Spectacle: Balancing Education, Theory, and Praxis

In Poetics, Aristotle ranks spectacle last among his six constituent elements of drama, privileging the poetic over the visual, claiming that spectacle “stirs the emotions” yet “is less a matter of art than the others.” (GRUBE) In the millennia since, countless artists and scholars have championed the aesthetics of theatre and stood in defense of spectacle. Nevertheless, a bias persists.

The 2017 ATHE Conference Committee invites you to join us in Las Vegas, Nevada for an examination of the role of spectacle in theatre practice, scholarship, and pedagogy. What opportunities do an emphasis on spectacle present to us as artists, scholars, theorists, and educators? Does a spectacle-driven theatre lead us away from Aristotle’s aims, or do we find that enhanced spectacle serves to support and strengthen plot, character, thought, diction, and music? How have certain bodies been made spectacular? How does the use of spectacle highlight or obscure the politics of performance, representation, and staging? What ethical and political responsibilities must artists, scholars, and activists negotiate when employing spectacle in performance, design, scholarship, and/or dramaturgy?

Las Vegas, as a backdrop, provides us with an opportunity to engage these and other questions. Las Vegas is a manmade oasis — with its sparkling lights and colorful facades — standing in stark contrast to the harsh desert that surrounds it. The self-proclaimed “Entertainment Capital of the World,” the city attracts over 42 million visitors annually. Las Vegas is where a reconstructed Caesar’s Palace stands only steps from a replica Eiffel Tower, the likes of Elvis and the Jersey Boys perform nightly, international circus artists dazzle multiple times a night, and mere mortals like Celine Dion and Jennifer Lopez rise to god-like status. In addition to its for-profit theatre scene, Las Vegas has a vibrant nonprofit performing arts community ranging from theatre for young audiences to experimental new works to repertory dance theatre. Eclectic and diverse, this community of artists, both professional and amateur, co-exists and even thrives.

Does what happens in Vegas truly stay in Vegas, or does it have a greater impact on theatrical performances worldwide? Is Vegas an isolated city in the desert, or is Vegas everywhere? Join us at ATHE 2017 to find out.

2017 Conference Committee

- Alicia Tafoya, Vice President for Conference 2017, Northwest Vista College and Our Lady of the Lake University
- Carlos Cruz, University of North Carolina
- Kelsey Fisher, Texas Tech University
- Baron Kelly, University of Louisville
- Ruth Palileo, Current Theatrics
- Barbara Parisi, Long Island University
- Tom Robson, Millikin University
- Ann Shanahan, Loyola University
- Chase Waites, Lone Star College-Montgomery
- Greg White, University of Central Oklahoma
- Harvey Young, Northwestern University
- Patricia Ybarra, ATHE President, ex officio member Brown University
- Erin Babarskis, ATHE Conference Planner
- Eric Ewald, ATHE Executive Director
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

First Name ___________________________ Last Name ___________________________

Preferred Name (For Name Badge) ___________________________

Organization ____________________________________________________________

Address ________________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip ___________________________________________________________

Phone ___________________________ Email ________________________________

Name of Partner/Spouse/S.O. (Registering Partner/Spouse/S.O. must complete a separate Registration Form; Partner/Spouse/S.O. Rate is only available for Partner/Spouse/S.O. whose partner is registered for conference) ___________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Early Bird</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>One Day</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 9 - June 15</td>
<td>June 16 - August 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full Time Member</td>
<td>☐ $365</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part Time Member</td>
<td>☐ $275</td>
<td>☐ $295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Organization Member</td>
<td>☐ $345</td>
<td>☐ $365</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student/Retired Member</td>
<td>☐ $185</td>
<td>☐ $205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjunct Faculty</td>
<td>☐ $185</td>
<td>☐ $205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Member</td>
<td>☐ $465</td>
<td>☐ $505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner/Spouse/S.O.</td>
<td>☐ $335</td>
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Online registration is available through August 2, 2017. Onsite registration is available from August 3-6.

**There will be a $20 administrative fee for all onsite registrations during conference.**

Workshops & Tours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caitlin Graham Grad Student Paid Workshop (2909)</td>
<td>Friday, August 4, 2017</td>
<td>8:00 AM - 11:15 AM</td>
<td>Free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cirque Mechanics - Paid Workshop (2916)</td>
<td>Friday, August 4, 2017</td>
<td>2:15 PM - 5:30 PM</td>
<td>$30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cirque Mechanics - Tour &amp; Performance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cirque du Soleil Tour - KA</td>
<td>Sunday, August 6, 2017</td>
<td>3:00 PM - 4:00 PM</td>
<td>SOLD OUT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cirque du Soleil Tour - O</td>
<td>Friday, August 4, 2017</td>
<td>10:00 AM - 11:00 AM</td>
<td>SOLD OUT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>La Chica Boom Paid Workshop (2917) - Xandra Ibarra</td>
<td>Friday, August 4, 2017</td>
<td>2:15 PM - 5:30 PM</td>
<td>$35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tectonic Theatre Project - Moment Work Workshop 1 - Paid Workshop (2903)</td>
<td>Thursday, August 3, 2017</td>
<td>1:30 PM - 4:45 PM</td>
<td>SOLD OUT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tectonic Theatre Project - Moment Work Workshop 2 - Paid Workshop (2909)</td>
<td>Friday, August 4, 2017</td>
<td>8:00 AM - 11:15 AM</td>
<td>SOLD OUT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tony Walton Creative Collaboration Paid Workshop (2915)</td>
<td>Friday, August 4, 2017</td>
<td>8:00 AM - 11:00 AM</td>
<td>$25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony Walton &quot;My Fair Lady Revival: Creating Ascot on a Flower Girl Budget&quot; Paid Workshop (2932)</td>
<td>Saturday, August 5, 2017</td>
<td>2:45 PM - 6:00 PM</td>
<td>$25</td>
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<tr>
<td>What a Drag! - Corey Martin Paid Workshop (2931)</td>
<td>Saturday, August 5, 2017</td>
<td>2:45 PM - 6:00 PM</td>
<td>$30</td>
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Focus Group Pre-Conferences

