

# Conference

## Friday, Sept. 27th



We are excited to offer several French workshops and performances this year. Friday, in particular, will be a bilingual day with simultaneous French translation of the Keynote Address and French workshops available in every time slot.

*Cette année, nous sommes heureux d'offrir des ateliers et des représentations en français. Le vendredi, en particulier, sera une journée bilingue. Il y aura une traduction simultanée en français de la conférence d'ouverture et des ateliers en français seront offerts dans chaque plage horaire.*



8:30 am – 9:15 am



*CM1: Opening Ceremony \*\*  
Cérémonie d'ouverture \*\**



9:15 am – 10:45 am

### **K1: Welcome/Keynote Address: The Juggler's Science, The Clinician's Art \*\* Phil Jones, PhD**

"The Juggler's Science, The Clinician's Art" will aim to demystify the process of research, whilst reviewing key issues and challenges, drawing on experiences across the world. The Keynote will ask what the nature of enquiry is now, and offer ideas and practices for small scale practitioner-research and large scale initiatives. It will select specific examples from different countries and explain and examine what they can offer to the directions of our future enquiry. It will also explore deeper, philosophical and ontological themes, examining what discourses are foregrounded and othered within current health systems in many countries: considering oppression, the spiritual, client voice and power dynamics between qualitative and quantitative knowledge. Phil Jones will argue that if drama is not central to our research we will betray our clients and the momentum of our history as a discipline.

### **Conférence d'ouverture : La science du jongleur et l'art du clinician \*\***

**Phil Jones, PhD**

"La science du jongleur et l'art du clinician" cherchera à démystifier le processus de la recherche. Le conférencier mettra en évidence les défis et les enjeux majeurs de la recherche en puisant dans des expériences réalisées à travers le monde. Il s'interrogera sur l'état présent de la situation ; il proposera des thèmes et approches s'adressant au praticien de même que d'autres projets ayant une portée plus vaste.

La conférence couvrira des exemples spécifiques d'expériences menées dans plusieurs pays et examinera comment ces dernières peuvent orienter la direction de nos

futures recherches. Une exploration profonde, philosophique et ontologique permettra d'examiner des courants de pensée ancrés ou émergents dans différents systèmes de santé de plusieurs pays : seront prises en considération l'oppression, la spiritualité, la voix du client et la dynamique du pouvoir entre la connaissance qualitative et la connaissance quantitative. Phil Jones nous rappellera que si la dramathérapie n'est pas au cœur de notre recherche, nous trahirons nos clients et que notre discipline pourrait rater son rendez-vous avec l'histoire.

*\*\* Simultaneous French Translation Available*



## MORNING WORKSHOPS, 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

### **A1: The Ethics of Aesthetics in Drama Therapy and Embodied Research: Multidisciplinary Perspectives**

**Susana Pendzik, PhD, RDT**  
**Nisha Sajnani, PhD, RDT/BCT**  
**Edward Little, PhD**  
**Dave Mowers, MA, RDT, LCAT**

What is the place of aesthetics in drama therapy and embodied research? Is it ethical to judge therapeutic performances with aesthetic eyes? This multidisciplinary panel tackles these questions by creating a fruitful dialogue between practitioners, which we hope will further our understanding of this relevant topic.

### **CANCELLED — A2: Is our Knowledge of Healing Mistaken: Are Other Forces at Work?**

### **A2: Trouble de personnalité limite et ethno-théâtre : les effets thérapeutiques d'une expérience de 6 ans**

**Serge Carrier**

La création d'une pièce d'ethno-théâtre a été le contenant et le véhicule d'un processus de rétablissement pour une jeune adulte activement suicidaire. Cette présentation tentera de dégager, à travers les différents moments de cette aventure à la fois dramathérapeutique et psychoéducative, les effets des répétitions et des représentations sur ses comportements, ses relations, l'image d'elle-même, et surtout, sur sa volonté de vivre.

### **A3: Research Demystified: Drama Therapy & Dialysis Performing Together**

**Jamie Ansley, MA**

With only a Research Methods course under her belt, Jamie Ansley successfully conducted a drama therapy research study with patients on hemodialysis. She will share her process, including preliminary meetings with skeptical medical professionals, measures, methods, and results to demystify the daunting task of performing research in our field.

