

# Maxim Vinogradov

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## EDUCATION

### **Concordia University**

Doctor of Philosophy | April 2031 (expected)

English Literature

Thesis: 2020s Generational Factionalism in Jewish Comedy

### **University of Calgary**

Master of Fine Arts | April 2025

3.96 GPA | Drama (Playwriting)

Thesis: Dementia Portrayal in Dramatic Literature

### **University of Michigan (Honors College) - Ann Arbor**

Bachelor of Arts with Distinction | April 2019

3.72 GPA | High Honors in English & Film

Concentrations in Creative Writing and Screenwriting

### **West Bloomfield High School**

High School Diploma | May 2015

3.71 GPA | Magna Cum Laude

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## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

### **Graduate Assistant Non-Teaching for Clem Martini & Peter Balkwill - Winter 2024, 2025**

- Aided playwright and UCalgary professor Clem Martini in the development of his upcoming script, including dense research into climate litigation.
- Aided UCalgary Drama Division Lead Peter Balkwill in the development of his project on Indonesian puppetry, organizing dozens of audio interviews with dalangs of wayang kulit and wayang wong.

### **Teaching Assistant at UCalgary, DRAM 203 (Creativity) - Fall 2024**

- Wrote and delivered three lectures to 100+ non-majors: Richard Florida's "creative class," collaboration, and Edward de Bono's *Six Thinking Hats*. Included in-depth explanations of collectivism in Western art, game theory in theatre, and devising.
- Graded and advised students throughout semester's assignments, including final projects of sculptures embodying fears of exploring creativity.

### **Teaching Assistant at UCalgary, DRAM 471 (Adv. Playwriting) - Fall 2023**

- Wrote and delivered a lecture on dialogue, with 20 textual examples across classic and contemporary dramatic literature. Created exercises on creative approaches to dialogue.
- Graded scenes and provided in-depth feedback for students, including mentoring two one-acts into fringe/student productions.

### **Resident Playwright at Slipstream Theatre Initiative - Oct. 2017 to Mar. 2020**

- Four commissioned plays and three published scripts. Rigorous research, drafting, and editing for production.
- Intensive grant writing, patron fundraising, youth outreach, and correspondence with donors, including penning newsletters.

### **Freelance Instructor - 2022 to Present**

- Taught Zoom classes in Drama and Storytelling for ages 7-11. Created writing exercises to fit various aptitudes and coached students through scene work and improv games.
- Taught Musical Theatre and Storytelling for ages 7-11 at Spoon of Sugar in Calgary, AB, 2024-2026. Helped children develop scripts to be produced at recitals.
- Taught Zoom classes on Storytelling for ages 14-17. Created structured units and lessons referencing industry staples and developed student works.

### **Freelance Writer - 2018 to Present**

- *Really? No, Really?* - wrote for Jason Alexander and Peter Tilden's iHeart podcast, including monologues, promo clips, and games.
- Screen Rant - wrote 5-15 news articles weekly on film and TV, with an average readership of 16,000 and a personal invitation to the Motion Picture Association's Domestic Press Registry.
- MovieWeb - from the above position promoted to write evergreen features on screenwriting tutorials, celebrations of female and POC film legends, and the viral article "Is Jackass Female Gaze Cinema?"
- Asian Center of Southeast Michigan - wrote short plays and films advocating Hep B vaccination among southeast Michigan's Asian male population.

### **Misc. Professional Theatre/Film Work - 2014 to Present**

- *Production Team* - helped oversee a safe, comfortable work environment at The Public Theater in NYC for 2018 Shakespeare in the Park season, including *Othello* and *Twelfth Night*, Astor Place shows *Cyprus Avenue*, *Fire in Dreamland*, and the Runaways Gala.
- *Stage Manager* - 70+ performances for Wagonstage Theatre's 2024 touring show *The Underlings*, including logistics of all transportation, payroll, and client liaising.
- *Director* - 2017 production of *A Night of Stars with Tennessee Williams*, nominated for Best New Play at the Oscar Wilde Awards and winning Best Actor (Bailey Boudreau).
- *Actor* - nine professional productions including at Calgary's High Performance Rodeo festival, winning a Wilde Award for Acting (Brad - *Band Fags*) and a Broadway World Detroit Award for Best Shakespearean Actor (Mercutio - *Romeo and Juliet*). Current company member at One Yellow Rabbit under Denise Clarke's Beautiful Young Artists.
- *Filmmaker* - three short films, winning Best Comedy at Orchard Lake Film Festival (*Zuckerberg: The Real Story*), Best in Show at DAFT Film Festival (*Everyone Dies in the*

