



Odyssey

Drama Queensland State Conference

Friday & Saturday 19-20 May, 2023

Stuartholme School, Toowong

CONFERENCE PROGRAM VERSION 7
MAY 2023

www.dramaqueensland.org.au/pd/conference/

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



An Odyssey is a long and eventful or adventurous journey or experience; it takes time, resilience, passion, and perseverance. However, this journey can also be full of wonder and adventure. Teaching is in many ways an Odyssey, and like Odysseus, we are sometimes faced with challenges and road blocks that seem insurmountable but can lead us to amazing places. To help overcome these challenges and start charting your course, the Drama Queensland Committee proudly brings you the 2023 State Conference: ODYSSEY.

In our current education landscape we are faced with many changes, but if we can look at these as an opportunity to chart our own course and embark on a new adventure we can take on any obstacle we may face. ODYSSEY is about looking not only at the destination but the journey we must go on to get there. We want you to be inspired by discussions and papers about pedagogy to extend your teaching practice; to engage in practical workshops that inspire creativity while exploring essential curriculum areas; attend keynotes and panels that will challenge your thinking about how we teach Drama and reinvigorate your passion; reconnect with industry and education organisations and friends.

There is something for everyone on offer as we journey to a new venue and gather for a twilight session and a full-day program. ODYSSEY will give us a space to come together and share, to remind each other we are not alone on this journey and that we draw on our unique collective strength. We are excited to come together again to learn and to collaborate and cannot wait to greet familiar faces and welcome new peers and colleagues. All we ask is that you come ready to explore, create and challenge yourself, asking yourself, where will your journey take you?

Stephanie Tudor
President, Drama Queensland



ABOUT THE CONFERENCE



Odyssey - noun

'a long and adventurous journey usually marked by many changes in fortune.'

As Drama teachers, our journey to improve our practice, raise our subject profile and face the many challenges along the way continues. While sometimes this journey can seem long and challenging, if we approach it with a clear direction and purpose, we can chart our ideal course.

Since meeting at ELEVATE in 2022, the direction of our focus continues to be placed on challenges at classroom, school, state, and industry levels. It can often seem that fortune is not on our side. Scaling and its effects; contact hours in primary and lower secondary; the administering of the syllabuses; and advocating for our subject continues to be at the forefront of our practice, minds, and hearts.

Drama Queensland's 2023 state conference ODYSSEY will provide an opportunity for you to interrogate, evaluate and rework the journey you are taking to start mapping your path and turn that fortune around.

The skills, knowledge and connections made at the conference will not only reignite your passion but also equip you to take control over the direction you will take to address the issues which you face within your own context. It will also remind you that you are not alone and while challenging, the journey is what shapes us. ODYSSEY will offer a shared space where teachers, academics and industry professionals will come together to share insight, knowledge, practice, and experience through keynotes, panels, workshops, and presentations.

We are standing on the precipice, and we are about to embark on an exciting new adventure. Come with us as we board ODYSSEY 2023 and learn together with your drama community how to not only chart a new course but to also change your fortune for the better.

Focus areas for ODYSSEY:

- Early Childhood and Primary
- Junior Secondary years 7-10
- Senior Applied Drama
- Senior General Drama (including alternative sequence)
- Advocacy - Research in Drama
- Support for Beginning Teachers
- Indigenous Perspectives
- Industry Practice and its Application to Drama

WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND?

We are so excited for you to come on this ODYSSEY with us! The Drama Queensland team has been working away to bring you an exciting program of keynotes, workshops, presentations and a panel. The conference will also allow us as a community to come together to share, grow and challenge each other to become better drama educators. This is thanks to our range of presenters from classrooms, universities and industry across the state of Queensland and beyond. By attending the conference you will take away fresh, new approaches to teaching and advocacy, along with making new professional connections. We look forward to seeing you all at Stuartholme School in May for ODYSSEY.

Scott Andrews

**Vice-President Professional Development + Conference Convener
Drama Queensland**





Odyssey

DRAMA QUEENSLAND STATE CONFERENCE 2023

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

CONFERENCE DAY ONE - FRIDAY 19 MAY

Session 1

4:30 – 5:00pm	Registration
5:00 – 5:15pm	 Conference Welcome – Stephanie Tudor, Drama Queensland President Acknowledgement of Country
5:15 – 6:10pm	 Keynote Presentation #1 - The Odyssey of Advocacy and The Arts – John Nicholas Saunders Keynote Presentation #2 - Changes: How Drama Teachers Are Responding? – Tricia Clark-Fookes
6:10 – 6:40pm	Drama Queensland Special Initiative Launch Awards
6:40 – 7:30pm	OPENING NIGHT DRINKS – Introduction to and networking with Industry Partners

CONFERENCE DAY TWO - SATURDAY 20 MAY

Session 2

8:00 – 9:00am	Registration + Trade Displays
9:00 – 9:10am	 Conference Welcome – Stephanie Tudor, Drama Queensland President Acknowledgement of Country
9:10 – 10:00am	 Keynote Presentation #3 - The Journey Home – Sharon Hogan & Brad Haseman
10:00 – 10:30am	 Panel - Charting a New Course (Primary networking opportunity)
10:30 – 11:15am	MORNING TEA + TRADE DISPLAYS