### **A4: Entre écran virtuelle et espace réel: "... et si on jouait réellement ensemble?"**

**Elisabetta Denti, MA**

Comment nous pouvons naviguer les eaux parfois troubles de l'interaction entre art dramatique, nouvelles technologies et nouvelles formes d'addiction? Proposition d'un protocole de dramathérapie à la recherche de la dimension transitionnelle du jeu avec des personnes souffrant d'addiction aux jeux vidéo.

## **Friday, September 27**

### **A5: Finding Each Other: Canadian Drama Therapists on a Mission**

**Susan Ward, MA, RDT/BCT**

**Angel Bilagot, MA**

**Michelle Buckle, MA, R. Psych**

**Tannis Hugill, RCC, RDT, BC-DMT**

**Tara Wood, MA, CCC**

This workshop will begin an exploration of the challenges of knowing one another as drama therapists in Canada. We will focus on the challenges of connecting across the geographical and metaphorical distances faced. Multiple creative approaches will be used in the performance and we will lead participants in a discussion creating community within diverse environments.

### **A6 : The Search for Common Factors in Drama Therapy: New Directions for Research**

**Calli Armstrong, RDT, PhD Candidate**

This presentation will review research on the common curative psychotherapy factors. Core processes in drama therapy (*dramatic projection, embodiment*) will be related to curative constructs (*emotional arousal, experiencing, alliance*). Discussion will explore how the common factors perspective might be applied to drama therapy and provide empirical support for the field.

### **A7: Research into the Drama and Drama into the Research**

**Joanabbey Sack, MA, RDT, BC-DMT, CCA**

Collaborations: A Speech Initiative Research and Ethnodrama performance research at the Centre for the Arts in Human Development: compliment of the Drama, the Dance and the Research. This presentation looks at the “interplay between science and art”; working in parallel and promise – perspective of a Dance/Drama therapist researcher.



*LUNCH ON YOUR OWN, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm (12:30 – 13:30)*



*ALL-CONFERENCE EVENT, 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm (13:30 – 14:30)*

### **DF1: 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Diversity Forum: Power and Privilege in Group Dynamics**

**Daniela Bustamante, MA**

**Amber N. Smith, MA, MEd**

**Diversity Committee Co-Chairs**

“How do power and privilege influence group dynamics?” In this forum we will conduct arts-based research on manifestations of power and privilege dynamics in a group of diverse individuals. Through examining in-forum dynamics, we will begin understanding how drama therapists can engage in equality in the NADTA and our work.

## **Friday, September 27**



**AFTERNOON LONG WORKSHOPS, 2:45 pm – 5:45 pm (14:45 – 17:45)**

### **A8: The Play's the Thing**

**Anna Seymour, PhD, HCPC, BADth**

This workshop will structure an embodied experience using *Hamlet* as a classic but contemporary play text to examine how plays can provide an exploratory framework for researching the nature of dramatherapy practice.

### **A9: “Rite of Passage” and “Giving Birth”: Metaphors that Guide Autobiographical Therapeutic Theatre**

**Armand Volkas, MFA, MA, MFT, RDT/BCT  
Susana Pendzik, PhD, RDT**

Using core metaphors as archetypal guides in Autobiographical Therapeutic Theatre (ATT) can help to structure the creative process and keep the focus on its therapeutic objective. The presenters will share their insights and arts-based research through an experiential exploration of the images of “Giving Birth” and “Rite of Passage.”

### **A10: Embodied Methodologies: An Introduction to Arts Based Research**

**Nisha Sajnani, PhD, RDT/BCT**

**Prentiss Benjamin**

**Pardis Parsa, MA**

**Laura Hix**

**Liah Rozenman**

**Joy Nirenstein Radish**

**Vjosa Ramadani**

**Sarah Carter, MA**

**Alexandra Giacona, MA**

This workshop presents learnings from developing and teaching arts based research in two drama therapy programs. It will provide practitioners and educators with an introduction to arts based research. Examples of coursework and thesis related arts based research projects will be presented by Drama Therapy students from Lesley University and NYU.

### **A11: Créer pour savoir : Des adultes avec des difficultés d'apprentissage s'expriment**

**Eve-Marie Tremblay**

**Maud Gendron-Langevin, MA**

Un groupe de jeunes adultes avec des difficultés d'apprentissages diverses a créé une pièce de théâtre à travers un processus de dramathérapie. Ainsi, les jeunes ont appris à se connaître et à exprimer leurs perceptions et difficultés. Ouvrant le dialogue avec leurs proches, une compréhension mutuelle sensible a pu émerger.

