International Symposium on Applied Theatre: Engagement and Transformation

Thursday-Friday
11 – 12 October 2007

Faculty of Education and Social Work
The University of Sydney

Applied Theatre: Engagement and Transformation aims to stimulate debate and discussion about future developments in applied theatre, research and practice. The forum will provide an opportunity for practitioners, academics and policy makers to share their practice. The papers, workshops and presentations will examine the issues related to applied theatre and the potential for this approach to transform and engage communities and individuals.

Applied Theatre is a portmanteau term for social interventions and policy directions informed by drama theory and theatre methodologies. The field has evolved and features theoretical and practical approaches informed by social work, sociology, juvenile justice, prisons and medicine (especially mental health). According to Ackroyd (2000) Applied Theatre practitioners ...share a belief in the power of the theatre form to address something beyond the form itself.

The presentations will explore the following themes:

• Research methodologies and approaches in Applied Theatre
• Applied Theatre: transforming communities
• Applied Theatre in the workplace
• Theoretical understanding of Applied Theatre and Social Policy
• New methods and contexts for Applied Theatre
• Applied Theatre and Education: Continuities discontinuities
• Exploring further collaborative research opportunities (grants, publications).

Target Audience
Social Workers, Educators, Healing Practitioners and Counsellors

Cost
One-day registration $170 GST inclusive
Two-day registration $300 GST inclusive

Venue
The Faculty of Education and Social Work, The University of Sydney.
Featured Presenters

In addition to a call for papers the following speakers will deliver a combination of keynote presentations and workshops.

**Dr Judith Ackroyd.** Associate Dean, School of The Arts, The University of Northampton

Judith Ackroyd has worked in a range of drama and theatre contexts, concerning herself with how these media might impact on participants’ attitudes, feelings, and behaviours. Her publications include many texts for teachers, including ‘Literacy Alive’, and a range of research-based works, including ‘Role Reconsidered: An examination of the relationship between teacher in role and acting’ and, most recently, an edited book, ‘Research Methodologies for Drama Education’. Judith has an international reputation and has worked in Jamaica, Austria, Singapore, New Zealand and Australia in the last twelve months, providing workshops and addresses. Current writing is on the use of drama in the health sector.

**Professor Michael Balfour.** Professor of Applied and Social Theatre, School of VTAE, Griffith University, Australia

Since running cross community drama projects in North and South Ireland 15 years ago, Michael Balfour has had a keen interest in exploring the relationship between performance and conflict/war. In particular how war affects artists and the use of the arts during times of extreme societal and political crisis. His previous research in this area includes *Theatre and War, Performance in Extremis 1933-1945* (2001, Berghahn Books), an exploration and analysis of the function of theatre during the Second World War. The book examines themes of Fascist aesthetic propaganda as well as communist theatre re-education programmes in the Russian Gulags.

**Associate Professor Penny Bundy** is Associate Professor and drama co-ordinator at Griffith University. Penny Bundy has extensive experience as both a researcher and arts worker. She is currently a Chief Investigator on two ARC Linkage grants (Sustaining Culture and Moving On) worth over $400,000. Sustaining Culture researches the impact of the major performing Arts Centres in Australia on the culture of the cities in which they are located. Moving On, researches the use of theatre to assist adult survivors of childhood institutional abuse to overcome trauma and live more fulfilling lives.

**Associate Professor Peter O’Connor.** BA (Auckland), DipTchg (Auckland), Dip RSA Drama (London), PhD (Griffith)

Dr Peter O’Connor has twenty-five years experience working in drama and arts education in New Zealand and the United Kingdom. He has been an invited keynote presenter at conferences in the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Papua New Guinea, Hong Kong and Jamaica. He was an advisor to the Hong Kong SAR government on the establishment of drama in education in the primary and secondary sectors. He is a specialist in the use of drama pedagogy across curriculum areas and the use of drama with students with special needs. His extensive publication record includes ten texts on drama education, numerous chapters and articles in refereed journals and books.

**Professor Tony Vinson.** Honorary Professor, Faculty of Education and Social Work, the University of Sydney.

Professor Vinson is one of Australia’s most distinguished social scientists. His career spans the disciplines of social work, social policy, psychology, education, public administration and social research. In each of these fields, he has been a pioneer, humanitarian, leader and man of courage in the promotion of social justice.

For further information

On administrative matters, including registration, please contact:

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To register, please complete the attached enrolment form.
Division of Professional Learning  
at the Faculty of Education and Social Work, The University of Sydney

ENROLMENT FORM
(Please use one enrolment form per applicant and provide complete information)

Title _______________________ Name _______________________

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Mail Address __________________________________________________________________________ Postcode __________

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Email _________________________________ Teaching Area _______________________

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND FEE DETAILS
Course Title: International Symposium on Applied Theatre: engagement and transformation
Conference Dates: Thursday-Friday, 11 - 12 October 2007

❏ One day Conference Registration, Thursday, 11 October $170 (GST Incl) or
❏ One day Conference Registration, Friday, 12 October $170 (GST Incl) or
❏ Full two-day Conference Registration $300 (GST Incl)

PAYMENT DETAILS
❏ Attached is a cheque or money order made payable to The University of Sydney
❏ Please debit my credit card: Visa Mastercard (Please circle correct card)

Cardholder Name ___________________________________________________________ Amount $ ______

Card Number ____________ / ____________ / ____________ / ____________ Expiry Date ____________ / ____________

Signature __________________________________________________________________ Date ________________

Closing date for registrations and refunds for withdrawal (less a $50 administration fee) is 14 days prior to start date.

TAX INVOICE The University of Sydney ABN 15 211 513 464

Please mail completed forms with cheque to:

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Faculty of Education and Social Work, 612-A35  
The University of Sydney NSW 2006
Or fax your form with credit card payment details to: 9351 6249

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DECLARATION
I have read and understand the enrolment terms and conditions and declare that the information I have provided is correct and complete.

Signature ___________________________________________ Date ______________________

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