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Drama Queensland State Conference
19 & 20 May, 2023
Stuartholme School, Toowong

Session 3

	Senior #1	Senior #2	Middle	Junior	Curriculum #1	Curriculum #2
11:15am – 12:15pm	3.1 The Uncanny: Realist Magic and Gothic Australia in Playful Pedagogy Todd Barty	3.2  Understanding Shakespeare: Breaking down barriers to the Bard Rebekah Murphy from Queensland Shakespeare Ensemble	3.3 Street Scum Thomas Stewart from Melon the Human	3.4 Pilgrimage from Page to Stage Katie Gentle from shake & stir Theatre Company (upper primary/lower secondary)	3.5 Devise, Differentiate, Discover Lynda Dowley & Nicole Driver	3.6 Resilience Training Through Laughter Clint Bolster from Homunculus Theatre
12:20 – 1:50pm	4.1 Storytelling Lucas Stibbard	4.2 Be the Change Sam Foster & Hayden Jones from Shock Therapy Productions	4.3 Content Creator Tavia Seymour	4.4 Journey to 'Mountain Goat Mountain' Julie Ritchey from Threshold	4.5 Destructive Misdirection from Election to Election: Teaching First Nations Perspectives in the Drama Classroom Jane Cater	4.6  A Masterclass in Performance Skills Sharon Hogan from Perseverance Street Theatre Company & Sean Dennehy from Australian Performing Arts Conservatory
1:50 – 2:50pm	LUNCH + TRADE DISPLAYS					
3:00 – 4:30pm	5.1 Transforming Text: A Visual Theatre Odyssey Helen Stephens from Dead Puppet Society	5.2 The Epic Journey Sean Lubbers	5.3 Forum Theatre as a tool for awareness and critical thinking Matt Stewart from The Constable Care Foundation	5.4 Understanding the Transformative Potential of Drama: Using Visual Literacy to Teach Real-life Issues in the Drama Class Marthy Watson & Nicole Delaney	5.5  Black Diggers Wesley Enoch Sponsored by Queensland Theatre	5.6 'White China': Crafting a Personal Journey Ian Lawson from PlayLab Theatre & Therese Collie
4:35 – 5:15pm	 In-Conversation with Wesley Enoch – hosted by Debb Wall – Sponsored by Queensland Theatre Book Launch - Contemporary Australian Playwriting Re-visioning the Nation on the Mainstage by Chris Hay and Stephen Carleton Closing Comments – Stephanie Tudor, Drama Queensland President					
5:15 – 5:40pm	CLOSING NIGHT DRINKS – Sponsored by University of Queensland					

Session 4

Session 5

Session 6



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DIGITAL PROGRAM

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE (DIGITAL)

Drama Queensland is excited to be offering a Digital Program as part of the Drama Queensland State Conference – ODYSSEY. The Digital Program will be available to access for a set period of time (post conference) via a password protected digital platform provided by QPAC.

All in-person State Conference delegates and Digital Program delegates will have access to this platform, and access details will be provided to delegates following the conference.



RECORDED SESSIONS

More information about access will be released closer to the event.



Keynote Presentation #1: The Odyssey of Advocacy and The Arts

John Nicholas Saunders



Keynote Presentation #2: How Drama Teachers Are Responding?

Tricia Clark-Fookes



Keynote Presentation #3: The Journey Home

Sharon Hogan & Brad Haseman



Panel – Charting a New Course



Understanding Shakespeare: Breaking down barriers to the Bard

Rebekah Murphy from Queensland Shakespeare Ensemble



A Masterclass in Performance Skills

Sharon Hogan from Perseverance Street Theatre Company & Sean Dennehy from Australian Performing Arts Conservatory



Black Diggers

Wesley Enoch Sponsored by Queensland Theatre



In-Conversation with Wesley Enoch

Hosted by Debb Wall Sponsored by Queensland Theatre



Special additional workshop from 2022:

Greening Australian Gothic and the Theatre of the Absurd

Presented by Stephen Carleton



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19 & 20 MAY, 2023
STUART HOLME SCHOOL, TOOWONG

CONFERENCE
PARTNER



DIGITAL PROGRAM REGISTRATION

Costs: Digital Program Registration \$200

Key Dates:

Digital Program Registrations open:
Wednesday 26 April, 2023

Digital Program Registrations close:
Monday 15 May, 2023

Other Information:

Please visit the Drama Queensland website to register for the Digital Program
www.dramaqueensland.org.au/pd/conference/

All delegates will receive details on how to access the Digital Program on the portal, closer to the conference dates.



