Performance Studies Focus Group Sessions  
and Multi-disciplinary Sessions with PSFG Participation  
ATHE 2012: Performance As/Is Civic Engagement: Advocate, Collaborate, Educate  
Washington, DC

Thursday August 2

1:30-3:00 PM

“The Revolution Will Be Streamed”: The Performance of Protest in the 21st Century

Social media are now utilized to organize and implement political protests, shifting borders between the mediatized and the live within the context of political performance.

Gwendolyn Alker, New York University. “This is no Place for a Baby”: Occupy Wall Street and the Generational Shift in Political Activism.  
Kevin Brown, University of Missouri. The Ecstasy of Politics: The Revolutionary Body in the Age of Technology.  

Chair: Rebecca Schneider, Brown University.  
Location: Concord, Ballroom Level

3:15-4:45PM

Disability Performance, Audiences Procedures

Poetic play with displacement and engagement, with non-normate embodiment and enmindment, at universities and in public, in recent disability performance events in the US.

Petra Kuppers, University of Michigan. The Energies of Participatory Engagement: Contemporary Disability Performance in Public.  
Scott Wallin, University of California, Berkeley. Failed(?) Attempts: Disability and Postdramatic Theater as a Critique of Traditional Practice.  
Victoria Lewis, University of Redlands. Solo/Disabled/Artist: the Exception or the Rule, De-Inspiring Disability on College Campuses.

Location: Concord, Ballroom Level

Friday August 3

11:30 AM-1:00PM

Signs and Community Under the Big Top: Exploring Circus as Civic Engagement

This panel will discuss Paul Bouissac’s text *Semiotics at the Circus* and present position papers regarding the intersection of semiotics, circus performance and civic engagement.

Brian Foley, Arizona State University. Circus Grip: Virtuosity as Catalyst for Acceptance and
Community Building Inside and Beyond the Circus Ring.
Paul Miller, Circus Mojo. Juggling the Juvenile Justice System.

Location: Regency B, Ballroom Level

* * *

3:30-5:00PM
PSFG Emerging Scholars Panel
The annual, vetted Emerging Scholars Panel for the Performance Studies Focus Group.

Carolee Klimchock, PhD Candidate, Yale University. Surrogation, Sensation, and Scandal: Coachman-Heiress Elopements in the Gilded Age.
Mentor: Kim Marra, University of Iowa.
Lindsay Goss, PhD Candidate, Brown University. When the Art/Work Owns You.
Mentor: Lara Neilson, Macalester College.
Nikki Yeboah, PhD Candidate, Northwestern University. The Little Black Bird of History: Sankofa as Hauntological Practice in the Plays of Efua Sutherland.
Mentor: Samantha Pinto, Georgetown University and Paige McGinley, Yale University

Respondent: Harvey Young, Northwestern University.
Chair: Gillian Young, Columbia University.
Location: Congressional C, Lobby Level

5:15-6:45PM
Performances of Citizenship
This session explores how citizens have used performance as a mode of advocacy, employing techniques of theatricality to contest narratives of national belonging and imagine new forms of citizenship.
Lindsay Adamson Livingston, Brigham Young University. Bending the Long Arc: Protest, Citizenship, and Memorilizing the Civil Rights Movement.
Katherine Mezur, Freie University, Berlin. Mobile Citizens: Migration and Dancing In-transit.
Matt Cornish, Yale University. Remembering November, Contesting Today: Rimini Protokoli’s “Walkable Stasi Audio Play”

Chair: Patricia Ybarra, Brown University.
Location: Concord, Ballroom Level

5:15-6:45PM
The Theatre Artist as World Citizen: Exploring Study/Work Abroad Requirements for B.F.A. Programs
Multi-disciplinary session Acting Program (AP), Directing Program (DP), and Theatre Management (TM)
This panel will explore the need for a requirement of study/work abroad components in B.F.A.
Theatre programs, and the various structures this requirement may generate.

Lewis Magruder, Miami University of Ohio. Expanding Horizons: Creating Awareness of Interplay between Theatrical Aesthetic and Cultural Context through Study Abroad Experiences.
Alison Frost, Texas A&M University. Summer Semester Curriculum for Study Abroad in London, UK
Amy Baumgartner-Hutton, Virginia Commonwealth University. Fulbright Scholarship Applications in Theatre.
Valerie Accetta, Virginia Commonwealth University. The Edinburgh Fringe Festival as a Requirement for the B.F.A. Program.

