

## CURRICULUM VITAE

ALEXANDRA F. JOHNSTON

### A. Biographical Information

1. *Personal:*

Home Address:  
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University Address:  
Records of Early English Drama  
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Jackman Humanities Building  
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Date of Birth: July 19, 1939  
Citizenship: Canadian

2. *Earned Degrees:*

B.A. English Language and Literature, Victoria College, University of Toronto, 1961.

M.A. English (Medieval Drama) Toronto, 1962.

PhD. English (Drama special field) Toronto, 1964. Dissertation "The Christ Figure in the Ministry Plays of the Four English Cycles." Supervisor: Professor L.K. Shook, Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies.

3. *Employment:*

Queen's University at Kingston, Assistant Professor, 1964-1967

Victoria University in the University of Toronto  
1970-1974 Associate Professor  
1967-1970 Assistant Professor

University of Toronto  
1974-1978 Associate Professor  
1978-2004 Professor  
2004- Professor Emerita

Tenure awarded by Victoria, 1969.

Appointment to School of Graduate Studies, University of Toronto, 1975;  
cross-appointment to the Graduate Centre for the Study of Drama and to the Centre for  
Medieval Studies 1975.

Victoria College Principal 1981-91

Acting Principal 2003-4

4. **Honours:**

Doctor of Laws, Queen's University, 1984.  
 Doctor of Divinity, The Presbyterian College, Montreal, 1991  
 Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, 1997  
 Faculty Award, University of Toronto, 2002

Festschrift: David Klausner and Karen S. Marsalek (eds). *'Bring furth the Pagants': Essays in Early English Drama presented to Alexandra F. Johnston* (Toronto:University of Toronto Press) 2006 (including essays from scholars from the universities of Toronto, Western Ontario, Alberta, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Lancaster, St Olaf's College and Mary Washington College)

5. **Professional Affiliations and Activities:**

Fellow Selection Committee, Academy II, (Humanities and Social Sciences) Royal Society of Canada 1998-2005

Vice President, Academy II, Royal Society of Canada 2000-2

President, Academy II, Royal Society of Canada 2002-4

Secretary, *The International Society for the Study of Medieval Theatre* 1983-9; President, 1989-92. Past-President and Coordinator of the 1995 Conference, 1992-5. This is an association of international scholars of early theatre that holds conferences every three years.

Vice-President, *Medieval and Renaissance Drama Society*, Modern Languages Association of America, 1986-90; President 1990-3

6. **Academic History:**

a) Research Interests

Medieval and renaissance literature, history and theology; theatre history.  
 Founder of *Records of Early English Drama* 1975; General Editor 1975-81; Director 1981 to present

b) Research Awards

i) For *Records of Early English Drama*

1976-86 two Major Editorial Grants, Canada Council and SSHRCC; 1978-80 with continuing support under various programs; 1982-2013 grants from the US National

Endowment for the Humanities; the Connaught Fund; Jackman Foundation of Toronto (1989- ); Skaggs Foundation of California; the Metcalf Foundation; the Society for Theatre History (UK); the Mellon Foundation (2000-02; 03-08 09-12); The British Academy, the Marc Fitch Fund (UK).

ii) Personal

1991-94 SSHRCC; over my career numerous small research grants and travel grants from Victoria and University of Toronto.

## B. Scholarly and Professional Work

### *Publications*

#### *Editions*

As primary editor

*York* (2 vols.), Records of Early English Drama (Toronto, 1979) [with Margaret Rogerson].

*Oxford University and City* (2 vols.) Records of Early English Drama (Toronto 2004) [with John R. Elliott jr., Alan H. Nelson and Diana Wyatt].

*Civic Ritual and Drama*, Amsterdam and Atlanta, Rodopi Press, 1997 [with Wim Husken]. Introduction pp 7-14.

*English Parish Drama*, Amsterdam and Atlanta, Rodopi Press, 1996 [with Wim Husken]. Introduction pp 7-14.

*Proceedings of the Nineteenth Conference on Editorial Problems: Editing Medieval Drama: Special Problems New Directions*. New York: AMS Press, 1987.

*REED Handbook for Editors*. Toronto, 1980 [with S.B. MacLean].

## 1. Research Contributions 2008-2013

### (1) Refereed Contributions: Chapters in Books

**R** 'Olde playes or maskes but Imperfect & little worthe.' *Years Work in English Studies* 2012, Pamela M. King, Sue Niebrzydowski and Diana Wyatt eds. (Bangor, Wales: Modern Humanities Research Association, 2013), 31-47.

**R** 'The Text of the *Chester Plays* in 1572: A Conjectural Re-Construction' in Jessica Dell, David Klausner and Helen Ostovich, eds., *The Chester Cycle in Context, 1555—1575: Religion, Drama, and the Impact of Change* (Ashgate: Burlington Vt, 2012), 19-36.

**R** 'The Communities of the York Plays' in *The York Mystery Plays: Performance in the City*, Margaret Rogerson, ed. (Woodbridge: Boydell and Brewer, 2011) 157-64.

