

Call for Proposals: Performance Studies International #12 Conference
 Queen Mary, University of London, in collaboration with
 East End Collaborations and the Live Art Development Agency (UK)

15-18 June, 2006

PERFORMING RIGHTS

PSi #12: Performing Rights will gather artists, activists and academics for a festival of creative and critical dialogues investigating the relationships between human rights and performance. We are linking human rights and performance because of the significance of human rights in a time of war and globalisation, and because of the bold claims made for performance as a means of understanding the world.

PSi #12: Performing Rights will present an integrated schedule of conference and performance events.

What can performance do for human rights, and human rights for performance?

Proposals might consider the relationship between performance and human rights in terms of:

- ★ the performance of protest, revolution and insurrection
- ★ non-violent direct action
- ★ performance as a space of freedom
- ★ the role of performance in producing social/public and personal/private spaces
- ★ the performance of identities that create new political rights
- ★ the relationship between theory and practice in human rights
- ★ performance, intimacy and subjectivity
- ★ the relationship between performance anthropology and human rights
- ★ performances of the human, violence against humans and the human capacity for suffering
- ★ performance's role in shaping understandings and experiences of what it is to be human
- ★ the performativity of human rights discourse, its instruments, conventions, and declarations
- ★ the place of performance in developing human rights in relation to other rights, including, for example, the rights of non-human animals
- ★ freedom of expression and information.

Paper and presentation proposals:

Proposals for papers and presentations should include a 250-word abstract including your name, affiliation, mailing address, and email address. Full-length papers will not be accepted.

Panel proposals:

All panel proposals should include a 300-word rationale. If you have constituted the members of your panel (usually three speakers), you should include participants' names and contact information. If you have not constituted the members of your proposed panel but are instead simply proposing a panel topic, you must include a text for the call for papers which we will distribute by email in October 2005.

All paper, presentation and panel proposals are due by 12 SEPTEMBER, 2005. All submissions should be sent as email attachments in MS Word to psi12@qmul.ac.uk or, if this is not possible, in triplicate to PSi #12, School of English and Drama, Queen Mary, University of London, Mile End Road, London, E1 4NS, UK.



Call for ideas for a programme of contextualising events

PSi #12: Performing Rights programme of contextualising events will include performance interventions, presentations, installations, screenings and displays. There will be invited presentations, artist led laboratories, site experimentations and spontaneous interactions. These will attempt to create a context for exploring the role of performance and the responsibilities of artists in effecting political, social and cultural change. We aim to illuminate the creative strategies that artists and activists use to communicate issues of human rights and to empower artists, activists and audiences to be able to make a difference.

The contextualising activities and performance interventions for PSi #12 will include the following strands:

- ★ **Library of Materials:** A space housing resource and research materials which explore and enable experiment-activation, transmission and documentation of human rights/performance.
- ★ **Declaration and Manifesto Room:** A 24 hour a day space in which statements, polemics and declarations can be presented, performed and posted and where web-based interventions and international input will be actively solicited.
- ★ **Presentations:** A series of invited presentations illustrating performance as a strategy for negotiating issues of human rights. The programme will look at performance as a generative force for action, agency, illumination, embodiment, illustration, intervention, and protest through the strategies of visibility, empowerment, activism and representation.

PSi #12: Performing Rights are inviting submissions, recommendations and ideas for the programme of contextualising activities and performance interventions.

PSi #12 particularly welcomes information or proposals about artists, projects and initiatives that are concerned with, or informed by, issues of human rights and especially projects that it may not be possible to research through conventional channels.

Preliminary ideas, recommendations and proposals (including for example information about projects, websites, publications, etc.) should be submitted AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FROM APRIL, 2005, as email attachments in MS Word to psi12@qmul.ac.uk or, if this is not possible, in triplicate to PSi #12, School of English and Drama, Queen Mary, University of London, Mile End Road, London, E1 4NS, UK.

The PSi #12: Performing Rights Programme Committee is: **Lois Weaver** (Chair), **Maria Delgado**, **Jen Harvie**, **Paul Heritage**, **Caoimhe McAvinchey**, **Nicholas Ridout**, **Morag Shiach**, **Gregor Turbyne**, and **Martin Welton** (all Queen Mary, University of London), **Lois Keidan** and **Daniel Brine** (Live Art Development Agency), **Rose Sharp** (East End Collaborations), and **Adrian Heathfield** (PSi).