Call for Papers: Theory and Criticism Focus Group—ATHE 2022 Conference

Rehearsing the Possible: Practicing Reparative Creativity
Detroit, MI | July 28–July 31, 2022

Please send questions to Theory and Criticism Conference Planner:
Abby Schroering (abby.schroering@gmail.com)

Call for Proposals for Curated Panels and
Call for Complete Session Proposals
Sponsored by the Theory and Criticism Focus Group

Curated Session Proposals: DEADLINE Monday, November 22
We seek individual proposals to present on curated panels. Please direct these submissions to the organizer of the panel to which you are applying.

1. Cite Better–A Lightning Roundtable Amplification of Theorists You Should be Citing: As a field we have come to recognize the dire need to expand our citation pool. Too often, theory and criticism privilege the same voices, overwhelmingly male, overwhelmingly white. For this panel we seek presenters to give short spotlights to BIPOC women theorists and women theorists of the global majority who we may not have learned about in graduate school. For this roundtable we invite members to share lightning fast introductions to scholars they want to make sure the rest of us know about. Presenters will be asked to speak for no more than 3 minutes about an individual theorist and to submit a short thumbnail summary of that theorist prior to the conference for distribution to all in attendance. Panelists may present on more than one theorist if they wish.
   Contact: Abby Schroering, abby.schroering@gmail.com

2. Growing In Detroit: Artistic expression and experimentation thrive in Detroit. This panel seeks scholarship and criticism dedicated to amplifying work in Detroit and/or by Detroit-based artists, past and present.
   Contact: Abby Schroering, abby.schroering@gmail.com

Complete Session Proposals
We also seek complete session proposals (with all presenters confirmed) for the 2021 conference that include a broad range of theoretical/critical interrogations and applications based on the theme of “Rehearsing the Possible: Practicing Reparative Creativity.” We encourage multidisciplinary dialogues across the fields of performance scholarship and praxis. We also seek participants from a variety of focus group affiliations.

The Theory and Criticism Focus Group supports broad definitions of criticism and performance, and therefore encourages a wide range of examples and topics. Feel free to explore both historical and contemporary critics and theorists, in popular culture, academic scholarship, and performance praxis. Panel proposals that engage scholarly conversation in creative ways are highly encouraged.

Complete session proposals (separate from the Roundtable Series) should be submitted directly to the ATHE website (www.athe.org). You must have the names for all participants ready for the proposal. The website includes submission information and forms. The session proposal deadline is December 1, 2021.
Please Note:

- Individuals do not need to be a member of the Theory and Criticism Focus Group or ATHE to submit single presentations or panels. However, if chosen and scheduled, participants must become members of ATHE by the time of the conference.
- Single Focus Group Sessions can address questions to the conference planner (abby.schroering@gmail.com) before submitting their proposal.
- Multidisciplinary proposals must be authorized by TWO sponsoring ATHE focus groups. Email and get authorization from each focus group’s conference planner before submitting.
- For more detailed information, see the ATHE website.
- If you have an individually-authored paper that you would like to present but does not fit in the roundtables series or the curated panels, please email an abstract to Abby Schroering (abby.schroering@gmail.com) before the December 1st deadline and she will help it find a home.

*THREE TIPS FOR FIRST-TIME PANEL ASSEMBLERS*

- Consider inviting panelists with a range of theatrical perspectives and backgrounds.
- Conference panels can be helpful networking tools. Instead of assembling a panel of only your cohort-mates, consider inviting a senior scholar whose work you've cited recently. Clearly and briefly explain the core idea of the proposal, the reason you’re inviting them, and ask if they’re working on anything they’d like to present.
- Alternatively, it can be helpful to give panelists clear options: “Dear senior scholar, I am putting together a panel on [X]. I greatly admire your work on [X-related] and would love for you to present in this area. Of course, we would be thrilled with whatever you would like to contribute, but please consider that you might do A, B, or C.”