

2005

Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas Conference Program, June 10-12, 2005

Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas

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Friday, June 10

9am-6pm: Registration (State Theater Lobby)

10-11am Speed Dating (State Theater Mezzanine)

11-11:15 Break (Refreshments in Lobby)

11:15-12:30 **Introduction and Welcome** (State Theater Main Stage)

Kirk Watson Keynote: "How Austin Got to be So Cool"

12:30-1:30 Lunch (See options in packet)

Mentors and Mentees Lunch

Collaboration Project Rehearsal (The Hideout)

1:30-2:20 **Workshops: Local Artists** (Choose One)

Rude Mechanicals (The Hideout—Downstairs)

The group consensus was to give a short talk on collaborative art and the way forms themselves can be adapted into a collaborative relationship that crosses genre. And then resident playwright Kirk Lynn started thinking. The result is their presentation:

LECTURE: a reading of a play adapted from the talk the Rudes would have given if they gave talks about adaptation instead of just doing it. Followed by a Q & A.

Latino Comedy Project (The Hideout—Upstairs)

2:20-2:25 CHANGE SESSIONS

2:25- 3:15 **Workshop/Demonstration: Local Artists** (Choose One)

Physical Plant (The Hideout—Upstairs)

Revelation, Reticence, and the Residue of First Productions: Steve Moore

My scripts never really disclose themselves until a producer, director, designers, and actors begin to guide them toward their first productions. By the time that intense collaboration has ended, I've not only rewritten the words but also re-imagined the non-verbal elements: the staging, visuals, sounds, and pacing of the plays. Playwrights go through this wonderful, revelatory process time and again. But if a script is to go in search of subsequent productions, playwrights and dramaturgs must strike a precarious

balance: they want to convey to literary managers and producers the rich non-verbal potential of the play, without seeming to tread into territory that rightly belongs to designers, directors, and actors. What should be included and what should be omitted so that the script offers the best invitation to the next collaborative team?

Yacov Sharir: An Electro-Demonstration (The Hideout—Downstairs)

Wearable computers/devices and interactive technologies, how they contribute to performance augmentation?

Dancer/choreographer Yacov Sharir seeks to discover how electronic and sensory devices affect the way we communicate. He demonstrates how wearable systems are more than just wristwatches, jewelry devices or motion tracking devices. They can possess the full functionality of computers, wireless communication systems, and be completely interactive.

3:15-3:30 Break (Refreshments in the State Theater Lobby)

3:30-4:45 Theatre, Austin Style. (State Theater Main Stage)

How do some of Austin's hottest companies think about the work they do, what frames their discussions in selection, what work attracts them, and how do they approach the work in terms of process? Artistic Director Jason Neulander of Salvage Vanguard, Producing Artistic Directors Dave Steakley of Zachary Scott Theatre Center and Scott Kanoff of The State Theater Company, and Gina Houston, member of the Pro-Arts Collective will address these questions and others as they relate their programming to their community -- and witness what is dramaturgical about it all. Moderated by Zachary Scott's Managing Director and Conference Co-coordinator Ann Ciccolella.

4:45-5 Break (Refreshments in the State Theater Lobby)

5-6:30 UCAUCUS (The Roaring Fork)

Rehearsal: Aesthetics, Ethics, Education

The single most educational arena in college and university theater programs is not the classroom but the rehearsal hall. What, by word and example, are students learning there?

5-5:45 Early Career Panel (The Hideout—Downstairs)

The Director-Dramaturg Relationship: Process, Possibilities, and Pitfalls.

How do we create a Productive Partnership?

Featuring Julie Felise Dubiner of Actors Theatre of Louisville, Seth Gordon of The Cleveland Play House, and Vicki Stroich of Calgary's Alberta Theatre Projects.

5-5:45 Interview Bootcamp (The Hideout—Upstairs)

As dramaturgs, we often interview playwrights, actors, designers and directors for study guides and subscribers newsletters. How do you interview a playwright who refuses to talk about the work and wants to let it speak for itself, only answering yes or no to your questions? How do you interview a director you've known for 10 years and have nothing left to ask? What if you have to interview a 10-year-old actor? Nichole Gantshar, an

editor at The Post-Standard and Cynthia Smith, an editor at the Austin Chronicle, will drill participants in interviewing 101. Then we'll break into small groups and interview each other.

5:50-6:30 **Two More Heads on the Dramaturgical Hydra:** (The Hideout—Upstairs)
Dramaturg as Director **and** Critic (and vice versa) Austin's celebrated critic Robert Faires and Canada's dynamo dramaturg/director Brian Quirt talk with the hippest hydra of them all, writer/translator/dramaturg James Magruder.

6:30-? Dinner and Theatre-going (See show recommendations in packet)

Late Night: Conference Bar: Habana

Saturday, June 11

9am-1pm Registration (State Theater Lobby)

9-10am Regional Breakfast (Stephen F. Austin Hotel)

10-11am **Breakout Sessions I** (Stephen F. Austin Hotel)

What can we give to **and** get from the other constituencies? What can Freelancers do for Early Career 'turgs? What can Institutional 'turgs learn from the UCaucus? Etc. Meet with your group and discuss.

Early Career

Freelancers

Institutional Turgs

U Caucus

11:-11:15 Break

11:15-1:00 **Breakout Sessions II** (Stephen F. Austin Hotel)

Making Connections—Round Robin.

11:15-11:45

Freelancers **and** Institutions

Early Career **and** U Caucus

11:50-12:20

U Caucus **and** Institutions

Freelancers **and** Early Career

12:25-12:55

Freelancers **and** UCaucus

Institutions **and** Early Career

1-2 Lunch

Collaboration Tech Rehearsal (State Theater, Studio A)

2-5pm LMDA/ASW Collaboration Project: Presentations and Conversation
(State Theater Main Stage)

For the first time, LMDA and local playwright-services organization Austin Script Works are providing seed-funding for four teams of local and national artists who are collaboratively exploring the process of live storytelling. Each team includes an LMDA dramaturg, an Austin-based playwright, and an Austin-based musician. Introduced and moderated by Philip Kan Gotanda.

5:15-7 Business Meeting (Stephen F. Austin Hotel)

8-10:30pm 20th Anniversary Banquet (The Radisson Hotel, Austin Ballroom)

11:00pm **11 at 11: LMDA Musicians' Showcase**—See program for details (Habana)

Sunday, June 12

9-10:30 Board Meeting (Stephen F. Austin Hotel)

10:30am Breakfast and Wrap-Up (Stephen F. Austin Hotel)

12-1pm Executive meeting