- End*), and Best Experimental Film - Runner Up at Lightworks Festival (*Please Clap*).
- *Composer* - four short films, winning Best Original Score at Lightworks Festival (*Please Clap*). Scored and led Jim Lair Beard's *Shakespeare's Greatest Rival* at UCalgary.
  - *Company Dramaturg* - At MurMur Theatre, overseeing mainstage shows. Present
  - *Front of House Lead* - At Alberta Theatre Projects, operating budget of \$3m. Present.
  - *Box Office A. Manager* - At Vertigo Theatre, operating budget of \$3.5m. Present.
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## SELECTED AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIPS

**Alberta Graduate Excellence Scholarship** at the University of Calgary (2024).  
**Semi-Finalist for the National Playwrights Conference** at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center (2020, 2022, 2023).  
**Susan Glaspell Playwriting Award** for Best National One-Act Play from the QCTW (2020).  
**The Arthur Miller Creative Arts Award** for Best Art Thesis in Class of 2019 from the University of Michigan's Goldstein Honors (2019).  
**Hopwood Awards** - 3 Awards in Drama (school record, passing Arthur Miller), 2 Leonard & Eileen Newman Prizes in Dramatic Screenwriting, Award in Screenplay, from the University of Michigan Hopwood Program (2017-2019).  
**High Honors in English** at the University of Michigan (2019).  
**High Honors in Screen Arts & Cultures** at the University of Michigan (2019).  
**National Partners of the American Theatre Playwriting Award** for Best Full Length Play by a Collegiate Playwright from The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (2018).  
**Oscar Wilde Award** for Best New Script from EncoreMichigan (2018).

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## SELECTED PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTIONS

**Throw Out the Baby with the Bathwater** - MurMur Theatre, 2026.  
**Matea** - Slipstream Theatre Initiative in Detroit, MI, 2026 (originally slated for March 2020).  
**Woyzeck: Marie's Room** - MurMur Theatre in Calgary, AB, 2025.  
**Dancing.** - Regular Theatre in Cincinnati, OH, 2020. Planet Ant Theatre in Detroit, MI, 2019.  
**My Dad was Fifteen Feet Tall** - Outvisible Theatre Co. in Detroit, MI, 2019.  
**Lost in 3 Pines** - Slipstream Theatre Initiative in Detroit, MI, 2018.  
**A Night of Stars with Tennessee Williams** - Regular Theatre in Cincinnati, OH, 2019. Theatre Nova in Ann Arbor, MI, 2018. Slipstream Theatre Initiative in Detroit, MI, 2017.  
**P.Y.G.** (co-written) - Slipstream Theatre Initiative in Detroit, MI, 2016.

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## UNIVERSITY PRODUCTIONS / READINGS

**Girl on Parade** - Alchemy Festival at University of Calgary, AB, Winter 2025.  
**U Need F.R.I.E.S. With That** - Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Offices for the UCalgary

Orientation Play, 2024-2027.

**Talking to Your Kids About Guns!** - Alchemy Festival at the University of Calgary, 2024.

**Lost in 3 Pines** - Basement Arts at the University of Michigan, 2019.

**A Night of Stars with Tennessee Williams** - KCACTF Region III Reading in Madison, WI, 2018. KCACTF Region III Design Storm in Indianapolis, IN, 2019.

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## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

### Slipstream Theatre Initiative

- [A Night of Stars with Tennessee Williams](#) (play), 2017 & 2018.
- [Lost in 3 Pines](#) (play), 2018.
- [P.Y.G.](#) (co-written play), 2016.

### MovieWeb

- [Explained: Is Jackass Female Gaze Cinema?](#) (feature article), 2022.
- [Sessue Hayakawa: Who Was Hollywood's First Heartthrob?](#) (feature article), 2022.
- [Here's Why We Could Watch Spike Lee's Movies Forever](#) (feature article), 2022.
- [5 Iconic Movies You Didn't Know Were Written By Women](#) (feature article), 2022.
- [In Defense of the Stoner Movie](#) (feature article), 2022.
- [Get Out: How to Write Dramatic Narratives According to Jordan Peele's Movie](#) (feature article), 2022.
- [Here Are 10 Screenwriting Tips From 30 Must-See Movies](#) (feature article), 2022.

### Screen Rant

- [Filmmaker Robert Downey Sr Passes Away At 85](#) (obituary), 2021.
- [Richard Donner, Superman & The Goonies Director, Dies at 91](#) (obituary), 2021.

