



# AYSHA ZACKRIA

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• DRAMATIST • WRITER • MUSICIAN •

## SELECT DRAMATURGICAL EXPERIENCE

*You on the Moors Now* at Carnegie Mellon — *Dramaturg* (2023)

- Developed a resource website to house play analysis, script glossary, and scholarly resources
- Supported actors and designers with research materials and presence in the rehearsal room
- Designed and constructed a lobby display in the form of a satirical museum exhibit, comprised of real and imagined historical moments
- Wrote a program note to orient the audience's prior knowledge within the world of the play

*Lovewell Institute for the Creative Arts* — *Script Editor* (2020-Present)

- Guided high school students through the process of devising a script
- Outlined, edited, and formatted scripts during creation
- Taught about elements of a play: story structure, character, and theme

## SELECT WRITING EXPERIENCE

*Pillow Fortress* at Carnegie Mellon — *Playwright* (2023)

- Wrote a one act play about college students' perception of the United States carceral system
- Produced and sound designed for CMU's annual play festival

*"Dragon Ladies and Desi Dorks"* — *Author* (2023)

- Created a zine on how to spot stereotypical or underdeveloped Asian-American characters drawing from Critical Race Media Literacy tenets
- Distributed 350 copies around campus, in addition to it being featured by @jadedpgh on Instagram and displayed in San Lorenzo Library

*Proximity* at Carnegie Mellon — *Playwright* (2022)

- Wrote a 15 minute play about Clara Rockmore, the first virtuoso of the newly-invented theremin
- Acquired funding and venue in collaboration with The Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for Creative Inquiry and Carnegie Mellon's School of Music
- Read an excerpt at City Theatre's Momentum Festival

*Natural Law* at Carnegie Mellon — *Co-Adaptor* (2019)

- Wrote, in conversation with a fellow CMU student, a one act play comprised of found language from the Brett Kavanaugh and Clarence Thomas hearings
- Produced with a 13 person creative team and 12 person cast

## EDUCATION

**Carnegie Mellon University**

Degree: BFA in Dramaturgy

Minors: Sonic Arts, English

Literature and Culture

Expected graduation: May 2024

## LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Library Student Advisory Council  
(2023-2024)

Thrifty Mellon Secretary (2023-2024)

Scotch'n'Soda Theatre Historian  
(2022-2023)

Selection Committee for CMU's  
Playground Festival (2021, 2023)

Student Respondent for CMU's Anti-  
Racist Theatre Faculty Search (2022)

## AWARDS

**Kennedy Center American College  
Theater Festival Region 2**

LMDA/KCACTF Student Dramaturgy  
Award (2024)

**Carnegie Mellon University**

Andrew Carnegie Society Scholar  
(2023-2024)

**Horizon Theatre Company**

New South Young Playwrights  
Festival Play Commission (2022)

**The Frank-Ratchye STUDIO for  
Creative Inquiry**

Art @ the Frontier Microgrant (2022)

**Miami Herald**

Silver Knight Award in English (2019)