

Call For Papers

History, Memory, and Representation :

The 2012 NTU International Theatre Conference

As Foucault compellingly stated, manifold relations of power permeate and constitute the social body, and these relations of power cannot themselves be established, consolidated nor implemented without the production, accumulation, circulation and functioning of a discourse. In this light, starting from the 1980s ethnographers and New Historicists called our attention to “writing, the making of texts,” and the constructed, artificial nature of cultural accounts and history. Truth thus becomes a matter of interpretation. Theatrical performances, historiography, individual and collective memories are one of the forms of representations, a contested site that can be constructed and disassembled.

Therefore we ask: How do political climate and social perceptions influence the form and style of performances? In what way does an artist seek space of artistic autonomy as the state attempts to manipulate, contain, or interfere artistic creation? How do certain parts of individual or collective memory get selected, emphasized or erased? How is our response to historical events represented through words, stage, or electronic media?

Under this theme, the conference welcomes, but is not limited to, papers addressing the following issues:

1. The way in which historical development shapes artistic practices
2. The relation between political intervention and dramatic creation/ interpretation
3. The reconstruction of history in theatre
4. The formation of identity and cultural resistance
5. The trajectory of cultural flows and the interaction between/among cultures
6. The influence of globalization on the theatre in various regions
7. The colonization and decolonization of stage performance

The NTU International Theatre Conference is a biennial event hosted by the Department of Drama and Theatre of National Taiwan University. National Taiwan University invites proposal submissions for the conference. In the proposal please include: 1. Title 2. Abstract (600 words in Chinese or 350 words in English) 3. Bio (100 words) 4. Contact info

The conference is scheduled on 2012/10/20 (Sat.)-- 10/21 (Sun.). Presentations may be given in Chinese or English. **The deadline for proposals is December 30, 2011.** Please email the proposal to the conference organizer, Hsiao-Mei Hsieh theatre.ntu@gmail.com
Participants will be notified of the results by the end of February, 2012.