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DRAMA QUEENSLAND STATE CONFERENCE 2023



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KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS
AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS



The Odyssey of Advocacy and The Arts

Presented by Dr John Saunders

The place of The Arts and Drama in schools and more broadly in the community is almost continuously under threat. Over the past decade, enrolments of Queensland students electing to study The Arts in senior secondary has decreased by 40%. The Arts are devalued and underfunded, and are often marginalised, largely due to a reductive and narrow view of education policy.

Today we see a push to increase rankings in standardised tests including NAPLAN and PISA, an overemphasis on narrow literacy and numeracy testing, a limited and reductive focus on some skills and knowledge such as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) that too often excludes The Arts.

The role of The Arts in developing academic and non-academic aspects of children are often ignored. Yet, an enormous body of Australian and International research continues to demonstrate the critical role of The Arts can play in transforming and improving student learning and well-being.

This presentation aims to share key arguments, policy, and research that we can use to advocate for Drama and The Arts in our schools from the economic outcomes of the arts industry through to the impact The Arts can have on student academic achievement and well-being.



> Dr John Nicholas Saunders

is the Head of Department: The Arts at Ambrose Treacy College, Brisbane. He currently holds the following positions: Vice President, Drama Australia; Chair, National Advocates for Arts Education (NAAE); Sessional Academic at Griffith University; Honorary Associate, The University

of Sydney; Honorary Program Associate, Sydney Theatre Company; Committee Member, AITSL's School Leadership and Teaching Expert Standing Committee (SLTESC); and Board Member of Australian Plays Transform. Prior to joining Ambrose Treacy College, John was Director of Education & Community Partnerships at Sydney Theatre Company. He has worked as an educator across primary, secondary, tertiary, and juvenile justice contexts. He is a proud past President of Drama Queensland and Drama NSW.



SESSION 1

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION #2

FRIDAY 19 MAY
5:15 – 6:10pm



RECORDED SESSION

Changes: How Drama Teachers Are Responding?

Presented by Dr Tricia Clark-Fookes

How have our practices as Arts teachers changed since the introduction of the new ATAR system and revised syllabi in 2019? This presentation offers a snapshot of Arts teachers' actions and reactions in response to systemic changes in Queensland's education landscape and the effect on the subject of Drama.



> Dr Tricia Clark-Fookes

currently holds the position of Senior Lecturer in QUT Creative Industries, Education and Social Justice Faculty. She has worked as a drama educator for over 25 years, working across P-12 and tertiary contexts. Her experiences include leadership roles in the education sector, corporate training, and

engagements with theatre companies and arts organisations as a teaching artist.

PANEL Charting a New Course

Drama Queensland is acutely aware of the struggles which teachers are currently facing throughout the state in regard to class sizes. Many schools across the state are now running composite classes, courses with low enrolment numbers and in some schools, there is no senior drama program. To complement our two opening night keynotes, we have assembled a group of drama educators from a variety of different school contexts to share with you how they have successfully advocated for Drama within their school.

These educators will share with us a variety of strategies they use in terms of how they design and administer their junior and middle years program, promote their subject, and secure numbers for senior classes, providing you with practical tips that have worked for them.

SATURDAY 20 MAY
10:00 – 10:30am



RECORDED SESSION





The Journey Home

Presented by Sharon Hogan and Brad Haseman

The Odyssey is about the journey home. This enlivened keynote will take delegates on a journey past the major landscapes and artefacts of drama education to find our bearings in a new world. Our new home, the space and place in which drama educators must now navigate, to create, teach and challenge, will be deconstructed and examined. Two seasoned travellers, Dr Sharon Hogan and Professor Emeritus Brad Haseman, will guide us through an evocative and provocative keynote to map the new world, assist us to reset our moral compass and find the navigational points that teachers and teaching artists need to fully advance our pedagogy of creativity: drama education. And as we sail into the future, we must remain true to the challenge Homer wrote in his opening lines over 2,500 years ago:

*“...tell the old story for our modern times.
Find the beginning.”*



➤ **Dr Sharon Hogan** has worked in school, university and industry settings in the performing arts. Currently the Head of Pedagogy at James Nash State High School and volunteer CEO of the not-for-profit professional theatre company Perseverance Street, she is passionate about building stronger pathways for young people to transition into and sustain creative futures.

Sharon's research into the pedagogy of the drama classroom has equipped her with the tools to deconstruct teaching practice and find ways to support her fellow drama educators to build a deeper level of understanding of why, what and how they teach. She believes that by strengthening our pedagogy and confidence as practitioners we can enhance student experience and the future of drama education.



➤ **Professor Emeritus Brad Haseman**

Brad is Professor Emeritus in Drama Education who served at QUT for 30 years. Formerly a drama teacher and consultant in Queensland schools, Brad served on curriculum committees driving the growth of Drama and the Arts for over a decade. He is known internationally as a teacher and workshop leader (Process Drama), arts

researcher (Performative Research) and community engagement practitioner (teaching-artistry). He has published foundational scholarship in these fields; most recently *Dramawise Reimagined*, and *The Basics of Teaching Artistry*, an online program (Kadenze.com). Brad is a DQ life member and has received the President's award from National Drama Australia. These days he serves as Executive Vice President of Kadenze, is on St Paul's School Council, chairs the Academic Board of Australian Performing Arts Conservatory and struggles to keep up with two wee grandchildren!





