

1981 ADSA Conference: Abstracts

Ann Blake (English Department, La Trobe University)

The children's acting companies in 1600: 'Do the boys carry it away?' [Paper]

Dr Blake argues against the parodic reading of Marston and questions the existence of a parodic style of acting in the children's companies. This is a paper rather than a paper plus demonstration.

Keywords: Marston ; Children's acting companies ; 1600 ; parody

Geoffrey Borney

Hamlet Workshop [Workshop]

Keywords: William Shakespeare ; Hamlet

Geoff Borney

Phaedre by Racine [Performance]

Keywords: Racine ; Phaedre

Ian Donaldson (Australian National University)

Ben Jonson's stagecraft [Paper]

A study of the practical staging and acting techniques that were required and developed when his plays were first performed

Keywords: Ben Jonson ; stagecraft ; staging ; acting techniques

Victor Emeljanow (University of Newcastle)

Brecht's *Measures Taken* Workshop [Workshop]

Keywords: Bertolt Brecht ; Measures Taken

Michael Ewans (Classics Department, University of Newcastle)

Aeschylus in performance [Paper]

An examination of key scenes from the *Oresteia*, exploring the relationship between what is said and sung by the actors and what is taking place on stage and the implications of Dr Ewans' conclusions for modern productions of Greek tragedy.

Keywords: Aeschylus ; Oresteia ; Greek tragedy ; modern production

Tim Fitzpatrick (Department of Italian, University of Sydney)

The Commedia dell-Arte as Hydra [Paper]

A laying to rest of some of the more prevalent myths about Commedia techniques, especially that of 'improvisation' combined with a discussion of three interacting variables - set roles, repertoire of gags and the scenario. Dr Fitzpatrick is bringing a group of actors that has an enormous experience in popular and improvised theatre to

demonstrate the ease with which material can be generated in a situation where you have actors who have worked together for some time, and who have a fixed scenario to work from

Keywords: commedia dell'arte ; improvisation

Bob Herbert (Drama Department, University of New England)
Understanding the conventions of Japanese Noh drama [Paper]

An application of Noh techniques to an Australian theme with demonstrations by a group of actors directed by Mr Herbert.

Keywords: Noh ; Japan

Bob Herbert (University of New England)
By the Billabong by Bob Herbert [Performance]

By the Billabong, by Bob Herbert, directed by Bob Herbert for U.N.E. Drama and Music Departments. A Japanese Noh version of *Waltzing Matilda*

Keywords: Bob Herbert, playwright ; Bob Herbert, director ; By the Billabong ; Waltzing Matilda ; Japanese Noh

Marisa Kreisler (Visiting theatre specialist and dramaturge, Drama Department, University of New England)

Polish theatre at the cross-roads: the theatre of 'grotesque' and the theatre of 'faith' [Paper]

Dr Kreisler, who grew up in Poland, has recently returned from a visit there where she studied and compared the work of the established directors such as Kantor, Wajda and Grotowski with the more affirmative theatre of the emerging younger directors and actors.

Keywords: Kantor ; Wajda ; Grotowski ; Poland ; grotesque ; faith

Greg McCart (Communication Department, Mitchell College, Bathurst)
Narrative in performance [Paper]

Experimentation in the dramatic conventions of narrative in performance can help in the interpretation of plays for performance and lead to a new, or at least, rediscovered drama in the performance of stories and novels.

Keywords: narrative ; drama ; interpretation ; performance ; experimentation

Morris Scott (English Department, University of Wollongong)
The value of semiotics to the exploration of interpretive and critical issues in playtexts [Paper]

This seminar will concentrate on rehearsal modes, actor preparation techniques and teaching strategies. Following a description of semiotic methodology, members will be split into groups, each with a director, and encouraged to apply a 'semiological grid' to carefully selected scenes.

Keywords: semiotics ; rehearsal ; analysis

Ami Taylor (University of New England Theatre Co-op)
***How Does Your Garden Grow*, by Jim McNeill** [Performance]

How Does Your Garden Grow, by Jim McNeill, directed by Ami Taylor for U.N.E.
Theatre Co-op

Keywords: Jim McNeill ; How Does Your Garden Grow

Launt Thompson (Drama Department, University of New England)
Performance as illusion: a diector's approach to the actor and the text [Paper]

Simultaneous paper and demonstration/workshop. Special attention will be paid to the Myths and Mysteries of Belief and Illusion in theatre practice. Audience participation will be encouraged to demonstrate that, in the final analysis, it is the actor's task to create the illusion we call theatre.

Keywords: illusion ; actors ; belief

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