### **A12: Using Improv to Assess Relationship Functioning**

**Daniel Wiener PhD, RDT/BCT, LP, LMFT**

Rehearsals for Growth, a Drama Therapy of Relationships, has recently researched methods for using improvisational enactments to assess the quality of relationship functioning in couples. Following a brief overview, we will enact different improvisational tasks in pairs and learn how to assess the interactions displayed in these scenes.

**Friday, September 27**



**AFTERNOON SHORT WORKSHOPS (A), 2:45 pm – 4:15 pm  
(14:45 – 16:15)**

**A13: How is Performing Healing? Investigating the Role of Therapeutic Theatre at NYU**

**Cecilia Dintino, PsyD, MS, MA, RDT**

**Maria Hodermarska, MA, RDT, LCAT, CASAC, ICADAC**

**Robert Landy, MA, RDT/BCT, LCAT**

**Dave Mowers, MA, RDT, LCAT**

Through funding from the Billy Rose Foundation, the NYU drama therapy program has launched ...as *Performance*, a series of researched-based performances intended to explore issues of physical and mental health, gender, culture, and race through performance. This presentation will review the performances, research findings and future plans.

**A14: Good Grief? Meaning Reconstruction Through an Illness Narrative**

**Leah Lewis, PhD Candidate, MEd, PGDip, CCC**

*Good Grief?* is an arts based research performance stemming from Leah Lewis's doctoral research about the lived experience of end stage renal disease, kidney transplant loss and hemodialysis.



**AFTERNOON SHORT WORKSHOPS (B), 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm (16:30 – 18:00)**

**CANCELLED – A15: What if We're Not Helping? Outcome Research in Inpatient Psychiatry**

**A15: We are Here to Be Heard**

**Jess Miller, MA, RDT/BCT**

In the higher education environment, college students with non-apparent disabilities often encounter skeptical faculty and experience stigma and identity threat. *We are Here to Be Heard* explores this reality through arts-based research and uses ethnotheatre as an advocacy tool to effect positive change.

**A16: Using Digital Self-Commercials in a Child Welfare Adoption Group: A Narrative Arts-Based Inquiry**

**Myriam Savage, MA, RDT, PhD Candidate**

A doctoral-qualifying pilot research study exploring the personal stories of self-identity during and after the Narradrama self-commercial exercise. Using digital cameras, how do five male adolescents in a Child Welfare adoption support group experience creating and performing the self-commercial and what do the narratives they create mean to them?

**Friday, September 27**



*EVENING MEETING, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm (18:00 – 19:00)*

**M1: Ethics Meeting**

**Maria Hodermarska, MA, RDT, LCAT, CASAC**  
Ethics Chair

Acquaint yourself with important revisions to the Code of Ethics concerning touch and cultural competence.



*DINNER ON YOUR OWN, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm, (19:00 – 20:00)*



*EVENING PERFORMANCES, 8:00 pm – 9:30 pm (20:00 – 21:30)*

**PER3: You Arrive: Trauma, Sexuality and Individuation**

**Bonnie Harnden, MA, RDT**

This is the completed film of *You Arrive*, an arts based research project that tells the story of one woman in therapy struggling to recover from familial trauma. She arrives, along with all the parts of herself, to tell her story.

**PER4: Black in the Box: The Trauma of Being Black & Performing White in Order to Succeed**

**Charisse Brown  
Refiloe Lepere**

*Black in the Box* is a dramatic performance/ethnodrama, originally created as an arts-based research project, which attempts to put a face and voice to the psychological trauma of African Americans who “perform white” (or cover) in modern society in order to succeed.

**PER5: Cancer as Performance: A Collaborative Work with NYU Students Based on Arts Based Research**

**Gaye Doner-Tudanger, MA, RDT, LCAT**

*Cancer as Performance* is one of the performances in “*The Fading Body*” Series currently at New York University. It's a therapeutic theatre piece done in collaboration with female graduate students and explores how Arts Based Research can be used to document and perform the experience of someone living with cancer.

**PER6: Un théâtre pour l'épanouissement des individus et le développement des communautés**

**Marie Deaudelin**

À travers des spectacles à vocation sociale et des formations artistiques *Les Vidanges en Cavale* créent avec la différence. Leurs créations abordent de façon originale des thématiques souvent taboues. Leur série d'ateliers en théâtre et communication permet à des jeunes marginalisés de croire en leur potentiel créateur.