



Drama for Life in partnership with IDIERI.10 presents “Arts Education Symposia: Navigating Mess & Complexity in Uncertain Times”

26 May 2022

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Due to covid-19 safety regulations, we have a limited number of seats for all **in-person** sessions. Please send an email to Nolwazi.Mahlangu2@wits.ac.za to RSVP for both in-person and online sessions. Your seat will be reserved once your RSVP has been confirmed on email.

NO RSVP required for evening panel discussion and Drama for Life book launch (18:00 – 20:00 session ONLY) Zoom details attached.

Session	Time	Title	Description	Facilitator(s)	Venue
Registration	07h30 – 08h30	Official symposia registration	All symposia delegates to register in-person at the Wits School of Education, The Space Frame – Main Auditorium. All participants must receive an RSVP confirmation before attending. Online participants: A zoom invite for each session will be emailed once RSVP is confirmed.	-	In-person Wits Education Campus - The Space Frame: main auditorium
Official welcome by DFL HOD	08h30 – 08h40	What does Applied Drama and Theatre/Drama in Education look like for us now? How can we acknowledge and celebrate the profound work that	Framing the symposia, looking back at the last 2 years at DFL, what to look forward to on the day.	Dr Petro Janse Van Vuuren	In-person Wits Education Campus - The Space Frame: main auditorium



		has been done within the Applied Arts in Africa? How can we further allow for more variety to emerge?			
Performance by DFL Theatre Company	08h40 – 09h00	How do we connect with what has been lost, what has been established and best practice?	DFL Theatre Company TIE performance	Drama for Life Theatre Company	In-person Wits Education Campus - The Space Frame: main auditorium In-person
Online video provocations by applied arts practitioners from around Africa	09h00 – 09h10	What are the values, practices, methods, and impacts that characterise our work in today's complex messiness? What strategies do we put in place if we are to centre African practice?	A number of applied arts practitioners will offer their provocation in response to the questions in column 3.	DFL Alumni, Applied Arts Practitioners, DFL Students	Online/video
Panel discussion	09h15 – 10h30	Arts Education in Africa: Navigating mess and complexity in uncertain times: what values, practices, methods & impacts characterize our work in today's complex messiness? What does Applied Drama and Theatre look like for us now? What strategies do we put in place if we are to centre African practice?	This facilitated panel discussion will engage 6 panellists from around South Africa around the theme and questions listen in column 3.	Panel facilitator: Ayanda Khala Panellists: Selloane Mokuku, Sibongile Bhebhe, Tamara Gordon-Roberts, Amelda Brand, Alison Green	In-person Wits Education Campus - The Space Frame: main auditorium

		What is unique about the work we do in South Africa?			
Tea break 10h30 -11h00					
Workshop 1A	11h00 – 13h00	From ABC to SRHR and selfies: a way to teach SRHR to Gen Zs in South Africa.	Exploring a highly energized, colloquially adapting, participant-led applied theatre technique that generates effective learning opportunities among SA youth, that critically enables a bridging between the more equitable SRHR information and the strong socio-cultural colloquial beliefs, language and gestures that typically frame youths' pre-existing knowledge on consent and gender roles.	Hamish Mabala Neill	In-person (Venue to be confirmed upon registration)
Workshop 1B	11h00 – 13h00	#StayingConnected: Exploring self-reflexivity in art and community.	Developed by applied drama practitioner Ayanda Khala (UKZN), this experimental focus group workshop is designed as a brave space (Micky ScottBey Jones /Nomcebisi Moyikwa, 2020) in which community holds space for individuals to each host a self-reflexive 40minute artist date (Cameron, 2005) with the self, ending with a performative self-expressive piece witnessed by a small and intimate audience.	Ayanda Khala	In-person Wits Education Campus – The Space Frame Room 58 (Drama Studio)
Workshop 1C	11h00 – 13h00	What is this object / Making objects come alive	In-person workshop looking at specific methodologies developed by Assitej. The workshop will focus on one of the lessons from the Kickstarter Creative Arts Project	Tsholofelo Gosekwang Shounyane	In-person



