



Highlights

Bonfire Theatre Company

[Interactive Theatre Intervention]

It is through our stories that we remind ourselves and each other what it means to be human. The Bonfire Theatre Show is an interactive and improvised theatre experience where the audience is an active part of the performance. Traditional barriers between the audience and the performers are broken down through the method of 'Playback Theatre'. In playing the stories back we use physical theatre, spoken word, puppetry, music, dance, comedy, along with a range of theatrical styles. This creates a dynamic and aesthetically pleasing result that is both entertaining and moving.

Congruent

Directed and choreographed by Tracey Human, in collaboration with Renos Spanoudes

[Sexual Performative Revolution]

The concept for this work began as an investigation into hate crimes, particularly hate crimes committed against transgendered and homosexual individuals. The work initially titled "My Last 8 Inches" brought the choreographer to the conclusion that, if hating "The Other" really is based on fear... then there really are a LOT of very frightened people out there... Tracey met Simone in a restaurant on the way to Pretoria. They sat amongst a crowd of loud, cheering rugby fans, who were watching a game on the big screen, while Simone explained to her how she got her clitoris. Sometimes, life is wonderful!

I should have asked but didn't

By Siwela Sonke

[Dance Theatre]

Siwela Sonke's latest work considers the act of asking and disclosure of all kinds. Dance and video probe both the necessity and the futility of secrets. Suspended in moments of indecision and denial, in moments where lack of form to articulate or lack of a sense of one's right, questions are gently deferred. Postponed. Truth is held on pause. And the questions become submerged and calcified and ultimately irrelevant and dormant. Until one is on one's own again and then the questions come back with a relentless, unforgiving force.

Life, Breath, Movement, Pleasure

Facilitated By Dr. Ava Avalos

[Workshop]

This three-part workshop encourages participants to experience their bodies as sources of embodied knowledge, wisdom and creativity. Yoga, movement and improvisational dance are used to support personal exploration and to assist in moving beyond self-imposed identifications and limitations, thus opening participants to courage, spontaneity and joy.

Love Happened Here

Directed by Warren Nebe in collaboration with the cast

[Site-specific Performance]

Love Happened Here is a performed experience exploring intimacies while travelling across the geographical landscape of Johannesburg. The audience is invited to embark upon a taxi ride from Braamfontein to Hillbrow and/or from Hillbrow to Braamfontein. A collection of colourful characters share their stories, while the audience witnesses their intimacies and their losses. The audience members also have the opportunity to reflect upon their own loves that happened somewhere and consider the chance of a love happening here. This piece reflects on the tactile and illusive nature of love, evokes the imagined love wanting to happen, and mourns the love that happened. It reminds us that love has no boundaries in a city that brackets people by race, gender, sexual orientation and class.

Amagwinya

By Sello Pesa and Vaughn Sadie

[Hillbrow Public Space Performance Project]

This work explores themes surrounding sex, HIV and AIDS, sexuality and relationships. Participants are lead through a series of exercises and conversations that start to explore spaces around the theatre as an opportunity create dialogue and to reflect on the themes outside of themselves. The aim of these processes is to explore the impact one's relationship to culture, community and family has on one's perceptions and understanding of the themes. The site-specific nature allows the participants to think about theme in the context of space, specifically the spaces around the theatre.

DFL Playback Theatre Company

[Interactive Theatre Intervention]

The DFL Playback Theatre Company is an innovative form of storytelling theatre which addresses various social issues according to a community's needs. Playback Theatre is especially suited to confront South Africa's challenging social issues, in order to break down barriers and taboos around topics such as HIV and AIDS, gender, race, culture and identity. One of the strongest features of Playback Theatre is that it allows marginalised voices to be heard through storytelling in a space that is modelled on the core values of empathy, listening and community. Playback Theatre becomes a vehicle for the reflection of people's lives as their stories are played back to them. Such an experience encourages communities to listen and engage on sensitive issues in a caring, non-judgemental environment, modelling essential life values through the magic of Playback Theatre!

Where Do I Stand and Beyond the Line

By Themba Interactive

[Interactive Theatre Intervention]

Themba's focus is on influencing behaviour to prevent the spread of HIV. Themba helps people, through its theatre company, facilitator-training and community-based programmes, exploring ways of transforming their lives and giving them strategies to keep themselves safe within the context of HIV/AIDS, sexual health, reproduction and identity. Themba's plays cover aspects of communication, relationships, discrimination (stigma), attitudes, sexual behaviour and ignorance within the context of HIV/AIDS, HCT/VCT and gender norms. The theatre company's work is based on participatory methods that encourage audience dialogue and active learning.