

**Aishah Rahman  
Literary Arts  
Box 1923  
Providence RI 02906**

## **EDUCATION**

**Goddard College, Playwriting and Dramatic Literature, MA 1985**

**Howard University, B.S. Political Science 1965**

## **ACADEMIC POSITIONS:**

**Professor of English Brown University 1997-present**

**Associate Professor of English Brown University 1994-1997**

**Visiting Assistant Professor Brown University 1992-1994**

**Assistant Professor Nassau Community College 1982-1994**

**Adjunct Assistant Professor, Columbia University School of the Arts**

## **AWARDS/GRANTS/ RESIDENCIES (Partial List)**

**RISCA Playwriting Fellow 2004 (MINGUS TAKES 3)**

**The Best of the Best Titles of University Presses 2002 (CHEWED WATER**

**Best Book for Understanding New York City Associated American University Press.**

**(CHEWED WATER 2003**

**CHEWED WATER Selected for Public and secondary School Libraries**

**Association of School Libraries and the small and medium Library Committee of the**

**Public Library Association 2003**

**MacDowell Colony Fellow 1992**

**Yaddo Colony Fellow 1992**

**Barbara Deming Memorial Fund for Women 1991**

**Theatre Communications Group Grant for A TALE OF MADAME ZORA 1990**

**Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship for American Playwrights, cited "for proven talent, sustained dedication to work in the theatre and current productivity" 1989 1990**

**New York Foundation of the Arts Playwriting Fellowship, 1988 Massachusetts**

**Review Award for "THE MOJO AND THE SAYSO**

**Audelco Award for Outstanding Musical Tale of Madame Zora 1986**

## **COMPLETED WORKS**

**IF ONLY WE KNEW 2003 (one act)**

**UPTOWN! 2003 (one act)**

**SPEAKER'S HEAD 2003 (one act)**

**CHEWED WATER 2001 (memoir)**

**CHIAROSCURO (A Light & Dark Comedy) 2000**

**ONLY IN AMERICA 1996**

**ANYBODY SEEN MARIE LAVEAU? (Libretto)**

**THE MOJO AND THE SAYSO 1987**

**THE TALE OF MADAME ZORA 1985**

**UNFINISHED WOMEN CRY IN NO MANS LAND WHILE A BIRD Dies In  
A GILDED CAGE 1979**

**THE LADY AND THE TRAMP 1977 (one Act)**

**TRANSCENDENTAL BLUES 1977 (one Act)**

**LADY DAY: A MUSICAL TRAGEDY 1972**

## **WORKS IN PROGRESS**

**INTERNAL EXILES (Novel)**

**YEABO (documentary film)**

**Pffsst (drama)**

## **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

**CHEWED WATER (memoir) University Press of New England 2001**

**Plays by Aishah Rahman , Broadway Play Publishers, February 1997**

**THE MOJO AND THE SAYSO Black Theatre USA 1847-Present, Ted Shine & Jam  
Hatch eds., The Free Press 1996**

**THE MOJO AND THE SAYSO , Moon Marked and Touched by Sun (plays by  
African American Women, Sydne Mahone, ed. Theatre Communications Group  
Publishers 1994**

**THE MOJO AND THE SAYSO Broadway Play Publishers 1990**

**THE MOJO AND THE SAYSO in Process Theatre Communications Group, 1989**

**THE MOJO AND THE SAYSO One Hundred Women's Stage From 1989 Beard, ed., Krause Publishers 1990**

**THE MOJO AND THE SAYSO One Hundred Men's Stage Monologues, Beard, ed. Krause Publishers, 1990**

**THE MOJO AND THE SAYSO Massachusetts Review Winter 1987**

**UNFINISHED WOMEN CRY IN NO MAN'S LAND WHILE A BIRD DIES IN A**

**GILDED CAGE Nine Plays by Black Women, M. Wilkerson, ed New American Library 1986**

**SELECTED PRODUCTIONS AND READINGS 2005-1990**

**nfinished Women Out Yonda Theatre-Albuquerque New Mexico 2005**  
**International Performances of song "I Know About The Life" from Lady Day A Musical Tragedy by Aishah Rahman as reported by ASCAP:**  
**Britain Jan-March 05 (television)**  
**Britain-Jan-March 05 (TV Film/Series)**  
**Sweden January 05 (cinema)**