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SESSION INFORMATION

Staging the Uncanny: Realist Magic and Gothic Australia in Playful Pedagogy

Presented by Todd Barty

This masterclass addresses Magical Realism and Australian Gothic Theatre and their conventions. The theoretical component will expand teachers' understanding of these terms and introduce the concepts of Climate Gothic and Happy Gothic, both relevant to our students' world. The practical component will consist of activities that teachers may use to induct learners into the Gothic/Magical Realist sensibility, drawing on methodologies that inform works in these styles. These will be applied to the text "Knock Knock Knock!" – a new work that demonstrates how any space can be endowed with the uncanny sense that a story lingers, waiting to be told.

➤ **Todd Barty** is a graduate of James Cook University's Bachelor of Theatre (Acting), Bachelor of Education (Secondary) and Bachelor of Arts (Hons.), the latter focused on Magical Realism and Australian Gothic theatre. Todd has worked as an actor, educator, director and playwright and teaches at St Anthony's Catholic College, Townsville.





Understanding Shakespeare: Breaking down barriers to the Bard

Presented by Rebekah Murphy from Queensland Shakespeare Ensemble

The key to understanding Shakespeare is the context in which his plays were written. They were written to be embodied, not read, and an understanding of several key implications of this can bring illumination and joy to your encounter with Shakespeare's words. Using techniques from the QSE rehearsal room, we will show you ways to help bridge the gap between page and stage for your senior drama students. In this workshop we will explore:

- embodied language
- direct address and meta-theatricality
- the nature of dramatic verse
- stage directions and clues in the text

➤ **Rebekah Murphy** has been a QSE Core Ensemble member for 15 years. An in-demand facilitator and tutor, Rebecca has worked with many companies and institutions including Queensland Shakespeare Ensemble, University of Queensland, NIDA Open, Brisbane Drama Studio, Shakespeare Prison Project, Tropical Arts, Underground Productions and ABCN (Australian Business and Community Network).



Street Scum

Presented by Thomas Stewart from Melon the Human

In this presentation, Thomas will perform a street show whilst talking through the beats and conventions. Street theatre offers an open style to explore in the classroom since it features limitless forms with one goal: hold and build an audience for monetary gain. How students perform this is up to them.

This presentation is best suited for middle years Drama teachers. Participants will leave with a stock Street Theatre blueprint and an understanding for how students can apply their own creativity to this artform.

Street performer tip: never choose drunks, performers, or Drama teachers as your volunteer. Come to this presentation to discover why.

➤ **Thomas Stewart** wanted to be a performer, but could never find success, so he became a teacher. After his first midlife crisis, he left Australia to learn circus. Fast forward and Thomas was travelling the world, setting up his circus show wherever he could and working with Cirque du Soleil. Then COVID happened and now he's a teacher.



Pilgrimage from Page to Stage

Presented by Katie Gentle from shake & stir Theatre Company

Did you know: Aesop wrote 725 fables way back in the sixth century BCE? It's time to dust them off and present them for 2023. A lot has changed since Aesop was around – but his iconic messages remain as pertinent as ever.

Using shake & stir's 2023 production of *Fractured Fables* as inspiration, unpack how adapting from page to the stage can set students up for creating dynamic theatrical experiences.

Useful for Primary and Secondary teachers alike, as we explore Children's and Contemporary Theatre to unpack practical ways to build words into new worlds for young and old.

➤ **Katie Gentle** is the Education Liaison Officer for shake & stir theatre company, with a decade of experience as a Drama and English teacher. Loving nothing more than seeing other teachers succeed in engaging and inspiring their students, she establishes the connections between shake & stir's programs and the curriculum.



Devise, Differentiate, Discover

Presented by Lynda Dowley and Nicole Driver

In this workshop participants will learn practical ways to incorporate topic specific warm-up games and brain breaks, as well as differentiation practices to help teachers address the diversity in a drama classroom. With focus on increasing learner agency this workshop will enable teachers to adjust and refine their planning so students are able to engage and participate through authentic processes as artists, responders and makers.

➤ With 17 years experience in the Performing Arts, **Lynda Dowley** has worked with a variety of students and ability levels as Head of Department and Inclusive Curriculum Leader. Teaching Drama in the classroom and working externally with government agencies has given Lynda a greater scope regarding the power of Performing Arts.

➤ **Nicole Driver** has more than 14 years experience in both the State and Catholic Secondary Education systems and is currently a Head of Performing Arts. She is the co-founder of the Take the Stage Drama Festival and wants to share her ability to renew, refresh and revitalise your Drama classroom.



