

Special Event:

## Join Us For An Evening with Professor Ellen W. Kaplan

Supported by the Robert Black College Outstanding Visiting Fellows Scheme



We are honoured to welcome back to HKU, Professor Ellen W. Kaplan, Distinguished Writer-in-Residence and Visiting Fellow at Robert Black College and the HKU Black Box.

Ellen W. Kaplan is Professor of Acting and Directing at Smith College, as well as an award winning playwright. She will join guests at Robert Black College for an informal Q & A to share her considerable and internationally renowned work in the fields of theatre and writing.

### Event Details:

Date: Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016

Time: 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Venue: Swire Lounge, Robert Black College

Refreshments will be served

Space is limited. Please [click here](#) to register.

### About the Speaker

Ellen W. Kaplan is Professor of Acting and Directing at Smith College, and was a Fulbright Scholar in Costa Rica, Romania and Hong Kong. She performs and directs internationally, and has been guest professor at Tel Aviv University, the University of Hong Kong, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, University of Costa Rica, and the University of Theatre and Film in Bucharest, Romania. She appeared as Silda in New Century Theatre's production of *Other Desert Cities*, and performed with Estela Harretche in David de Sola's *La Nieta del Dictador* (which she also translated), touring to Puerto Rico, Ohio and Massachusetts. Currently, she is working again with Argentinian actress and Smith Professor of Spanish, Estela Harretche, to translate and perform *La Razon Blindada* by Aristedes Vargas, in English and Spanish. Her acting includes *Inhabited 98*, which won a prestigious BESSIE Award, and playing Gloucester in *King Lear* with Kristen Linklater. She has directed, among many plays, *After Mrs. Rochester* by Polly Teale, and *Saul Bellow: Stories on Stage*, at The Egg in Albany, NY.

Professor Kaplan is also a playwright. Her award-winning play, *Pulling Apart*, was a 2004 finalist for the O'Neill Playwrights Conference. Other plays have been performed at Theatre Matrix/Los Angeles, the Cleveland Public Theatre, Meredith College in Raleigh, NC, in Northampton, MA, and, internationally, in Galway, Ireland, the Jewish State Theatre of Bucharest, and in Jerusalem. Most recently her work, *Cast No Shadow*, was presented in Orlando, Florida. Focused on the legacies of the Holocaust, this play premiered at the Jewish State Theater of Bucharest. *Pulling Apart*, about the second intifada, was a finalist for the O'Neill Playwrights Conference; produced in New Haven, Connecticut, it won a Moss Hart Award. Her plays were twice named as finalists for the Massachusetts Playwriting Fellowship. Her most recent play, *Someone Is Sure to Come*, combines voices from men and women on Death Row, and will be presented in New York City in fall 2016.

Among her many publications are included creative nonfiction pieces in *Our Lives: An Anthology of Jewish Women's Writing* and *Beauty of the Story*. She is co-editor of *Images of Mental Illness through Text and Performance* and author of several articles on international theatre, including an essay in Spanish on the work of playwright Nora Glickman, published in Buenos Aires in 2006. Her poetry includes work in *Deronda Review*, *Songs of Eretz*, *MomEgg*, among many others. She has recently written a memoir, *The Violet Hours*.