

# SHARON COOPER

Playwright | Screenwriter | Writing Coach

[www.sharonecooper.com](http://www.sharonecooper.com)

[sharoncooperwrites@gmail.com](mailto:sharoncooperwrites@gmail.com)

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## EDUCATION

**MA NEW YORK UNIVERSITY** Gallatin School of Individualized Study

**BA LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY** English/Theatre/Secondary Education

### **THE KENNEDY CENTER PLAYWRITING INTENSIVE PROGRAM**

- One of twenty students chosen from across the U.S. for their inaugural program
- Studied with **David Ives, Marsha Norman, Naomi Iizuka, Gary Garrison** and others

**STONYBROOK SOUTHAMPTON:** Playwriting--**Emily Mann**; non-fiction--**Leslie Ayzvazian**

## PUBLICATIONS

- “When You Get to Garrison, Stand Up” — article published in the PCNR newspaper, 2023
- “Stalled” *30 New 10-Minute Plays*, 2019
- “Siriously” *Reading Literature and Writing Argument*, 2019
- “Believin’” *The Best 10-Minute Plays*, 2016
- “Painting Seventeen” *The Best 10-Minute Plays*, 2014
- “The Cooking King” *The Best 10-Minute Plays*, 2010
- “Mistaken Identity” Taught widely on college campuses and published in many college textbooks, including *Literature to Go*; *Journey into Literature*; and multiple editions of *The Bedford Introduction to Literature*. First Publication: *Laugh Lines: Short Comic Plays*, 2007
- “How I found Mistaken Identity and Got Much More”— article published in *The Dramatist*, 2014

## TEACHING/COACHING EXPERIENCE

**Co-Founder**--[Maximum Potential Education](http://MaximumPotentialEducation.com), a holistic tutoring and educational services company; **Guest Lecturer** at high schools and colleges, including NYU, The New School, and the Neighborhood Playhouse; a **Playwright-in-Residence** at “New Voices for the Theatre” and The Governor’s School of the Arts; **DEI consultant**; **Yoga Instructor**, **Editor** of books.

## **SELECT WORK: PLAYS**

### ***CAUGHT*** (full-length comedy)

*Two sets of siblings who grew up together are stuck together on the evening of hurricane Sandy*

Mirrorbox Theatre Company, Zoom Reading, **William Jackson Harper** (*The Good Place*) 2020

Chain Theatre Company, Workshop and Staged Reading 2020

After Hours Reading Series, **The Drama Book Shop** 2014

Master's Thesis Reading: NYU 2013

### ***RUNNING*** (full-length comedic drama)

*A play about three gay men, one of their mothers and secrets*

The Milk Can Theatre Company, New York City, Equity Showcase 2008

### ***A VISIT TO THE BRONX*** (one-act play)

*Time collides in this family drama about the Bronx's forgotten history*

Aery Theatre Company, Garrison, New York 2014

The Keller Theatre Company, Commission, Giessen, Germany, Production 2013

### ***THE SEVEN MEN OF HANUKKAH*** (short comedy, also a film)

*An actor goes on the most bizarre audition of his life*

Act1 Theatre, **Australia**, Production 2020

Downstage Left, Amsterdam, **the Netherlands**, Production 2020

University of Missouri, Production 2020

Michigan State University, Production 2019

### ***OCCUPIED*** (ten-minute comedic drama)

*A woman demands what she deserves from her bank on Christmas Eve*

My America Plays, New York City, Production 2017

Itinerant Theatre Company's "Coffee House Theatre" Lake Charles, Louisiana, Reading 2016

The Keller Theatre, Giessen, **Germany**, Production 2012

The Transfjuz Company, Budapest, **Hungary**, Production 2012

### ***SIRIOUSLY*** (ten-minute comedy)

*Two women, a man and a phone walk into a bar on New Year's Eve*

Film and Performing Art Society at the **Singapore** Institute of Management, Production 2017

"My America" Plays, New York City, Production 2017

### ***IN THE MEANTIME*** (ten-minute comedy)

*The nature of time and love is explored in this "in the meantime" relationship*

Westover School, Connecticut, Production 2019

Downstage Left, Amsterdam, **the Netherlands**, Production 2018

Wells College, New York, Production 2018

Aerial Theatre Company, Pleasantville, New York, Production 2017

Woodbridge Senior High School, Woodbridge, Virginia, Production 2017

Greenroom Theatre, Kankakee, Illinois, Production 2017

British American Drama Academy, London, **England**, Production 2012

## **SELECT WORK: PRODUCED FILM AND TV**

***THE BIRD BEAUTY CONTEST*** (comedic short film, Producer, Director, Writer) 2021  
*Who will win the Bird Beauty Contest? Featuring live birds; Available to watch [here](#).*

***BELIEVIN'*** (comedic short film, Producer and Writer) 2019  
*A comedy about being in mourning; Available to watch [here](#).*

***THE SEVEN MEN OF HANUKKAH*** (romantic comedy short film, Producer and Writer) 2017  
*Not every audition is about getting the role*  
**Featuring Mike Houston (OITNB) Available to watch [here](#).**

***BROOKLYN PRIVATE INVESTIGATORS (BKPI)*** (Web Series) 2017  
*Three women of color are self-proclaimed private investigators in their neighborhood*  
Co-wrote one episode; Head Writer/Director: Hye Yun Park; LA Film Festival, Frameline, Outfest

## **SELECT AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, RECOGNITIONS**

- “The Seven Men of Hanukkah” **Glass Ceiling Breakers Best of the Fest, 2023; a winner of the Boston Jewish Film Festival, 2017;** travels to film festivals across the U.S.; on **DirectTV** in North America/South Asia and chosen as **Film Shortage’s Pick of the Day, 2020**
- “Stalled” and “The Cooking King” Selected: Samuel French Play Festival
- “The Abraham Girls” Pilot Script co-written with Hend Ayoub, **Finalist in the Rhode Island International Film Festival, 2020**
- *Kali* –Pilot, **Semi-Finalist in the Big Break Screenwriting Contest, 2020**
- *Caught* Full-Length Play, **Top 20% at the Austin Film Festival, 2019**
- “Believin’” wins the **Filmmaker’s Favorite Award**, the Chain Film Festival, 2019, travels to film festivals across the U.S.
- *The Golden Age of Kali* Feature Screenplay–**Semi-Finalist in the Rhode Island International Film Festival, Top 20% at the Austin Film Festival, and a Quarter Finalist in the PAGE Awards, 2017-2019**
- “Painting Seventeen” **Finalist, Short+Sweet Festival, Australia, 2017**
- “A Visit to the Bronx” **Commission at The Keller Theatre for a September, 2013, production in Giessen, Germany** and **Finalist, Aery Theatre Company, 2014**
- *Sharon’s Shorts* Producer/Writer of Five Short Plays in the Planet Connections Festival; many nominations, “Painting Seventeen” wins **Best Short Play, 2013**

*For reviews, interviews, videos, and more, please visit: [www.sharonecooper.com](http://www.sharonecooper.com)  
[www.maximumpotentialeducation.com](http://www.maximumpotentialeducation.com)*