Resilience Training Through Laughter

Presented by Clint Bolster from Homunculus Theatre

The idea of a connection between laughter, emotional well-being, and mental health has been around for years. Research suggests that the healing power of humour and laughter combats stress, reduces pain by releasing endorphins, boosts the immune system by increasing the level of T cells & lowering serum cortisol levels, helps promote a positive outlook, helps people to cope with difficult situations and helps to create bonds and therefore support between people, all of which aid the healing process.

This workshop is all authentic connection through laughter; it will enhance curiosity, bolster confidence and inspire collaboration – and, above all, celebrate joy.

➤ **Clint Bolster** is a Clown, Physical Actor, Mask Theatre Specialist, Stilt Performer & Trainer and Teaching Artist. With 20 years of experience, Clint regularly performs in Australia and internationally. He is in Cirque Du Soleil database of Clowns, 2022/2023 Australian Tour of Slavas' Snow Show, is a proud Queensland Member and Mentor for The Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance, and is a Board Member for Indel-Ability Arts.



Storytelling

Presented by Lucas Stibbard

A practical workshop that offers processes for helping students undertake Share. This will include work on processes and shapes for storytelling and the transformation of time, place, space, character, and object, with examples from one of the suggested texts.

➤ **Lucas Stibbard** makes theatre and performance work as a performer, director, writer, dramaturg, designer, producer and teaching artist. His work with The Escapists, a multi-disciplinary collective he co-founded, has included co-writing, co-directing, producing and performing in the critically acclaimed, multi-award winning *boy girl wall* (Helpmann Award nomination - Best Actor), he has taught at QUT, USQ, Griffith and NIDA Open and delivered thousands of in-school workshops, incursions and residencies as a freelance arts worker, the ex-senior producer for youth and education at Backbone Youth Arts and for QT, Shake & Stir and La Boite.





Be the Change

Presented by Sam Foster and Hayden Jones from Shock Therapy Productions

Shock Therapy's signature style will help participants explore the process and importance of Theatre for Social Change. The workshop will explore the impact of theatre makers such as Boal and Brecht, and the desire to raise awareness and drive change.

Delegates are encouraged to delve into this genre, through the macro and micro lens, exploring how both are important when structuring a piece of theatre. Participants will engage in physical movement, gaining practical skills for devising theatre for social comment and social change.

This masterclass aligns with Unit 3 - Challenge.

Please wear clothes and shoes suitable for physical movement.

➤ **Sam Foster** and **Hayden Jones** have over forty years of combined experience: writing, directing, and performing for young audiences. Sam is an award-winning actor, director, writer, producer, stunt performer and stunt rigger. His career has taken him overseas, as well as extensively through Australia. Hayden is a performer and contemporary performance maker, working across a range of forms, for some of Australia's most recognised and innovative arts organisations. He has an extensive background working in Youth and Children's Theatre, writing, directing, performing, and touring nation-wide. Together, they have established Shock Therapy as one of Queensland's leading Theatre-in-Education companies.



Content Creator

Presented by Tavia Seymour

Drama happens everywhere. Students are accessing Drama everyday via their devices. We want to show them how to be effective creators of clickable content, using the skills, processes, and elements of Drama, and have them see how exceptionally relevant our subject is to their lives. Try Tik Tok Impro, make YouTube for kids and analyse script using ChatGPT.

This is a practical workshop with activities designed to engage students with the subject of Drama in the early years of high school and hopefully hook them sufficiently that they continue to select the subject.

Bring your phone, iPad, or tablet.

➤ As a Five-Arts HOD, **Tavia Seymour** represented Independent Schools Australia during the ACARA review, contributing to the Arts Teacher Reference Group and writing for Drama. She has also been a Lead Marker for the QCAA. Having been on the committees for Vena Cava, QSE and Sunshine Coast Schools Drama Festival, she is currently loving being part of the team from Drama Queensland.

Journey to 'Mountain Goat Mountain'

Presented by Julie Ritchey from Threshold

In this practical workshop from Victorian theatre company, Threshold, you are invited to get your imaginary hiking boots on and take the journey to the immersive world of 'Mountain Goat Mountain' – an award-winning and internationally acclaimed audio-theatre experience that blurs the lines between performer and audience.

The workshop guides you through one of the five 'Mountain Goat Mountain' episodes and associated pre- and post-episode Drama and cross-curricular learning experiences.

Ideal for Junior Primary teachers, or for Secondary teachers who are looking for a dynamic way to explore children's theatre.

This audio-theatre work is accompanied by a study guide created by Melissa Newton-Turner that links directly to The Australian Curriculum Version 9.0 (<https://thethreshold.squarespace.com/mgm-curriculum-links>)

➤ **Julie Ritchey** is a theatre-maker who specializes in participatory, multi-sensory theatre for and with young people. Before relocating to Brisbane in 2022, Julie was the founder of Chicago's award-winning Filament Theatre, where she served as Artistic Director for fifteen years. In this role, Julie partnered with Threshold to present 'Mountain Goat Mountain' to Filament's family audiences.

➤ **Threshold** create experiences that invite people to connect more deeply with each other. Theatre makers Tahli Corin and Sarah Lockwood collaborate with visual and installation artists, art therapists, psychologists, composers, sound designers, digital gurus and technical wizards to create interactive theatrical experiences that have been experienced by thousands of people across the world.



