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MEDIA RELEASE

PEAK DRAMA GROUP TO MEET IN CANBERRA

A new lens will be put to Constantin Stanislavski's contribution to western theatre at the ADSA conference in Canberra at the end of the month.

ADSA, the Australasian Association for Theatre, Drama and Performance Studies, is the Pacific region's peak academic body for promoting the study of drama. Its annual conference will be held at the Australian National University from June 29 to July 2.

Keynote speaker Professor Sharon Marie Carnicke from the University of Southern California will discuss recent re-evaluations of Stanislavsky's techniques in an address entitled "The Bare Bones of Stanislavsky's Active Analysis". Professor Carnicke is the author of several books on the twentieth century Russian theatrical giant, whose acting methods continue to dominate the western theatrical tradition.

Other keynote speakers, Dr Jacqueline Lo, internationally renowned scholar from the ANU and Dr Julian Meyrick, scholar and practitioner from Latrobe University, will offer interpretations on the Conference theme of "Stripping Bare". Tjanara Goreng Goreng, founder of the Foundation for Indigenous Recovery and Development, will share indigenous cultural traditions through a series of workshops.

More than 40 other topics will be addressed over the three day conference which has attracted participants from throughout Australia and the region.

Participants' interests range from Stanislavsky to Avatar and modern Australian burlesque.

Dr Alison Richards from the University of Melbourne will lead a panel discussion on the future of Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies in the Australian university system.

Conference convenor, ANU Drama lecturer Cate Clelland said the theme for this year's conference is "Stripping Bare". Applied to performance, the words "stripped bare" might suggest an honesty of approach, a guarantee of authenticity or a connection with an original truth.

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