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ADSA annual conference
Perth 30th June - 3rd July 2009

BOOM OR BUST!

Economies of production & exchange in theatre, performance & culture

Wittenoom Mine photo by Jukka Tolonen

CALL FOR PAPERS

Throughout Western Australia, iron ore, bauxite and other minerals are being mined and transported via ports, roads and railways to China, India and other booming economies. As the Canadian environmental photographer Edward Burtynsky recently observed, whenever one sees a skyscraper, one can imagine somewhere a hole at least as big which has furnished the raw materials for the building. The super-pit outside Kalgoorlie is one such reciprocal cavity whose contents facilitate constructions in distant lands and in Perth itself.

The Australasian Association for Theatre, Drama and Performance Studies (ADSA) invites participants to metaphorically re-imagine the boom and bust phenomena in cultural and aesthetic terms.

The committee invites you to respond to the theme by March 31st 2009 in the following ways:

- a) submit an abstract of 300 words for an individual paper
- b) submit a proposal for a themed panel
- c) submit a proposal for a performance, performative presentation or workshop

Email expressions of interest March 31st 2009 to adsa09@ecu.edu.au

The interpretation of themes might include (but is not confined to) the following:

Economic exchange & power. If any boom is dependent on a flow of matter and ideas across borders, how do the performing arts reflect and/or resist current economic patterns, exchanges, blocks, ruptures and cycles?

Boom times. What were the golden ages of art forms, artists, cultures and nations? Are we experiencing them now? Do artists and modes from these golden ages still serve as the main sources of creativity today? What are some of the current sites of booming cultural and economic exchange in the performing arts and theatre?

Bust times. Are the performing arts in a perpetual spiral of bust times? Is 21st century theatre dependent upon a sapping of resources? What comes of failure, fights, break-ups, broken bodies and busted performance?

Cycles of growth & contraction. What are the models and dynamics of sustainability and regeneration in scenography, dramaturgy and narrative? How does the performing body expand and contract?

Form & flux. Are the performing arts ever stable, or are they endlessly moving between booms and busts? What are the cycles driving artists in terms of growth and collapse, movement and exchange, flux and stability? What are implications for the arts of booming new decentred systems?

Scale. What are the aesthetics of the small and the large? When is bigger better? Do little stories matter in big times?

Time. How do cycles of boom and bust occur in the temporal structures of performance? Do theatrical forms and performance modes have their own special measures of time, and how do they function and alter?

Unrepeatable performance. Do we as critics and audiences fetishize the myth of the effervescent, performative moment, poised between boom and bust?

Distance & inversion. What is the distance between the bursting outward directions of performances and the internal processing of audiences? How do performances traverse distances of power, culture, language, audience, direction and intensity?

Acoustics. Sonic booms, explosions, echoes, aftershocks, booming or busted voices. What rebounds do the arts produce in culture, aesthetics or the audience? What voices do they sustain or smother?

For further information, please contact:

adsa09@ecu.edu.au

www.adsa.edu.au



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Keynote Speakers

Professor Tracy C. Davis Barber



Professor of Performing Arts, Professor of English & Theatre, Northwestern University. She specializes in 19C British theatre history, gender and theatre, economics and business history of theatre, performance theory, research methodology, museum studies, and Cold War studies. She is President, American Society for Theatre Research. Her most recent books include: *Stages of Emergency: Cold War Nuclear Civil Defense* (Duke University Press, 2007). *Considering Calamity: Methods for Performance Research*, co-edited with Linda Ben-Zvi, Assaph (Tel Aviv: Assaph Books, 2007). *The Performing Century: Nineteenth-Century Theatres History* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2007). *The Cambridge Companion to Performance Studies* (Cambridge University Press, 2008).

Professor Jane Goodall



Jane Goodall, Professor, writing and society, University of Western Sydney. Jane has written extensively on arts in the modern era, with a special interest in the relationship between the arts and sciences. She has taught undergraduate courses and supervised research projects in relevant areas of arts history, and has conducted local history research on the Parramatta Road. Her academic publications include *Artaud and the Gnostic Drama, Performance and Evolution in the Age of Darwin* (winner of the Australasian Drama Studies Association's Robert Jordan Prize), and, with Christa Knellwolf, the collection *Frankenstein's Science* (Ashgate, 2008), which contextualises Mary Shelley's work in contemporary scientific and literary debates. She is the author of the popular and award winning novels *The Walker* (2004), *The Visitor* (2005) and *The Calling* (2007). Jane's book on *Stage Presence* was published by Routledge in May 2008.