Destructive Misdirection from Election to Election: Teaching First Nations Perspectives in the Drama Classroom

Presented by Jane Cater

In this practical workshop, participants will learn how to explore First Nations perspectives respectfully and meaningfully, and positively represent First Nations cultures and identities in Drama. This unit, entitled 'Destructive Misdirection from Election to Election', engages with the impact of recent damages made to First Nations sacred sites and cultural practices.

Using freeze frames, Physical Theatre, and Theatre of the Oppressed techniques, participants will explore the physical, cultural, and spiritual layers of Country, the damage which has been done to those layers, and opportunities for change, healing, and justice in the future.

This workshop is open to all teachers.

➤ **Jane Carter** is a Drama teacher, educator and currently Head of Arts at Mount Waverley Secondary College Melbourne. Jane is a contributor to Teaching First Nations Content and Concepts: Advice for teachers in Victorian Schools. She has just recently presented workshops on this document in Iceland and the UK at the IDEA and IDIERI global conferences.



A Masterclass in Performance Skills

Presented by Sharon Hogan from Perseverance Street Theatre Company and Sean Dennehy from Australian Performing Arts Conservatory

In this masterclass, an industry leader and a Drama educator collaborate to practically unpack the common curriculum term “performance skills”.

This practical and theoretical master class will immerse participants in teaching approaches suitable for actors, of all ages and levels of experience, to navigate the performance skills odyssey. The session will invite participants to examine how Drama educators might prepare their students for the journey.

The facilitators will explore the term performance skills, identify the learning progressions involved and explore how teacher artists might prepare Drama students to confidently meet the demands of curriculum, assessment and industry.

➤ **Sean Dennehy** teaches from the film set to the classroom, from the stage to the studio. As an independent actor, director, producer he has worked in all aspects of the industry. For the past five years, he has been Head of Discipline (Acting) at the Australian Performing Arts Conservatory, in Brisbane.

➤ **Dr Sharon Hogan** has worked in school, university, and Arts industry settings. Currently the Head of Pedagogy at James Nash State High School and CEO of Perseverance Street Theatre Company. Sharon is passionate about building stronger pathways for young people to transition into and sustain creative futures in the performing arts.



Transforming Text: A Visual Theatre Odyssey

Presented by Helen Stephens from Dead Puppet Society

Join Helen Stephens from Dead Puppet Society on a page-to-stage adventure as we look at the process of translating existing text in new and exciting ways. This hands-on workshop will include skills building in core Visual Theatre making techniques and directly apply them to the process of translating existing text into meaningful and evocative performances.

Through the use of simple design elements, hand held lighting, small and large scale perspective and ensemble performance, participants will walk away with a tool kit of exercises and processes designed to be directly replicated in the classroom.

➤ **Helen Stephens** is the Head of Youth and Engagement at Dead Puppet Society where she leads the Education program and works as a performer, director, and facilitator of visual theatre and puppetry workshops. She directed *Metamorphoses* by Mary Zimmerman (2020) and *The Secret Garden* by Kathryn Marquet (2019). She performed in *Laser Beak Man* and worked as the Puppet Coach for *The Wider Earth*. Helen has travelled extensively crafting theatre experiences for young people and communities. Helen is the lead facilitator on the DPS Academy program.



The Epic Journey

Presented by Sean Lubbers

This experiential and story/process drama driven workshop takes participants through Sean's own pedagogical odyssey teaching Epic theatrical style and its associated conventions to Senior Drama students. It builds on work started in 2001 by Drama Life Member and legend Susie Lawson.

Using pre-text, story drama and a process driven pedagogical approach that places students at the centre of the learning context, Sean will take workshop participants on an odyssey into Epic theatrical theory and praxis so that Unit 3 Challenge in the Queensland General Drama syllabus is no longer a challenge for students mastering the form, purpose, content and context in their own artistic work.

➤ **Sean Lubbers** has been teaching Drama for 26 years and is Head of the Arts at Forest Lake State High School. Sean was Lecturer in Charge at ACU from 2018-2022. Sean is a former President of Drama Queensland and was on Drama Australia Board. Sean is a Lead Confirmer for the QCAA. In 2020, Sean started a Youth Theatre company called FLAKE Productions.

Forum Theatre as a tool for awareness and critical thinking

Presented by Matt Stewart from The Constable Care Foundation

A practical workshop on delivering Forum Theatre for Drama and non-Drama Students, Years 7-10, as a means of stimulating conversations around important social issues that are impacting young people today.

Participants will learn how to use Forum Theatre as a safe way to approach difficult subjects and how to get students to create their own forum theatre shows. The session will be interactive and will cover how to build a Forum Theatre scene, how to replay and change the scene with the audience intervening, and how to take young students through the Forum Theatre process to create their own scenes.