Location: Bryce, 2nd Floor

5:15-6:45PM
Embodied Research Methods: Proposals and Provocations
Multi-disciplinary session with Association of Theatre Movement Educators (ATME) and Theatre & Social Change (TASC)

This panel brings together scholars and practitioners from applied and experimental theater to consider political and epistemological implications of embodied research.

Ben Spatz, CUNY Graduate Center. Three Perspectives on Technique.
Daniel Mroz, University of Ottawa. Warmth is Memory: Traditional Practices in Contemporary Research/Creation.
Warren Linds, Concordia University. The Poetics of Embodied Transformative Theatre: Limits and Possibilities of Writing the Body.

Chair: Nisha Sajnani, New York University.
Location: Yosemite, 2nd Floor

7:00-8:30PM
Blue Collars in Ivory Towers
Multi-disciplinary session with Women and Theatre Program (WTP) and Theatre & Social Change (TASC)

Our working-class backgrounds as members of ATHE are often invisible, because unmarked. Participants discuss how their different backgrounds have affected their work in academic theatre.

Paul K. Bryant-Jackson, Professor of Theatre, Miami University
Rhonda Blair, President of the American Society for Theatre Research and Professor of Theatre at Southern Methodist University
Sara Warner, Associate Professor of Theatre, Film & Dance at Cornell University
William Doan, President of ATHE and Associate Dean for Administration, Research and Graduate Studies, Penn State College of Arts and Architecture.

Location: Congressional A, Lobby Level

7:00PM-8:30PM
The National Mall as a Performance Site: Activism, Identity, and Magical Thinking
Multidisciplinary session with Religion and Theatre (RT) and Theatre & Social Change (TASC)

This session explores the National Mall as a versatile and visible staging ground for various causes, groups, and concerns.

Michelle R. Baron, Oberlin College. The Washington Mall as Cemetery: Transforming Excess through State Funeral Practice and Protest.
Olivia Cadaval, Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage. The Magic on the Mall: The Smithsonian Folklife Festival and Public Performance.

Chair: Jill Stevenson, Marymount Manhattan College.
Location: Bryce, Second Floor.

Saturday, August 4
8:00-9:30AM

This is What Democracy Looks Like: Neoliberalism and Performance on the Global Stage

In response to Lara Neilsen and Patricia Ybarra’s anthology “Neoliberalism and Global Theatres,” scholars interrogate the states and stakes of intellectual inquiries concerning performance and neoliberalism.

Clare Croft, University of Michigan.
Jason Fitzgerald, Columbia University.
Jill Lane, New York University.
Maurya Wickstrom, College of Staten Island.
Patrick McKelvey, Brown University.

Respondents: Lara Nielsen, Macalester College and Patricia Ybarra, Brown University.
Location: Concord, Ballroom Level
8:00-9:30AM

Metaphors and Discourses of Acting: Creating Room for More Voices at the Civic Table
Multi-Disciplinary Panel with Acting Program (AP), Theory & Criticism (TC), Theatre as a Liberal Art (TLA)

To what extent are the dominant metaphors and discourses within actor training still meaningful and appropriate for students? Panelists’ papers, located at http://actingethics.wikispaces.com/ATHE+2012+Panel, will generate interactive meaning-making.

Mark Seton, University of Sydney (Australia). Notions of energy, spirit and charisma: do we ‘have’ it or does it only flow between us?
Cheryl McFarren, Denison University. “Liberatory Acting: Presence and Transgression.”
Danielle Shaw, York University. The Consequences and Ethics of Representing Human Suffering, Distress, and/or Violence.
Jennifer Popple, Augustana College. Extinguishing the “Fire” Inside the Head: Directing Paula Vogel’s How I Learned to Drive.

Chair: Rhonda Blair, Southern Methodist University.
11:30-1:00 PM

PSFG Foundational Documents Panel
Foundational Documents and Constitutional Enactments: Citizenship, Due Process, and Equal Protection

This panel brings together scholars of American and African-American Studies to consider the meaning of the U.S. Constitution’s Fourteenth Amendment to current performance research.