Professor Susan Melrose



Susan Melrose, Professor in Performance Arts, Middlesex University, is an advocate of the 'expert mastery' of practitioner researchers, seeking ways through various projects with artists such as Rosemary Butcher, Shobana Jeyasingh, Forced Entertainment and Emio Greco to articulate how such mastery can be valued and documented within the limitations of current institutionalised knowledge and language systems. Articles range from "Constitutive Ambiguities: Writing Professional or Expert Performance Practices, and the Théâtre du Soleil, Paris", in J. Kelleher & N. Rideout's *Contemporary Theatres in Europe* (2006) to "Finding -- and owning -- a voice: Kate Flatt and Susan Melrose discuss ownership in collaborative theatre practices" in *Dance Theatre Journal* (2007).

Professor Keiji Sawada



Professor Keiji Sawada teaches Australian Studies, postcolonial theatre, and Film Studies at Waseda University in Tokyo. He was a research fellow in Australia, in 1995, during which time he acted as the translator for a Japanese version of John Romeril's play *This Floating World*, as part of the Japan-Australia Cultural Exchange Program jointly produced by the Tokyo International Festival of Performing Arts and the Melbourne Festival. In 2004 he was the translator for *Up the Ladder*—a play about indigenous Australian carnival boxers which was performed at the Ancient Futures Festival and directed by Wesley Enoch

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The 2009 ADSA Conference is hosted by Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, Edith Cowan University, Curtin University and Murdoch University.

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Perth

An article recently written by ARYLENE WESTLAKE, had her put on her walking shoes to unearth 55 things you need to know about Perth city in the fourth STM guide, City Secrets. A great guide for any visitor to Perth, can be found at this link, www.news.com.au/perthnow/story/0,21598,25216787-5005370,00.html

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Accommodation

We recommend that delegates stay in Northbridge or East Perth as these locations are close to the University and are well serviced by Transperth buses. They are also close to a variety of restaurants, cafes and shops.

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(Northbridge and the city centre are divided by the rail line, so while there are many more hotel options in the centre of the city, if you select one of these you will need to get a taxi or factor a walk for 10-20 mins to get to a bus stop). There is also very little nightlife in the centre of the city apart from some nice cafes on King Street which are worth visiting if you are in the area.

Hotel Northbridge

**** (9km from Perth Airport)

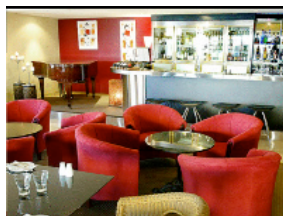
Situated just walking distance to the beautiful Hyde Park, minutes from the CBD and our vibrant Northbridge restaurant district, Hotel Northbridge will cater to our corporate travellers with our large rooms, easy access to the CBD and other business areas, plus free undercover parking. Guest should contact Hotel Northbridge directly and **ask for their 'Corporate Rate'**.

Contact Us:

210 Lake Street, Northbridge, Western Australia 6003 (cnr Brisbane Street)

Telephone: +61 (08) 9328 5254, Fax: +61 (08) 9227 7494, Toll Free Country WA: 1800 462 246

Hotel Email: hnb@hotelnorthbridge.com.au Website: www.hotelnorthbridge.com.au



Standard Spa Rooms	Room Amenity	Nightly Rate per room
Located on Ground Floor, Non-Smoking Rooms Only, Studio style bathroom with corner spa, In-house movies, Colour TV, Individually controlled heating/cooling, Mini-bar & fridge, Radio, Clock, IDD phone, data point Wardrobe, iron & ironing-board, Hairdryer & bathroom amenities, Enclosed private toilet, Block-out curtains & windows, Security keycard access, In room personal safe	Closet, Air Conditioning, Alarm Clock, Bathroom Amenities Provided, Bathroom & Ensuite Bathtub - Jazucci tub Spa, Clock Radio, Coffee maker/tea, Color TV in room Desk, Direct Dial in Room, Foam Pillows, Hair Dryer in room, Iron/Ironing Board in room, Internet Access International Direct Dial, Minibar in room, Movies in room, Private Bath in room, Radio in	\$125 Room only \$140 Rm/Breakfast for 1 \$155 Rm/Breakfast for 2