➤ **Matt Stewart** is Australia's leading practitioner of Forum Theatre. He was co-founder of Darlinghurst Theatre Company and Milk Crate Theatre for Sydney's homeless community. He has successfully adapted Forum Theatre for many companies, including Mind Blank Inc and now works for Constable Care in WA, delivering and teaching Forum Theatre.



Understanding the Transformative Potential of Drama: Using Visual Literacy to Teach Real-life Issues in the Drama Class

Presented by Marthy Watson and Nicole Delaney

The workshop explores how an arts-rich Drama program for Primary classrooms can be created by engaging in creative responses to real-world issues.

Participants will be stepped through a unit of work, using the picture books *Fire and Flood* by Jackie French to explore climate change in Australia. Participants will harness their experience and creativity to articulate critical thinking that provokes questioning and a vision of change.

The workshop is suitable for Foundation – Year 6 teachers. Presenters will work with participants to embed the Drama curriculum in the early years and upper Primary. Teachers will leave with a unit of work on climate change to implement in their classrooms.

➤ **Dr Marthy Watson** is a lecturer and Director of Teacher Education (ITE) at the University of Southern Queensland. Her research focuses on reflective practice through arts-based learning, arts integration, and learner engagement. She works closely with educators to support them in innovative and transforming ways to teach the arts curriculum in their classrooms.

➤ **Nicole Delaney** is a lecturer in Early Childhood Education at the University of Southern Queensland. Her research interests are located within the broader early childhood field, with specific interests in arts-based practices, early mathematical thinking and social inclusion. Nicole is an advocate for children's voices.



Black Diggers

Presented by Wesley Enoch

Sponsored by Queensland Theatre

Acclaimed *Black Diggers* director, Wesley Enoch, will address, through the lens of a directorial vision, how the creatives and performers blended dramatic languages: elements, conventions and skills of drama together to explore the process that went into creating this award-winning theatrical performance. Taken from the verbatim experiences of Indigenous First Nations conscripts, *Black Diggers*, written by Tom Wright, blends conversations with veterans, historians, academics and painstaking research into the lives and deaths of over one thousand Indigenous servicemen.

**QUEENSLAND
THEATRE**

➤ **Wesley Enoch AM** (b. 1969) is a theatre director and playwright and was the director of the Sydney Festival from 2017 to 2021. A Noonuccal Ngugi man from Minjerribah (Stradbroke Island), Enoch grew up in Brisbane and majored in Drama at the Queensland University of Technology. In 1993 he was appointed inaugural director of Brisbane's Kooemba Jdarra Performing Arts, where his productions included the *7 Stages of Grieving*, co-written with Deborah Mailman. Following this he was resident director at the Sydney Theatre Company; artistic director at the Ilbjerri Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Theatre Co-operative; and associate artistic director at Belvoir Street Theatre. In 2010 he was appointed artistic director of the Queensland Theatre Company, where he created productions such as *The Sunshine Club*, for which he won the 2000 Matilda Award and the 2001 Deadly Award for Best Director. His play *The Story of the Miracles at Cookie's Table* won the 2005 Patrick White Playwrights' Award. In 2004 he directed the original stage production of *The Sapphires* for the Melbourne Theatre Company and Belvoir Street Theatre, which won the 2005 Helpmann Award for Best Play and toured to Korea and London. His production of *Riverland* premiered at the 2004 Adelaide Festival and won the Helpmann Award for Best Presentation for Children in 2005. Among many other productions, Enoch directed *Black Diggers* for the Sydney Festival in 2014; and *Black Cockatoo*, which premiered at the 2020 Sydney Festival. He directed a new production of *The Sunshine Club* for Queensland Theatre in 2022; and in 2021 his outstanding contribution to his profession was honoured with Australian Writers' Guild's Dorothy Crawford Award.



‘White China’: Crafting a Personal Journey

Presented by Ian Lawson from PlayLab Theatre and Therese Collie

White China is an epic adventure that follows three generations of women as they rewrite their relationships in the wake of unacknowledged truths about their family history. This workshop focuses on *White China*, a Playlab Theatre production, and is designed to unpack the Linear/Non-Linear and fragmented forms in the text and how these contribute to different ways of storytelling.

Playwright, Therese Collie and Director/Dramaturg Ian Lawson will provide insight into how to develop your playwriting practice and teach your students to understand and create meaning. Delegates attending will also be led through a series of writing exercises to explore how family history can be crafted into storytelling with a theatrical outcome.

Notebook and pen required.

➤ **Ian Lawson** is a multi-award-winning Director and Dramaturg. As Artistic Director/CEO of Playlab Theatre, Ian has developed and directed the critically acclaimed *Slow Boat*, *Horizon*, *Blue Bones*, *The Dead Devils of Cockle Creek* and *Magpie*. Ian has worked for: QMF, Brisbane Festival, Queensland Theatre, PWA, UQ, JUTE Theatre, Griffith University, Zen Zen Zo and Screen Queensland. From 2002–2008, Ian was the Associate Director at La Boite, where he directed numerous productions.