- R** ‘William Cecil and the Drama of Persuasion’ in *Shakespeare and Religious Change*, Philip Collington and Kenneth Graham eds. (Palgrave MacMillan, 2009) 63-87
- R** ‘The Politics of Civic Drama and Ceremony in late Medieval and Early Modern Britain’ in *The Idea of the City*, Joan Fitzpatrick ed. (Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2009) 21-37.
- R** ‘Introduction’ to the second edition of *Cambridge Companion to Medieval Drama* Richard Beadle and Alan Fletcher, eds. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008), 1-25.

### Articles in Journals

- ‘The History of English Drama before 1642 Revisited’ in Victor Houlston and David Scott-MacNab eds., *S.S. Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies*, 20 (2010), 1-29.
- ‘Playmaking in Bury St Edmund’s: an Argument by Analogy’ *ROMARD* XLIX (2010), 28-39.
- ‘Touring Players in the Early Years of Elizabeth: What were they Playing’ *Medieval Theatre* 30 (2009), 72-88.
- ‘An Unusual Record in the Exeter College Archives,’ *Exeter College Register* (September 2009).
- R** “And how the state will beare with it, I knowe not” for festshrift in honour of Professor David Mills *Medieval English Theatre* 29 part 2 (for 2007), 2009.

### Other Media

- ‘Liturgical Drama’ and ‘Monasteries and Entertainment’ in Dee Dyas ed., *English Cathedrals and Monasteries* forthcoming 2013
- ‘Drama’ in the Reformation period in Dee Dyas, ed., *The English Parish Church through the Centuries*, interactive cd-rom, The University of York, 2010.
- The Chester Plays, 1572* for the performance of the *Chester Cycle* Toronto May 22-4, 2010 posted on the internet October 2010 (<http://www.reed.utoronto.ca/chester>)

### Papers Given at Scholarly Conferences

- ‘Know your Audience’ 14<sup>th</sup> Triennial Colloquium of the Société Internationale pour Étude du Théâtre Médiéval, Poznan, Poland, July 23, 2013
- ‘Is there a greater unity’ Leeds International Medieval Congress, July 3, 2013.
- ‘Performing Women in *N-Town* and *Castle of Perseverance*’ 47<sup>th</sup> International Medieval Congress, Western Michigan University, May 13, 2012.
- “Pageantes fast following ilkon after oyer...’ Urban Performance in York’ Medieval Academy of America Conference, St Louis Missouri March 22, 2012.
- ‘The Manuscripts of Early English Drama’ at the 13<sup>th</sup> Triennial Colloquium of the Société Internationale pour Étude du Théâtre Médiéval, Giessen, Germany July 24, 2010.
- ‘The Chester Text, 1572/2010’ at the *Chester Symposium* organized by the Centre for Performance Studies in Early Theatre, Toronto, May 21-3, 2010.
- ‘Travelling Companies and their Privy Council Patrons: What were they playing?’ Leeds International Medieval Congress, July 15, 2009
- “And young“ And young and old com forth to play  
On a Sunshine holyday...” *L’Allegro*  
What Milton must have seen as a boy in Buckinghamshire for which there is no other witness.’  
Leeds International Medieval Congress, July 8, 2008.

**Non-refereed book chapters**

‘Making Yourself ‘per present’: Nicholas Love and the Plays of the Passion’ in *In Strange Countries: Essays in Memory of John J. Anderson*, David Matthews ed. (Manchester UP 2010) pp. 96-107.

**Invited Lectures**

‘Early English Drama Research’ delivered three times at the University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa September 9, 2010, the University of Johannesburg September 14 and the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, September 14 2010.

‘Peril and Danger to Her Majesty: the Sectarian Context of the Suppression of Biblical Drama in England’ The F. David Hoeniger Lecture, Pratt Library, Victoria University, 19 April, 2010. Also Delivered at the University of South Africa, Pretoria September 13, 2010.

‘The History of English Drama before 1642 Revisited’ The Gryphon Lecture, Fisher Rare Book Library, University of Toronto, May 6, 2010. Also delivered to the bi-annual Symposium of the Southern African Society for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Stellenbosch, South Africa September 3, 2010.

‘The “almost but not quite” matches: how REED can help us understand the surviving texts of English medieval drama’ Symposium on *Mankind*, University of Hull, February 13, 2010.

‘What Christopher Goodman Saw’ special lecture, University of Bristol, March 19, 2009.

“William Cecil and the Drama of Persuasion”, special lecture as new Visiting Professor, University of Bristol, January 24, 2008.

“What have we wrought? REED and theatre history”. Papers in honour of the retirement of J.A.B.Somerset, University of Western Ontario, November 15, 2007.

“Cities as Dramatic Producers, Patrons and Propagandists in Late Medieval and Early Modern Britain” plenary address at ‘The Idea of the City’ a conference held at the University of Northampton, June 9, 2007.

**Work forthcoming**

**R** ‘Olde plays or maskes but Imperfect & little worthe.’ *Years Work in English Studies* 2012

**Literary and artistic works**

Singer/actor in *A Child is Born* 2010