### Café Shapiro

- [Rabbit Eats 'Round Six](#) (short story), Café Shapiro Anthology, vol. 21, 2018.
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## SELECTED COURSES

### University of Calgary, M.F.A. in Drama

- Methods in Theatre Research - Bruce Barton & Pil Hansen
  - PhD course on research methods, theories of knowledge, and how to ethically, correctly, and effectively create academic writing in a research setting.
- Selected Problems in Playwriting - Clem Martini
  - Multi-semester course requiring the writing of a full-length play and essays on the topics of playwriting strategies for developing characters and dialogue.
- Dramaturgy - Meghan Braem
  - Explored the various strategies and definitions of dramaturgy via texts and interviews with multiple working dramaturgs in Canada.
- Directed Study, Participatory Performance - Bruce Barton
  - Read and wrote essays on seven books regarding the concepts of both devised theatre and cooperation and democracy in the creation of theatre.

- Created three scene texts without capitalization, stage directions, character names, or punctuation for undergrad actors to perform in their own interpretations.
- Directed Study, Advanced Dramatic Literature - Jane MacFarlane
  - Read and discussed plays of various periods, including the ancient Greek, early modern English, 20th century American, and contemporary Canadian.

### **University of Michigan, Honors College, B.A. in English & Film**

- 17th Century English Poetry - Douglas Trevor
  - Explored the works of Milton, Donne, and Wroth, among others. Investigated at length the circumstances, strategies, and impact of each poet.
- 20th Century American Literature: Race & Ethnicity - Walter Cohen
  - Read and discussed a series of novels surrounding race and ethnicity from the 20th Century, including Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad* and Julie Otsuka's *The Buddha in the Attic*.
- European Drama from Ibsen to Beckett - Enoch Brater
  - Read and discussed the European dramatic canon, including Ibsen, Chekhov, Shaw, Strindberg, Beckett, Wilde, Brecht, Pirandello, Ionesco, and others.
- The Hamlet Semester - Enoch Brater
  - An entire semester dedicated to combing through *Hamlet* line-by-line and investigating its strategies and interpretations.
  - Wrote a one-act in pentameter where Gertrude is the lead and all the events of *Hamlet* were revealed to be her doing.
- Dark Fantasy - Petra Koppers
  - Read dark fantasy works across multiple decades with an emphasis on Lovecraft that was offset with explorations of Queer, disabled, and POC works.
- Playwriting I & II - José Casas
  - Wrote dozens of ten-minute and two one-act stageplays across two semesters.
  - Note: did not finish playwriting track due to starting a successful playwriting career during university, preferring to pay to learn about unfamiliar mediums.
- Screenwriting (various) - Jim Burnstein, Dan Shere, and Veerandra Prasad
  - Wrote multiple short and four full-length screenplays across six semesters.
  - Merit-based advancement in which approximately 40-50 students enter the screenwriting program and only 0-2 are eventually allowed to sub-concentrate.
- Creative Writing (various) - Tish O'Dowd, Cody Walker, and Scott Seres
  - Wrote dozens of short stories and one 80 page novel excerpt across six semesters.
  - Merit-based advancement in which approximately 100 students enter the fiction/poetry program and only 10-15 are eventually allowed to sub-concentrate.

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## **SKILLS**

### **Languages**

- Spanish: intermediate experience with speaking, reading, writing (passed out of University of Michigan equivalency exam).
- Russian: intermediate experience with speaking, reading, writing.

- French: two years of lessons with reading and writing.

**Software / Equipment**

- Office: Microsoft Office Suite. G Suite.
  - Video Editing: Adobe Premiere, Final Cut.
  - DSLR: Canon Rebels, Nikon DX Series.
  - 16mm: Canon Scoopic.
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**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS / CERTIFICATIONS**

- Dramatists Guild of America.
  - Motion Picture Association Domestic Press Directory.
  - Certified COVID-19 Compliance Officer (CCO).
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**EXTRACURRICULARS / VOLUNTEERING****Current**

- Daily volunteer for the Animal Rescue Foundation of Alberta.

**Graduate**

- Weekly dinner service volunteer at the Calgary Drop-In Emergency Shelter.
- Captain of Pony Danza Trivia Team, co-Captain of Kiwienies Trivia Team.

**Undergraduate**

- Weekly volunteer for the ONE Campaign.
- Monthly volunteer for UNICEF.
- Volunteer for the Asian Center of Southeast Michigan.

**High School**

- Vice President of the National Honors Society.
- Vice President of the International Thespian Society.
- Named Class's Honor Thespian by the International Thespian Society.
- President of the Spanish Club.