



Newsletter

*Performance Studies international conference #17
25–29 May 2011, Utrecht, The Netherlands*

Dear PSi Member,

The second edition of our newsletter aims to provide you with more information about the contents of the conference coming up in May in Utrecht. The preliminary programme of the conference will be available online on 1st March, 2011 at <http://psi17.org>. This email is sent out to both conference participants and members on PSi Mailing lists.

1. Early bird registration and confirmation of participation

Please be reminded that the Early Bird Registration for the conference will be closed on 1st March, 2011.

Our Conference Assistant Aliki Darzentas has been sending out emails to all whose proposals have been accepted to kindly ask you to confirm whether you will attend the conference. Although many of you have responded, we have not heard back from everyone yet. Please realise that in order to finalise the programme and schedule, your confirmation is essential. Please let us know as soon as possible if you will not be able to attend.

We are now in the final stages of confirming the list of presenters at Camillo. In order to facilitate the coordination of all the proposals, especially the shifts, we kindly ask for your cooperation in giving prompt replies to our questions regarding your proposals.

2. Revised abstracts for panels and shifts

Panelists and paper presenters have been asked to send in a revised abstract. Shift participants will be contacted about this real soon. If you have not submitted yet, please make sure you send in the revised abstract as soon as possible, so that we can put the final programme together.

3. Prelude panel with Brian Rotman, Alva Noë and Jon McKenzie on Wednesday, May 25, 12:00 – 17:00

The prelude panel takes as its starting point the ways in which performance and performativity have become key terms in a wide variety of fields, and how they have produced new subjects of knowledge, new conceptions of what constitutes knowledge, how things can be known, and what it means to know. We propose to approach this subject from the intersection of science and the humanities; fields of research that have been considered intrinsically disconnected or even incommensurable.

We are proud to present to you three outstanding and eminent scholars, philosopher Brian Rotman (Ohio State University), philosopher Alva Noë (University of California, Berkeley) and media and performance scholar Jon McKenzie (University of Wisconsin) who will all speak at the prelude panel.

4. Camillo 2.0: Festive Opening, Wednesday, May 25, 18:00-19:00

Following the exciting prelude conference, we will have a festive opening for the official kickoff of the conference. There will be drinks and buffet for free for registered conference participants, offered by City Hall Utrecht, Faculty of the Humanities of Utrecht University and the Treaty of Utrecht.

5. Lineup of the conference, Thursday to Sunday, May 26-29

Schedule: From Thursday to Saturday, we will follow the schedule of having panel presentations in the morning, and shifts in the afternoon and evening sessions. On Sunday, we will only have a morning program consisting of panels, and in the afternoon, the PSi General Meeting will take place between 1430 and 1600.

Plenary speakers at PSi#17: We are proud to present excellent, outstanding interdisciplinary academics with a keen interest in both theory and practice who will be our plenary speakers at the conference.

- *Jane Taylor* – South African writer, art critic, curator, director and scholar. From 2000 to 2009 she was the Skye Chair of Dramatic Arts at the University of the Witwatersrand.
- *Mieke Bal* – Cultural theorist, critic and filmmaker (Professor of the Royal Academy of Sciences, and the University of Amsterdam)

- *Peter Matussek* – media and cultural theorist (University of Siegen); Matussek will present in a special Lectures Series on Camillo's theatre of memory. The series will take as its starting point Janez Janša's installation *Wailing Wall* that will be presented at the conference (for more info, see introduction below in the next topic).

6. PSi#17 and Festival a/d Werf proudly present:

In close collaboration with Festival a/d Werf, a Utrecht theatre festival, we will offer a selection of performances and installations within the festival, specially curated for PSi participants! Conference participants will have the opportunity to book tickets in advance. Information on date, location and procedure how to book and pay will be available soon.

Kris Verdonck / A Two Dogs Company

ACTOR #1

(MASS, HUMINID en DANCER #3)

Wed 25, Thu 26, Fri 27, Sat 28 May 2011

ACTOR #1 is a three-part installation/performance about what has come into being, what is, and what may come into being. MASS shows an odd, poetic landscape of constantly moving sculpted mists in which chemical and physical processes are taking place. In HUMINID a creature that can be called part human and part doll addresses the spectator. In DANCER #3 a robot is trying to stand up straight. The performance expresses Verdonck's fascination with machines and images and concepts taken from science fiction.

