Theater and Civil Society

Brown International Advanced Research Institute (BIARI)

June 8-22, 2013

Co-Conveners: Patricia Ybarra (Patricia\_ybarra@brown.edu) and Erik Ehn (Erik\_Ehn@brown.edu)

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Convened by faculty from Brown University’s Department of Theatre Arts and Performance Studies, this Institute will explore the role of theater, new media and public performance in political and social movements, with a focus on the potential of diverse art forms to advance principles of non-violence, economic and political justice and civic debate. The Institute responds to the political and social movements of the past years and current geopolitical events. What is new in these movements? What do they owe to different theories, traditions and practices of expressive freedom and participatory politics? The Institute will address these questions through lectures, readings, performances and discussions. We invite scholars from the humanities, and critically engaged artists and performers working in different genres, to contribute to an interdisciplinary exploration of the ways in which creative production expands the civic imagination and conjures new understandings of public space.

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**Location:**

**All morning sessions will take place in the Watson Institute Board Room on the first floor at 111 Thayer Street.**

**All afternoon sessions, starting after lunch at 2:00 PM, will take place at the Department of Modern Culture and Media at 155 George Street.**

**Meals:**

**Breakfast is at Verney-Woolley dinning hall from 7:30-8:45 AM**

**Monday-Friday Lunch is at the Faculty Club from 12:45-2:00 PM**

**Saturday-Sunday Lunch is at Verney Woolley Dining Hall 11:00 AM–2:45PM**

**Coffee breaks will take place every day, once in the morning and once in the afternoon.**

**Dinner is at a selection of local restaurants and Verney Woolley Dining Hall. Please refer to your Dine Around Booklet for more information.**

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**Saturday, June 8th**

Arrival Day at the Watson Institute, 111 Thayer St. Providence, RI 02912

**Sunday June 9th**

Breakfast (7:30AM-9:30AM) and Lunch (11:00AM-2:30PM) will be served at Verney Woolley Dining Hall.

**Welcome barbecue at Pembroke Field**. There will be a barbecue with food, refreshments, soccer, volleyball, etc. This is an opportunity to meet people and relax outdoors.

**Monday June 10th**

9-10:30 AM Introductions

10:45-12:15 PM Guest Speaker: Regina Jose Galindo

2- 3:15 PM Readings:

Taylor, Diana. “Acts of Transfer” in *The Archive and the Repertoire: Performing Cultural Memory in the Americas*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2003. Print.

Violeta Luna Transcription (Soon to come!)

Watch Violeta Luna’s Performance NK 603: Action for Performer and E-Corn at <http://hemisphericinstitute.org/hemi/en/performances/item/100-09-violeta-luna#itemVideoAnchor>

3:45-5:00 PM Group Meetings

5:30- 7:00 PM **All-BIARI reception with welcoming remarks by university leaders and representatives of Santander Universities; food and refreshments provided. This will be outdoors at Watson Institute’s Starr Plaza.**

**Tuesday June 11th**

9-10:30AM Google Plus Training

Reading:

Emigh, John. "Culture, killings, and criticism in the years of living

dangerously: Bali and Baliology” in *The Cambridge Companion to Performance Studies*. Ed. Tracy Davis. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008. Print.

10:45- 12:15 PM Guest Speaker: John Emigh

2-3:15 PM Group 1: New media, performance and civil society

Ajay Gudavarthi, Abril Herrera, and Jirayudh Sinthuphan

3:45-5PM Group 2: Gender

Nicola Cloete, Oluwatoyin Omobowale, and Sara Matchett

**Wednesday June 12th**

9-10:30 AM Speaker: Boris Diop

Reading:

Diop, Boris. *Murambi, Book of Bones*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2000. Print.

10:45-12:15 Further discussions of *Murambi* and Diop’s Talk

Question and Answer Session

2-3:15 Group 3: Youth Matters

Hope Azeda, Niousha Roshani, and Layaly Abdel Rahim Badr

3:45-5:00 Group 4: Popular Performance and Politics

Damiola Adegoke, Kirubel Bekele , Dev Pathak, and Ali Pour Issa

**Thursday June 13th**

9-10:30 AM Speaker: Chris Merrill

10:45-12:15 PM Readings:

Merrill, Christopher. “The Folded Lie”in *The Peace Review: A Journal*

*of Social Justice*. 18.4 (2006): 523-532. Print.

2-3:15 PM Group 5: Social Movements and Peacebuilding

Lazaro Bacallao Pino, Florencia Maria Dansilio, Tendai Mtukwa, and Nandita Dinesh

3:45-5:00PM Group 6: Site Specific Performance

Pedro Diniz Bennaton, Stefan Peca, Rand Tuma Hazou

5:00-7:00 PM **Brown University President Christina Paxson--Keynote Address in Salomon Auditorium, followed by a reception with food and refreshments**

**Friday June 14th**

9-10:30 AM Speaker: Benjamin Arditi

10:45 -12:15 PM Patricia Ybarra Presents, in conjunction with the readings.

Readings:

Arditi, Benjamin. “Insurgencies don’t have a plan—they are the plan:

Political Performatives and Vanishing Mediators in 2011” in *JOMEC: Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies*. Issue 1 (2012): 1-16. Print.

2-3:15PM Group 7: Performance History and Violence

Marisol Balderrama Villela, Luciana Scaraffuni, and Xiao Che

3:45-5:00 PM Group 8: Performance and the public sphere

Cecilia del Carmen Ramallo Diaz, Ana Catalina Garcia del Alba Diaz, and Ying Cheng

**Sat-Sun, June 15-16 Open weekend, See BIARI programming for local activities**

**Monday June 17th**

9-10:30 AM Speaker: Shayoni Mitra

10:45-12:15 PM Readings:

Mitra, Shayoni. "Badal Sircar: Scripting a Movement" in *The Drama Review*. 48.3 (2004): 59-78. Print.

Edmondson, Laura. "Confessions of a Failed Theatre Activist: Intercultural Encounters in Uganda and Rwanda," in *Avant-Garde Performance* *and Material Exchange* Edited by Mike Sell. UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010.

2:00-3:15 PM Break-out session

3:45-5:00 PM Break-out theme session

**Tuesday June 18th**

9-10:30 AM Speaker: Daphne Brooks

10:45-12:15 PM Readings:

Brooks, Daphne. “Nina Simone’s Triple Play” in *Callaloo*. 34.1 ( 2011): 176-197. Print.

2:00-3:15 PM Work Session

3:45-5:00 PM Work Session

**Wednesday, June 19th**

9:00-10:30 AM Speaker: Eng-Beng Lim

10:45-12:15 PM Readings:

Lim, Eng-Beng. “Performing the Global University” in *Social Text* 27.4

(2009): 25-44. Print.

2:00-3:15 PM Responses/Feedback on Group Projects

3:45-5:00 PM Project Grant Planning

**Thursday June 20th**

9-10:30 AM Project Presentations

10:45-12:15 PM Project Presentations

2:00-3:15 PM Project Presentations

4 PM **New England Clambake, at a seaside compound in Bristol RI, with food, drink, and outdoor activities**

**Friday June 21st**

9:00-10:30 AM Feedback Session

10:45-12:15 PM Graduation Ceremony/Circle

2:00-3:15 PM Wrap-up

3:45-5:00 PM Wrap-up

**Saturday June 22st**

Departures from the Watson Institute, 111 Thayer St. Providence, RI 02912