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acting Focus Group Pre-Conference (3609) - &quot;Best Practices&quot; In Applying Acting Pedagogy for the Non-Actor in the Acting Classroom</td>
<td>SOLD OUT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directing Pre-Conference (708) - Staging Spectacle via Spectacular Collaborations</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directing Pre-Conference (708) - Staging Spectacle via Spectacular Collaborations - Includes Optional Show Ticket to LOVE</td>
<td>$88</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Theatre/Dance Pre-Conference (1108) - Opening Doors: Developing a Career in Musical Theatre and Dance in Higher Education</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Optional

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Music Theatre Dance Show Excursion: Ticket to BAZ - Star Crossed Love</td>
<td>Wednesday, August 2, 2017</td>
<td>$64.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music Theatre Dance Show Excursion: Ticket to Cirque du Soleil's KA</td>
<td>Thursday, August 3, 2017</td>
<td>$84.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATHE After Dark</td>
<td>Friday, August 4, 2017</td>
<td>Free</td>
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<tr>
<td>ATHE Enchantment by the Pool</td>
<td>Saturday, August 5, 2017</td>
<td>Free</td>
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</table>
Do you have any accessibility needs?
- Hearing Impaired
- Visually Impaired
- Other ___________

If yes to any of the above, do you require any special accommodations (translator, signer, etc.)?
- Yes
- No

Do you have specific dietary needs?
- Yes
- No

One Day Conference Attendees Only: Which day will you be attending the Conference?
- Thursday, August 3
- Friday, August 4
- Saturday, August 5
- Sunday, August 6

Would you like a mentor, or would you like to be a mentor?
- Yes, I would like a mentor
- Yes, I would like to be a mentor
- No, I would not to be paired with a mentor
- No, I would not like to be a mentor

If you selected to be a mentor or have a mentor, please indicate your top three (3) focus interests:
- Acting Program
- Association for Asian Performance
- Black Theatre Association
- Dramaturgy Program
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer
- Music Theatre/Dance
- Performance Studies
- Senior Theatre Research and Performance
- Theory and Criticism
- Theatre as a Liberal Art
- Voice and Speech Trainers Association

ATHE Conferences Attended
- 0 - This is my first
- 1-5
- 6-10
- 11-15
- 16+

How long have you been an ATHE member?
- 0 - This is my first year
- 1-5
- 6-10
- 11-15
- 16+
Cancellation Policy
Written cancellation notice must be received via fax, mail, or email by July 14, 2017, to receive a refund, minus a $50 administration fee. No refunds will be given after this date.

Prepayment is required.

Photography, Videography & Audio Release
As part of our mission to provide education, best practices and other information from leaders in their fields, speakers, panelists and audience members should be aware that we may record all, or part, of the events we organize, including comments from speakers, panelists and audience members. The resulting raw and edited materials, including still photographs, video and audio recordings, and associated verbatim transcripts, may be used by ATHE, without restriction, in press releases, white papers, conference collateral, web sites and other publications.

By attending our events, you acknowledge that you are in a public place, and that attendees (including ATHE volunteers) may capture your image in photos and videos. Nevertheless, ATHE encourages event attendees to exercise common sense and good judgment, and respect the wishes of other attendees who do not wish to be photographed at the events. ATHE uses photos and videos taken at its events for a variety of purposes, including publication on the ATHE website.

If you see any photos or profiles about yourself on the site that you would like removed, please contact us at 800-918-9216.

Hotel Room Scam: Warning About Housing Pirates
The Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) has learned that several groups have been contacting our members and exhibitors to assist with hotel reservations in Las Vegas for the upcoming 2017 ATHE Annual Conference – Spectacle: Balancing Education, Theory, and Praxis. All room reservations should be made through our official hotel reservation site.

ATHE has sufficient room blocks to accommodate our attendees and exhibitors and at the special ATHE Conference rates. These other groups claim they can get cheaper rates if you book with them. Such companies to avoid, as they are not affiliated with ATHE or the upcoming event in Las Vegas include:

Convention Housing Services, Convention Expo Travel, Elite Corporate Planners, Expo Housing, Exhibition Housing Services, Global Housing Management (GHM Travel), HDMC Group, IEP Group, International Events, Le Company LLC, TradeShow Housing

Should you receive an e-mail or phone call from any of these companies, ATHE STRONGLY RECOMMENDS YOU DO NOT MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION WITH ANY THIRD PARTY VENDOR. If you have already made hotel reservations through an unauthorized vendor, ATHE is unable to guarantee the reservation is valid and recommends that you cancel immediately before you incur charges. There is the potential to be left without a room and to lose money paid in advance if you book through them. A similar scam a few years ago caused several attendees to arrive in San Diego with no hotel room ever booked for them.

Please be assured that ATHE is committed to providing you quality services to make your conference experience a positive one. Should you have any questions or concerns or have booked with a third party, please contact Erin Babarskis, ATHE’s Conference Planner at erinb@athe.org or by calling us at 800-918-9216.