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# Beyond the PDF

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# **BEYOND THE PDF:**

Evolving ETD Practices and Policies  
to Support the Next Generation  
of Student Work

Heidi Arbisi-Kelm, Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs  
Graduate College, University of Iowa

Believing Remembering

them plays within plays | fate/foreshadowing

parallels foils | birthings midwifery | less

humor | black/white | govt/pol | Bryan Stevenson

Mercy - Bryan Stevenson

new | Tim Crow | Pride | Hated





*Walking Elements*

*2007 '92*





**INJUSTICE ON**



**WAGE  
THEFT**

**OUR PLATES**













## DREAMer, community activist set to claim MFA

Jeff Charis-Carlson, [jcharisc@press-citizen.com](mailto:jcharisc@press-citizen.com)

Published 3:12 p.m. CT Dec. 15, 2015 | Updated 12:53 p.m. CT Dec. 16, 2015



MORE STORIES



**Photos:**  
the UI m...  
March 15,



**School**  
school p...  
March 14,





Christine Augspurger  
*Trance: An Album-Length Recording  
for Solo Percussion and Electronics*

How do we  
capture  
**the most  
representative  
form or example**  
of the work completed?

# OUR JOURNEY

- What set us in motion?
- Where did we start?
- Challenges, Lessons, and Firsts

**What set us in motion?**

**THE NEWLY COMPOSED PhD:  
WRITING ACROSS CAREERS**


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THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA



**next**  
generation  
Humanities PhD

#nextgenPhd  Humanities  
1975 2025

A black and white photograph of a man in silhouette standing at a podium, speaking into a microphone. Behind him is a large projection screen. The screen is divided into two sections. The left section shows a close-up of handwritten text in cursive. The right section contains the title 'A NextGen PhD' and the speaker's name and affiliation. A single light fixture is visible on the ceiling above the screen.

# A NextGen PhD

Sarah E. Bond  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Classics  
University of Iowa  
@SarahEBond

***SAVE THE DATE***

***03/15/2018***

**BEYOND THE PDF:  
PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE  
OF THE DISSERTATION**

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A one-day mini-conference offered by the University of Iowa Graduate College & Libraries, and sponsored by ProQuest



A woman in a dark tank top and jeans stands on a stage with her arms outstretched. Behind her, a large screen displays a power plant or industrial facility. To her right, a man in a dark t-shirt and pants stands with his hands near his chest. To her left, another person is partially visible. The scene is lit with a blue hue.

How do  
we **collect**  
a new generation of  
student work?

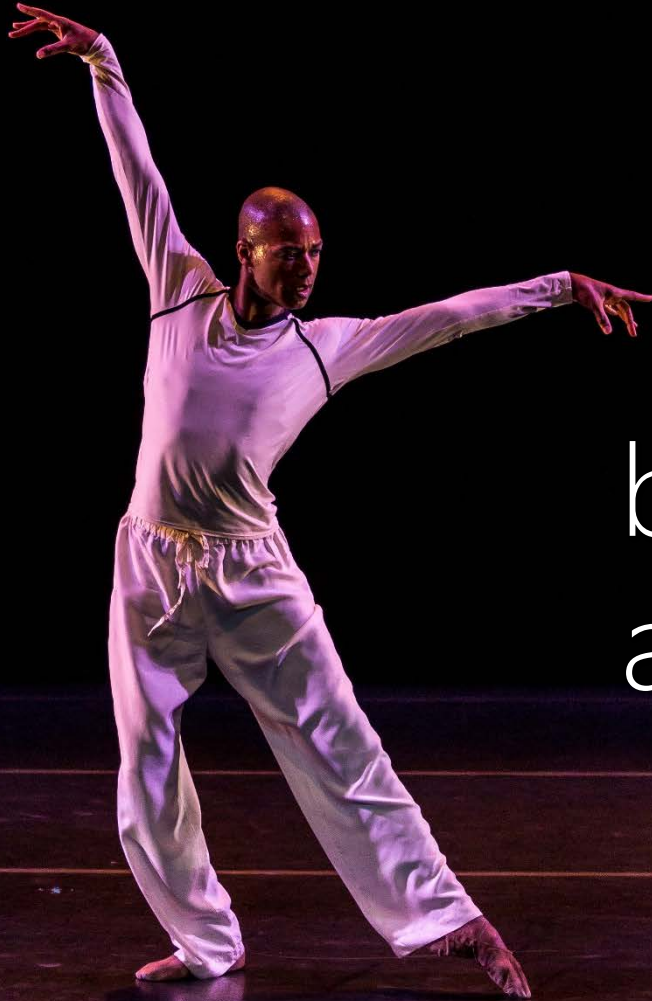
Alexandra Bush  
*Spark and Ruin: a Story of Re-beginning*