			methodology. This workshop is an introduction to puppetry and how objects can be made to come alive to tell a story.		Wits Education Campus – The Space Frame: Main auditorium
Workshop 1D	11h00 – 13h00	LESEDI*; What Applied Theatre Looks Like Now?	Exploring ways through which Applied Drama and Theatre principles, could be used to address difficult questions related to oppression brought about by imposition of languages by the colonial system.	Selloane Mokuku	In-person Wits Education Campus – The Space Frame Room 58 (Drama Studio)
Online Workshop 1E	11h00 – 13h00	Help! I lost the plot: Lessons from Applied Improvisation for uncertain times in formal and informal education contexts.	The work explores exercises and principles from applied improvisation for online and offline settings based on the work of workshop facilitators with e.g. - Resilience training for refugee children in displaced communities - Nurses and doctors struggling to connect with patience in high pressure situations - Students experiencing political discord among themselves, or trying to adapt to online learning situations when access and data is lacking.	Damilola Apotieri, Petro Janse van Vuuren, Sibongile Bhebhe	Online (Zoom invite will be received upon registration)
Lunch break 13h00 – 14h00 Lunch time performance by DFL Theatre Company (The Space Frame Foyer)					
Workshop 2A	14h00 – 16h00	Redemptive Theatre: When the Performance Is in the Silence	In this creative research project, we introduce a theatrical form that we are tentatively calling “redemptive theatre” – theatre that tells stories of people	Namatshego Khutsoane, Lesley Nkosi,	In-person



			struggling with a mistake, a burden of guilt or an experience of being wronged. We created this form in the context of privileged South Africans navigating the landscape of systemic injustice and unconscious bias.	Petro Janse van Vuuren	Wits Education Campus – The Space Frame: main auditorium
Workshop 2B	14h00 – 16h00	“Into the Neverwood”A creative exploration of the work of Story Café.	This workshop will explore the methodologies and approach of Story Café. In particular the use of contemporary children’s literature in an integrated arts based process to develop emotional literacy and creative capacity in children aged 2-12. The workshop will offer some background and theoretical frame for the work of Story Café with a playful sampling of the work of Story Café. The workshop will offer tangible resources and examples for practice.	Tamara Gordon Roberts	In-person Wits Education Campus – The Space Frame Room 58 (Drama Studio)
Workshop 2C	14h00 – 16h00	An embodied historical timeline through the best and worst moments of Applied Theatre practice.	This workshop is a guided process in which practitioners are invited to co-create a historical timeline that maps the history of their practice/work/interventions as Applied Theatre & Drama practitioners. Together we will consciously choose which parts of our practice we wish to carry forward in building “new” ways of engaging and which parts we can afford to let go of.	Mammatli Thakhuli-Nzuza	In-person Wits Education Campus – The Space Frame Room 58 (Drama Studio)
Workshop 2D	14h00 – 16h00	Experience the relief of being in a HAPpy Place (HAPPy: Healing Arts Pedagogy and practices)	This workshop offers an experience of the Healing Arts Practices and Pedagogy project launched at Drama for Life in 2020 in	Welma de Beer, Lucy Draper-Clarke	In-person



			response to the COVID pandemic and its impact on the learning experiences of learners/students and teachers/lecturers.		(Venue to be confirmed upon registration)
Online Workshop 2E	14h00 – 16h00	Beyond the Mask: Remembering how to Smile	The workshop will probe applied media practitioners to share stories of their practice during the covid 19 era. The advent of the mask came with a lot of restrictions such as travel, physical connection, and the ability to 'smile'.	Courage Chinokwethu	Online (Zoom invite to be received upon registration)
Break 16h00 – 17h00					
Opening performance	18h00 – 18h05	What is unique about the work we do in Africa?	A spoken word/poetry offering by one of the Drama for Life interns	Nolwazi Mahlangu	Online Zoom details Meeting ID: 682 828 2259 No password required Link: http://wits-za.zoom.us/j/6828282259
Welcome Address	18h05 – 18h10	Framing the panel: Book launch	An official welcome	Nondumiso Msimanga	Online Zoom details Meeting ID: 682 828 2259 No password required Link: http://wits-za.zoom.us/j/6828282259



Official Drama for Life book launch & panel discussion	18h30 – 20h00	What values/principles/methods are we holding on to no matter what?	Unpacking the book titled “Innovative methods for applied drama and theatre practice in African contexts”	Facilitated by: Nondumiso Msimanga Panel: Warren Nebe, Carol Beck, Hazel Barnes, Refiloe Lepere, Munyaradzi Chatikobo, Cherae Halley	Online <u>Zoom details</u> Meeting ID: 682 828 2259 No password required Link: http://wits-za.zoom.us/j/6828282259
Closing reflection	20h00	What values/principles/methods are we holding on to no matter what? What do we have to look forward to within Arts Education in Africa?	A moment for participants to offer reflection/comments in the chat box and a means of closing	Nondumiso Msimanga	Online <u>Zoom details</u> Meeting ID: 682 828 2259 No password required Link: http://wits-za.zoom.us/j/6828282259