Robin Bernstein, Harvard University.
Jennifer DeVere Brody, Stanford University.
Radiclani Clytus, Tufts University.
Douglas Jones, Princeton University.
Paige McGinley, Yale University.

Chair: Joseph Cermatori, Columbia University.
Location: Thornton A, 11th Floor

11:30AM-1:00PM

Performance Geographies: Theoretical/Theatrical Approaches to ‘Real’ Communities
Multi-disciplinary session with Religion & Theatre (RT) and Theory & Criticism

Participants use theory to analyze theatrical approaches to community in Maori haka dance, Sellars’ Merchant of Venice in Los Angeles, and the Salazar dictatorship in Portugal.

Eric “C” Heaps, Indiana University. Sebastianism and Demythology in the Work of Natalia Correia.
Sara Beth Taylor, Indiana University. Trialectics in Peter Sellars’ Merchant of Venice.
Katherine Williams Olsen, Brigham Young University. Maori faith and the simulacra: Indigenous Dance Performance, Creating Reality One Step at a Time.

Location: Thornton Lounge, 11th Floor

1:45-3:15 PM

Legal Enactments
This session examines enactments of law by and upon subjects both living and dead, sacred and profane, sovereign and abject.

Paige McGinley, Yale University. Mock Trials: Rehearsing for “Brown v. Board of Education”
Laurie Frederik Meer, University of Maryland. Legal Performance and the Arts of Persuasion.
Lisa Freeman, University of Illinois at Chicago. When the Government is acting as patron rather than Sovereign: Adjudicating Bodies in NEA v. Finley.
Megan Shea, New York University. Abjection, your Honor: Anna Nicole Smith and the Supreme Court.

Chair, Laurie Frederik Meer.
Location: Yosemite, 2nd Floor.

3:30-5:00 PM

Performatve Politics, Passivity, and the Rise of Foodie Culture

The panel questions whether the new foodie movement creates televisual passivity that extends to a culture of civic disengagement in American political and social life.

Aimee Zygmonski, University of Nevada—Las Vegas. Internet Food Porn, or the Irresistible Rise
of the Foodie Burger.
Lynn Deboeck, University of Kansas.

Chair: Aimee Zygmonski, University of Nevada—Las Vegas.
Location: Thornton A, 11th Floor

Sunday, August 5

8:00-9:30AM
Performance Studies Focus Group (PSFG) Annual Membership Meeting

Please join us for our Annual Membership Meeting. We welcome new members!

Location: Lexington, Ballroom Level

9:45-11:15AM
Uncanny Medias: Performance/Technology

This panel explores civic events and artistic works that engage audiences through seemingly impossible intermedialities. Subjects include video art, war, social networks, and environmental performance.

Lauren Beck, Northwestern University. Parallel Cities: Duncan Speakman’s Subtlemobs.
Christy Simonian Bean, Northwestern University. Finding Agency in Staged Internet Memes: The Serious Business of LOLOPERA, a Performance Experiment.

Chair: Sam O’Connell, Worcester State University
Location: Regency D, Ballroom Level

11:30AM-1:00PM
Engaging With Darkness: Thanatourism and Performance

From nineteenth-century Paris to twenty-first-century New Orleans, an exploration of the darkest aspects of theatre and performance, viewed through the lens of thanatourism and thanapolitics.

Frank Episale, CUNY Graduate Center. The Spectator as (Thana)Tourist: Prison Plays and Prison Museums.
Jeremy Reynolds, Louisiana State University.
Margaret Araneo, CUNY Graduate Center.
Noe Montez, Tufts University.

Location: Bryce, 2nd Floor

11:30AM-1:00PM
Historical and Collective (Counter Memory in African-American Performances Across Media
Multi-disciplinary panel with American Theatre & Drama Society (ATDS) and Black Theatre Association (BTA)

This roundtable discusses how African-American artists across dance, theatre, and film create performances that advocate for new understandings of collective and historical memories of African-American experiences and identities.
Ariel Nereson, University of Pittsburgh. An Impulse to Testify: Blackness and Embodied Memory in Bill T. Jones and Anna Deavere Smith.

Daniel Banks, New York University. HaMapah/The Map.


Location: Thornton A, 11th Floor