How do  
we capture  
**the most**

**representative  
form or example**  
of the work completed?

What issues,  
**such as copyright,**  
are introduced when  
creative works  
become publically  
available?



**Ramon Flowers**

Music: Original music and arrangements by Joseph Norman,  
"Strange Fruit," Billie Holiday, "Blood on the Leaves," Kanye West, "Rafiki," Bob Holroyd

# IOWA FINE ARTS

history and future



# IOWA FINE ARTS

changing the future

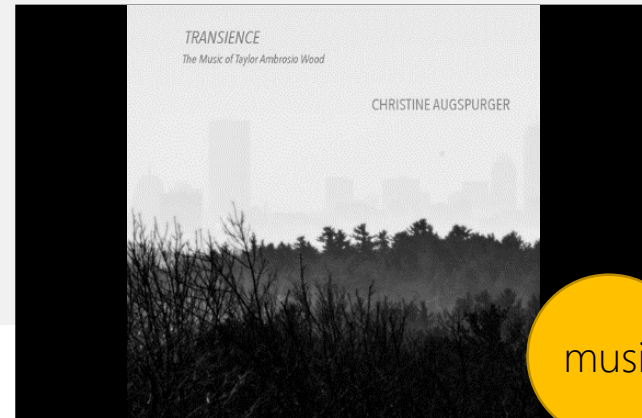
dance



theatre



music



# LESSON LEARNED

What is the **GAP** between  
what students **produce**  
and what you **collect**?

# LESSONS LEARNED

*Collection and Preservation*  
standards  
for THE PUBLIC GOOD

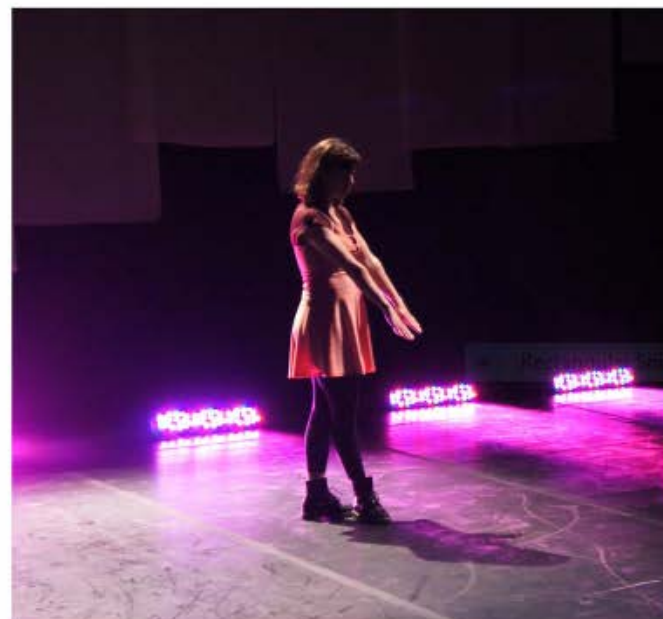
# LESSON LEARNED

How can *Graduate Colleges*  
and *Institutional Repositories*  
work together?



# LESSONS LEARNED

What Constitutes  
the Thesis?