Sanja Mitrović

Will You Ever Be Happy Again?

Thu 26, May 2011

Will You Ever Be Happy Again employs documentary strategies to explore how nationality influences one's personal identity. This issue has been acutely pertinent to both Serbia and Germany, which, at different points in their national histories, have been perceived in negative terms within the international community. Starting from autobiographical accounts the performers counterpoint and mirror each other's cultural and historical backgrounds as they approach the problem of self-representation.

Giuseppe Chico & Barbara Matijević

I AM 1984

Fri 27, Sat 28 May 2011

The lecture performance I AM 1984 takes the audience on a pseudo-scientific journey that presents a richly textured depiction of 1984 using language and drawings. I AM 1984 plays with the links between autobiographical events and facts of History and questions whether nowadays, with a constantly expanding virtual world, the dichotomy between reality and imagination still has value, or whether it has become obsolete.

Gisèle Vienne

This is how you will disappear

Fri 27, Sat 28 May 2011

Gisèle Vienne composes images of a world in constant motion, from the imperceptible evolution to the most destructive chaos. The landscape in which she sets her three protagonists is defined by artificially exaggerated naturalism: real forest, real fog, a climate that floats from the stage into the auditorium. Artificial nature becomes an active protagonist.

Janez Janša (also known as Emil Hrvatin)

Wailing Wall

Wed 25, Thu 26, Fri 27, Sat 28 May 2011

Wailing Wall is an installation/performance that deals with the intimate dimension of crying. The spectator visits three rooms, three modes of donating tears, three situations of evoking individual's memories: the room of the individual memories, one of collective memories, and the physiological space. Janša investigates the emotional relation to the memory and focuses on the extreme manifestation of emotional states - the crying. Wailing Wall takes over the installation piece *The Cabinet of Memories*, which Janša created in 1998.

Karen Lancel en Hermen Maat

TELE_TRUST

Wed 25, Thu 26, Fri 27, Sat 28 May 2011

The installation/performance TELE_TRUST explores how in our changing social eco-system we increasingly demand transparency; while at the same time we cover our vulnerable bodies with personal communication-technology. The audience is invited to put on a wearable interactive 'data-veils; a mix of a monks' habit and a

burqa with flexible sensors woven in it's smart textile. In an intimate body experience and real time audio the audience shares emotions and statements of trust.

7. Special offer for PSi #17 participants: Holland Festival 2011

The Holland Festival invites the participants of PSi #17 to extend their stay in the Netherlands after the conference and visit one or more of a selection of performances of the 64th Holland Festival that takes place in Amsterdam from 1-26 June. Due to the generosity of the Holland Festival, we can offer the tickets for a selection of performances to visitors of PSi #17 with a special discount. Tickets for the performances Mea Culpa, Via Intolleranza II and Birds With Skymirrors can be purchased for 15 euros each. Please see performance descriptions, dates and times below. If you would like to reserve a ticket for one or more of these performances at the Holland Festival, please send an e-mail to Annemieke Keurentjes at annemieke.keurentjes@hollandfestival.nl.

The Holland Festival has been the trend-setting performing arts festival in the Netherlands since 1947, annually presenting exceptional work at the international level. The Holland Festival features a mix of all the performance arts, a mix of big names and daring experiments: www.hollandfestival.nl

Christoph Schlingensief
[Mea Culpa. A ReadyMadeOper](#)
Date: Thu 2 June 2011

Christoph Schlingensief
[Via Intolleranza II](#)
Dates: Sat 4, Sun 5, Mon 6 June 2011

Lemi Ponifasio/MAU
[Birds With Skymirrors](#)
Dates: Fri 3, Sat 4, Sun 5 June 2011

Schlingensief und seine Filme

There will also be several screenings of films by Christoph Schlingensief from 2 – 8 June. The admission prices for the films are € 9.

Don't forget to check out our website for further information: <http://psi17.org/>

If you have any questions regarding registrations, please direct all enquiries to camillo@uu.nl; if you have any questions regarding proposals, please approach our conference assistant, Alik Darzentas, at A.E.Darzentas@uu.nl.

Looking forward to seeing you in May!

Best regards,

Evelyn Wan,
Conference Assistant

On Behalf of PSi #17 Conference Committee