➤ **Therese Collie** is a playwright, director, actor and dramaturg. Therese was awarded an Australia Council Fellowship and The Playlab Award for her commitment to new work. Therese was the Director/Co-creator of the AWGIE award-winning Children’s Play, *Kese Solwata*; Director of *Svetlana in Slingbacks* for La Boite; Writer/Director of *Long Way Round* for the ATOM award-winning SBS series *Under The Skin*; Director/Co-creator of *Chinese Take Away*. Therese has a longstanding career in Brisbane Theatre.





In-Conversation with Wesley Enoch

Hosted by Debb Wall

Sponsored by Queensland Theatre

Join us for a candid conversation with Wesley Enoch and we talk about his journey as an artist and unpack the struggles he has overcome during his career but also discuss the resilience, perseverance and wisdom he has gained along the way. From his beginnings at QUT to his work across the country as a playwright, director, creative consultant, and artistic director we will explore how Wesley has charted his course to get to where he is today, and just how he did it.

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Contemporary Australian Playwriting

Re-visioning the Nation on the Mainstage



BY
CHRIS HAY
STEPHEN CARLETON

Grab your copy today!
www.routledge.com/9781032008615



ABOUT THE BOOK

Contemporary Australian Playwriting provides a thorough and accessible overview of the diverse and exciting new directions that Australian Playwriting is taking in the twenty-first century.

In 2007, the most produced playwright on the Australian mainstage was William Shakespeare. In 2019, the most produced playwright on the Australian mainstage was Nakkiah Lui, a Gamilaroi and Torres Strait Islander woman. This book explores what has happened both on stage and off to generate this remarkable change. As writers of colour, queer writers, and gender diverse writers are produced on the mainstage in larger numbers, they bring new critical directions to the twenty-first century Australian stage. At a politically turbulent time when national identity is fractured, this book examines the ways in which Australia's leading playwrights have interrogated, problematised, and tried to make sense of the nation. Tracing contemporary trends, the book takes a thematic approach to the re-evaluation of the nation that is dramatized in key Australian plays.

Each chapter is accompanied by a duologue between two of the playwrights whose work has been analysed, to provide a dual perspective of theory and practice.

Dead Puppet Society in association with Queensland Performing Arts Centre present

Dead Puppet Society's ISHMAEL

By David Morton

19-27 MAY 2023

Cremorne Theatre, QPAC

BOOK TODAY QPAC.COM.AU

Drama Queensland Conference members are invited to an exclusive **free post-show Q&A** with Dead Puppet Society's cast and creatives on Saturday 20 May after the 7.30pm performance*.

Please register your interest with Drama Queensland [HERE](#).

To rent the recorded version of *Ishmael* online and to access additional Schools resources visit digitalstage.qpac.com.au.

*subject to availability

 Dead Puppet Society

 QPAC
QUEENSLAND
PERFORMING
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 Queensland
Government

REGISTRATION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW DO I REGISTER?

You can register and pay for the conference two ways.

1. Register Online via the DQ website and Pay by Credit Card
2. Download a Registration Form from the DQ website and Pay by Direct Deposit on Invoice

For both options visit: www.dramaqueensland.org.au and choose: ODYSSEY 2023: Drama Queensland State Conference

KEY DATES

- Registration Opens: FRIDAY 10 MARCH 2023
- Early Bird Rates Close: FRIDAY 21 APRIL 2023
- Registration Closes: MONDAY 5 MAY 2023

WHAT IS INCLUDED WITH MY REGISTRATION FEE?

- Conference Program: including keynotes, workshops, performances; Conference satchel and materials; Trade Displays; Catering (Friday registration, Saturday Morning tea, Lunch, and closing drinks)
- Individual and Concession (student/unemployed) rates are for all Drama Queensland Members
- Special Events (Theatre Visit) incur optional fees

ARE REGIONAL FUNDING GRANTS AVAILABLE?

Regional Funding grants are available to Drama Queensland members. Please visit the DQ website for application details.

REGISTRATION FEES – Friday 19 & Saturday 20 May 2023

MEMBERSHIP	EARLY BIRD	FULL RATE
INDIVIDUAL	\$235	\$265
CONCESSION	\$125	\$150
NON-MEMBER	\$285	\$320
PRESENTERS	\$100 (flat rate)	
SPECIAL EVENT - Saturday 20 May, 7:30pm		
Dead Puppet Society's ISHMAEL Performance and exclusive Q&A at Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC)	STEP 1: Purchase your performance ticket HERE (\$59 + transaction fee) STEP 2: Please register your attendance to the exclusive Q&A HERE	

HOW DO YOU SUPPORT BEGINNING TEACHERS?

The Robin Thomas Bursary is available to fund registration fees for beginning or pre-service teachers who are Drama Queensland members. Please visit the DQ website for application details.

DO YOU HAVE ANY ACCOMODATION RECOMMENDATIONS?

Accommodation listings close to the venue can found on the DQ website. Please book early as there are some football events on the same weekend.

For more information email: conference@dramaqueensland.org.au