*Interrupted*  
Lighting Design  
Thayer Theatre | December 2015



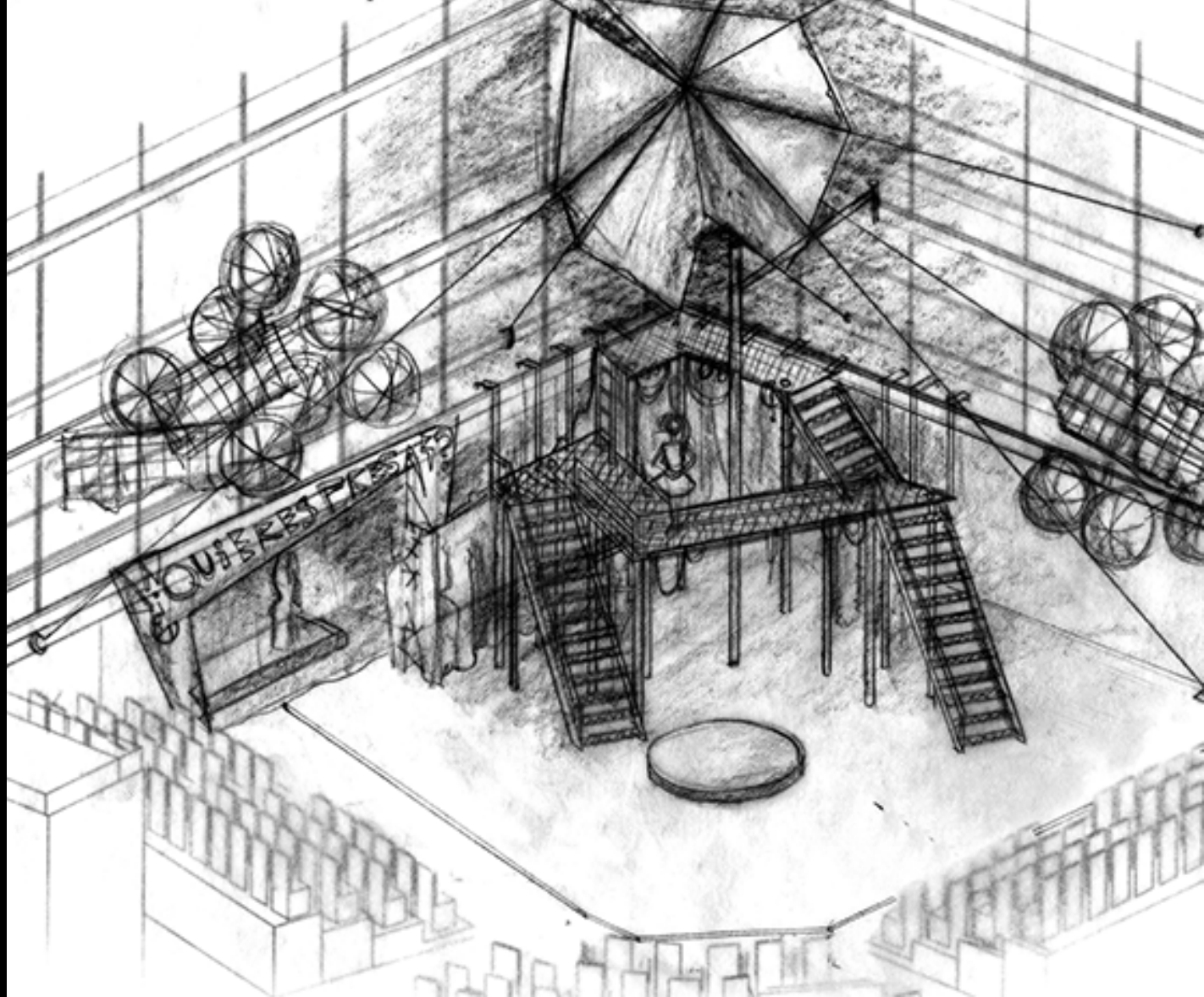
A product of a collaborative performance course, *Interrupted* was a meditation on life's unexpected occurrences. A multimedia performance that united elements of dance, theatre, projection, composition and installation art, *Interrupted* took shape in a series of vignettes that overlapped each other in an attempt to embody the spirit of interruption.

The lighting design for *Interrupted* was a collision of theatre, dance and experimental techniques. At one moment, we could be sitting in a look befitting of a runway show only to snap into a work light wash because the janitor came in at the wrong moment, taking us into his chapter. The glue that held what could have easily been an amalgamation of ill-fitting parts was held together by exactly what one would expect to be the downfall: complete inconsistency. An interruption of one vignette reset the world and revealed an opportunity to revel in new information while the ghost of the previous scene pangs in our ears, unfulfilled.

