, June 10

9:00-8:00pm **Registration, State Theater**, 711 Congress Avenue

10:00-11:00 **Introductions:** Speed Dating

11:00-11:15 Break

11:15-12:30 **Keynote Address: Kirk Watson**,
Former Mayor of Austin

12:30-1:30 Lunch

1:30-2:20 **Workshops:** Interdisciplinary Models

- Rude Mechanicals
- Sharon Bridgforth

2:20-2:25 Brief Break to Change Sessions

2:25-3:15 **Workshops:** Interdisciplinary Models

- Physical Plant
- Yacov Sharir

3:15-3:30 Break

3:30-4:45 **Panel:** Methods of Creating Work

- Salvage Vanguard
- Pro-Arts
- C. Denby Swanson, Austin Script Works

4:45-5:00 Break

5:00-6:30 **Breakout Sessions:**

- Dramaturg as Interviewer, Director, Critic
- Early Career Panel
- U Caucus

6:30 Dinner and Theatregoing

Saturday, June 11

9:00-10:00 **Regional Breakfast**

10:00-11:00 **Breakout Sessions:**

- Early Career
- Freelancers
- Institution-Based Dramaturgs
- U Caucus

11:00-11:15 Break

11:15-1:00 **Breakout Sessions:** Making Connections

1:00-2:00 Lunch

2:00-4:00 **Collaboration Project:**

- Presentations and Conversation

4:00-4:15 Break

4:15-5:45 **LMDA Business Meeting**

5:45-6:00 Break

6:00-7:00 TBA

8:00 **Banquet:** LMDA's 20th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, June 12

9:00-10:30 Board Meeting

10:30-11:15 **Wrap-Up:** Looking Back

11:15-12:00 **Next Year:** Looking Forward

12:00-1:30 Executive Committee Meeting

Registration Form

LMDA MEMBERSHIP:

All memberships expire May 31, 2005. U.S. residents who plan to attend the conference may enclose their membership renewal along with their conference registration. Canadian residents should renew their membership directly through the LMDA Canada office.*

Membership Fees

Full	\$ 60.00
Associate	\$ 45.00
Student	\$ 25.00

*Send Canadian Membership fees only (in Canadian Funds) to:

LMDA

36 St. Paul Street
Toronto, ON
M5A3H3 CANADA

CONFERENCE FEES:

All conference attendees please send conference fees in U.S. funds to the LMDA New York office (see address below).

Full Conference Fee (including banquet):

	Received Before 5/5/05	After 5/5/05
LMDA Member	\$ 160.00	\$ 200.00
Non Member	\$ 200.00	\$ 240.00
Student	\$ 80.00	\$ 100.00

or

Conference Fees a la carte:

1 Day Fee—Friday	\$ 80.00
1 Day Fee—Saturday	\$ 60.00
Saturday Banquet	\$ 35.00

Please fill in the appropriate values (U.S. funds only).

	Sample	Your Registration
Membership (U.S.)	\$ 60.00	
Conference Fees	\$ 160.00	
TOTAL Enclosed	\$ 220.00	

Please fill out and enclose this portion of the brochure and mail your check to:

LMDA
P.O. Box 728
Village Station
New York, NY 10014

To receive the discounted price, mail your registration on or before May 1. **Payments must be received by 5/5/05.**

Questions? Contact ldmanc@hotmai.com or 212.561.0315