**CHEWED WATER STUDIO MUSEUM OF HARLEM 2001**

**CHEWED WATER NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY 2002**

**CHEWED WATER' ZORA HOUSE SALON 2003**

**MINGUS TAKES (3) Premiere Production at Perishable Theatre 2003**

**CHIAROSCURO A LIGHT (AND DARK) COMEDY stage reading at Providence Black Repertory Co. Providence RI 1999**

**CHIAROSCURO A LIGHT (AND DARK) COMEDY workshop production at Judith Anderson Theatre. NYC Produced by Blackberry Productions 2000**

**ANYBODY SEEN MARIE LAVEAU? Concert Reading, New Works Lab of New England Theatrical Consortium at U. Mass, Amherst. (equity production) 1999**

**ONLY IN AMERICA premiere production Perishable Theatre 1997**

**ONLY IN AMERICA produced at the National Black Theatre Conference, North Carolina 1997 (equity Production)**

**UNFINISHED WOMEN, Performing Arts Center of the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa 1995-1996**

**THE MOJO AND THE SAYSO, Staged reading at Hartford Stage Co. 1994 (Equity Production)**

**ONLY IN AMERICA Staged reading at the New York Public Theatre, March 1994 (Equity Production)**

**THE MOJO AND THE SAYSO. Chicago Theatre Company 1994 (Equity Production)**

**UNFINISHED WOMEN , Penumbra Theatre 1990**

**THE TALE OF MADAME ZORA workshop production at Playwrights Horizon School sponsored by Northlight Theatre (equity Production 1991**

**SELECTED LECTURES, PANELS RESIDENCIES (2002-1990)**

**Panelist, Brecht Forum NY/c-The State of Black Theatre Conference 2005**

**Panelist Yari Yari Conference of Black Female Writers-Africana Studies NYU-2004**

**Panelist Ninth Conference On The Book at Oxford, Mississippi 2002**

**Panelist Black Women Writers and the Future, An International Conference on Literature by Women of African Decent –Africana Studies Program New York University. 1997**

**Guest lecturer University of Houston, 1996**

**Panelist Home in the Imagination of Black Women Artists NYU Africana Studies at the Institute of Afro-American Affairs**

**Panelist on African American Playwrights at New York Public Theatre Sponsored by Crossroads Theatre 1994**

**Multi Ethnic Reading Writing and Performance invited guest artist and keynote speaker at Theatre Conference at St. Lawrence University, 1992**

**Growing up Black, Female and Playwriting delivered at Hunter College. Invited participant in the Black Issues Lecture Series, 1991**

**Panelists on “Playwrights at Brown University” during Parent’s Weekend Communicating the Ethnic Experience delivered at On Common Ground, A Celebration of Our Cultural Diversity , a conference at Nassau Community College, December 4, 1990.**

**Non Traditional Casting-Asians in America radio show on WHPC FM(90.3 re Asian Hispanic and Black actors and writers 1992**

#### **SELECTED ADJUDICATION (2005-1990)**

**MacArthur Fellowship Playwright Nominee Evaluator-2005**

**Schomburg Library Scholars-in-Residence Applicant Evaluator 2005**

**Howard Fellowship in Playwriting 2000**

**Scholar in Residence and Advisor to Perishable Theatres Women Playwriting Festival 1995-1997**

**Massachusetts Council for the Arts Playwriting Panel 1996**

**Advisor for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Playwrights 1993-94**

**Advisor for Intiman Theatre’s New Voices Festival 1993**

**New York Foundation for the Arts Playwriting/Screenwriting Panel 1990**

#### **SELECTED THEATRE AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE 2005-1990**

**Frederick Douglass Creative Arts Playwriting Advisor**

**Faculty Producer New Plays for a New Audience Brown University -18 plays produced plus staged readings, adjudication, selection of director/playwright teams supervision of stage readings, rewrites dramaturgy and critiques. 1993-1997**

**Henry Street Settlement Women’s Playwriting Workshop Director. Produced annual workshop playwrights festival at the New Federal Theatre. Dramaturg and production coordinator for 5-7 plays annually. 1985-1990**

**Editor and co-founder of NuMuse, an annual Journal of New Plays from Brown University with national subscribership from both the theatre and academic community. 1994-1998.**

**Artistic Director and Co-founder of Blackberry Productions, a theatrical production company specializing in school, prison and hospital audience. Supervision and consultant for development of special audience scripts –1985-2000**

#### **TEACHING INTERESTS:**

**Graduate Playwriting, American Political Drama Advanced Screenwriting, Global Women In The Independent Cinema Movement, Tracing Dramatic and Cinematic Narratives From Stage to Screen, Plays of the Black Arts Movement 1960-1975**

**Plays in African Diaspora of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Honors & Capstone & MFA Theses.**