Theatre History Focus Group CFP
Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) Conference
August 5-8, 2021; Austin, TX and Online

ATHE’s Theatre History Focus Group (THFG) invites proposals for papers and panels dealing with the scholarship and pedagogy of theatre history for next year’s hybrid conference in Austin, TX and online (panels will be asked to determine whether they will be online or in person by April 1).

Submission Deadlines (later than normal this year):
● November 1 - Abstracts for individual papers seeking panels via https://forms.gle/UANaTwZ5AV9QVAbVA
● December 1 – Full panel proposals via the ATHE online form at http://www.athe.org

Conference Theme:
https://www.athe.org/page/21conf_home

This year’s theme, Re:ATHE, asks us to turn our attention inward to address our historic shortcomings as well as the roles we can play during the many crises currently confronting the US and the world. The call also invites us to explore the prefix “re” and its significance in words like ‘Reclaim,’ ‘Redesign,’ ‘Revolt,’ and ‘Recover.’ The THFG invites proposals for panels, roundtables, performances, workshops, and other session events that engage with these ideas.

Sessions might address:
● The rewriting and reframing of narratives surrounding specific moments in theatre history
● Theatre’s resilience (or not?) in times of crisis
● Times when theatre has resisted or revolted against injustice and dominant power structures
● The recovery of histories of marginalized figures, works, and traditions and/or their restoration to significant places in the theatrical canon
● How theatre has been used to remember and reckon with historical traumas
● The ways particular moments in theatre history have resonated or reverberated through time, helping to shape the work that came after them.
● How we have worked to renew and refresh our pedagogy to incorporate new topics, methodologies, and commitments
● Explorations of ATHE itself and particularly Theatre History’s role within

We also invite papers that do not directly reference the conference theme but that reflect the scholarly and pedagogical focus of Theatre History Focus Group. THFG is
committed to giving voice to a diversity of methodological approaches and geographical emphases, including submissions incorporating approaches that emphasize inter/trans-national and inter/trans-cultural exchanges in performance texts, process, or production.

**Individual Papers:**
Only completed panels (with all presenters assembled) may be submitted to ATHE. However, we are happy to help make connections between people who have papers but not panels. Simply submit your abstract using the Google form at [https://forms.gle/UANaTwZ5AV9QVAbVA](https://forms.gle/UANaTwZ5AV9QVAbVA) by November 1. We will group related papers together and put you in touch. We will also walk you through how to put together and submit a panel proposal to ATHE by the December 1 deadline.

**Multidisciplinary Sessions:**
If your session addresses theatre history but is also appropriate for another Focus Group, you may select THFG as one of your 2 Focus Groups for an MD panel. Please contact the conference planners for each of the targeted Focus Groups before submitting the panel. MD proposals are ranked by each of their designated Focus Groups.

**Communication Within the FG**
To find panelists or just connect with other members of the focus group, try the THFG Google Group (email eowicki@indiana.edu to be added) and/or Facebook page ([https://www.facebook.com/ATHE-Theatre-History-Focus-Group-14846138572077](https://www.facebook.com/ATHE-Theatre-History-Focus-Group-14846138572077)).

Questions? Contact THFG Conference Planner Eleanor Owicki at eowicki@indiana.edu