The collaboration process on *Interrupted* was very challenging. Impetus for a devised piece generally comes from artists of a like mind that agree on a story they are all interested in telling. In a class setting, this becomes a challenge because every student comes from a different angle and being the voice of reason and direction can be overwhelming. However, being a designer in this situation allows you to see a patchwork where others see disparity. This skill is not only useful, it is indispensable to the craft of design.

## Design Portfolios

- Come & Go
- GIRL: A Labyrinth Dark
- Hattie Mae's Juke Joint
- Hello, Dolly!
- Interrupted
- Iphegenia Crash Land Falls on the Neon Shell That was Once her Heart (a rave fable)
- Mr. Burns, a post-electric play
- SOFA 2015
- squeeze: A Motel Play
- The Crucible
- Vanta and Sonia and Masha and Spike



Alex Casillas, *Iphegenia Crash Land Falls on the Neon Shell That was Once her Heart (a rave fable)*

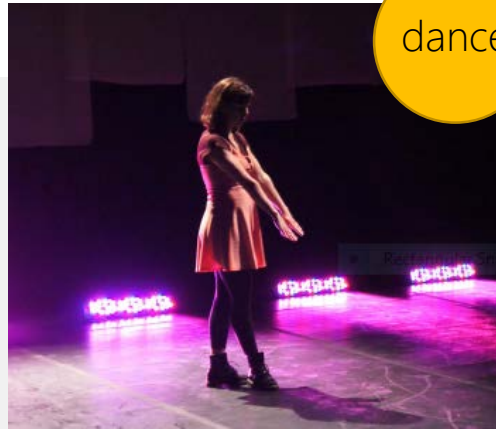
# LESSONS LEARNED

The PDF will PERSIST

# IOWA FINE ARTS

changing the future

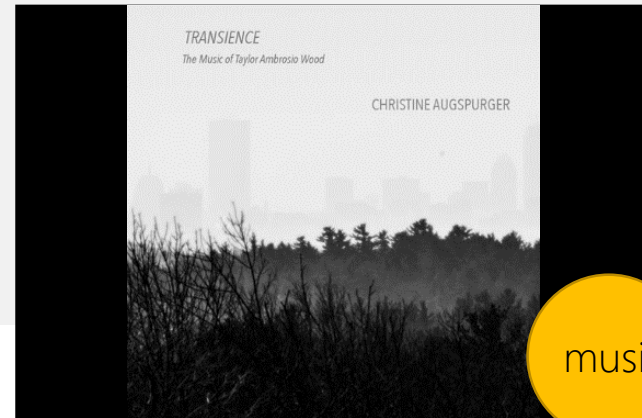
dance



theatre



music





**FIRSTS**

**O**

**W**

**A**

# DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP



GIS/Mapping



Digital Archiving



Data Visualization



Digital Exhibits



Textual Analysis



Podcasts

In spring 2019 we collected our **first borne-digital dissertation** entitled:  
**Remapping and Visualizing Baseball Labor: A Digital Humanities Project**  
by **University of Iowa doctoral student Katie Walden**



# LESSONS LEARNED

Process  
vs.  
Product

The  
Future  
of the  
Dissertation is  
**NOW**

# LESSONS LEARNED

Digital Object  
Identifiers  
(DOIs)

# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

- Collection standards for preservation and the public good
- Graduate College and Library are teammates
- Revamped infrastructure
- Redeveloped workflows

# OUR NEXT STEPS

- Campus guidelines
- What is the thesis?

# Getting Started

- What is the **GAP** between creation & collection?
- How do we **work together**?
- What **constitutes** the thesis?
- What is the **role of narrative content**?
- What are **copyright issues with** creative works?
- What new **policies and practices** are needed?
- How does your **workflow allow** or **inhibit** collection of non-monographic works?

# RESOURCES

- [Blog for NextGen PHD Grant at Iowa](#)
- [Beyond the PDF meeting website](#)
- [Beyond the PDF webinar](#)
- [Alexandra Casillas IR ETD and Online Portfolio](#)
- [Digital Object Identifiers](#) (DOIs) in an IR Record and DMA Essay Manuscript