Complimentary limited underground parking, Maximum Guests in Room: 2, Disabled facilities available

room, Refrigerator in room, Remote Control TV in room, Safe in room, Smoke Detector

Alternative Accommodation

All Seasons Perth

*****1/2 (9 km from airport)**
15 Robinson Avenue
Northbridge

www.accorhotels.com.au/allseasons-perth/default_en.aspx

Rate: Standard Room: \$139.00 (this includes a continental breakfast)

The Sebel Residence East Perth

(11 kms from airport)
(Luxury hotel/apartments)
60 Royal Street
East Perth

www.mirvachotels.com/sebel-residence-east-perth

Rate: Studio Suite: \$235.00 per night

There are several Backpackers/Hostels in Northbridge and the city.

These include:

www.witchshat.com.au

www.theoldswanbarracks.com

www.easypertbackpackers.com.au

www.aberdeenlodgebackpackers.com

Transport:

It should take approximately 30 mins to get from Northbridge/East Perth to the university by bus. The university is 3 km from Northbridge and 5 km from East Perth.

Once you have decided on your accommodation bus timetables, routes and stop locations can be downloaded from:

www.transperth.wa.gov.au/TimetablesMaps/tabid/58/Default.aspx

Please be aware that it can be a little difficult to get a taxi in the evenings. The taxi numbers are:

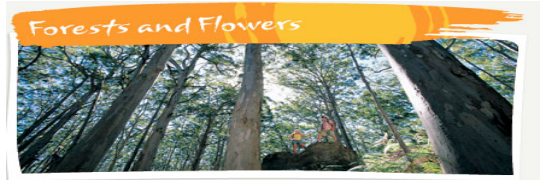
Swan taxi: 131330

Black and White taxi: 131008

Tourism

PERTH and WESTERN AUSTRALIA BEFORE, AFTER and IN & AROUND ADSA09 CONFERENCE

Perth Overview: the city and its environs on the Swan River, edged up against the Indian Ocean and Australian desert light.



www.westernaustralia.com/en/Destinations/Experience_Perth/Perth/Pages/Perth.aspx?map=Perth
www.experienceperth.com/en/About+Perth+and+Surrounds/default.htm

Northbridge, the location of recommended accommodation between the city proper and ECU Mt Lawley campus.

www.westernaustralia.com/en/Pages/Destination.aspx?n=Northbridge&pid=9004860

Fremantle, a vibrant tourist venue and Perth's port on the Indian Ocean and consequently the site of many early European arrivals in Australia, not to mention Aussie's one time victory of the America's Cup yacht race.

www.westernaustralia.com/en/Destinations/Experience_Perth/Fremantle/Pages/Fremantle.aspx?map=Fremantle



Perth Restaurants

www.westernaustralia.com/en/Destinations/Pages/search/experience_perth/perth/Restaurant

Adventuring further: Rottnest (off Perth and home to unique quokka marsupials), Margaret River (wineries and surf), New Norcia (missionaries in the outback), the Pinnacles (unique rock formations arising out of the sand) and more. WA is a vast land mass with a coastline that runs from the tropics to the windswept southern reaches of Esperance and Albany, last stops of call before Antarctica.

www.westernaustralia.com/en/Things_to_See_and_Do/Suggested_Itineraries/Pages/Suggested_Itineraries.aspx

LINK to Google map of the North Perth area including Northbridge and ECU Mt Lawley campus:

maps.google.com.au

WEATHER: Though situated in a desert zone and generally characterized by blue skies, it does rain in Perth during winter months and temperatures at night can plummet to 5-10 degrees chill after days of crisp 16 degrees plus. So pack the woollies!

TAXIS FROM and TO AIRPORTS:

Domestic travellers can expect fares up to \$40 for the trip to Northbridge---some 15-20 minutes ride. For International travellers the fare is likely to be in the vicinity of \$50 for a 20-25 minute ride. Shuttle buses are also available but may involve waiting time.

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