



Newsletter

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

Dear PSi Member,

The third edition of our newsletter aims to provide you with more information about the contents of the conference coming up in May in Utrecht. This email is sent out to both conference participants and members on PSi Mailing lists.

1. Preliminary Programme online

With pleasure we inform you that the preliminary programme for PSi #17 is now [online](#). This programme includes an update of the Panel programme and a first complete overview of the Shift programme and all other performances and events that will take place during the conference.

General information can be found on our website www.psi17.org. If you have any other questions about the programme or about this programme update in particular, please contact our conference assistant Evelyn Wan at camillo.gw@uu.nl.

Please note that we do **not** use the alice.darzentas@gmail.com address anymore as a general contact address.

2. Reminder: Confirmation of attendance

Please confirm your attendance to the conference organisation as soon as possible but no later than **April 15**. Should you fail to do so, your abstract will be removed from the programme book.

3. Reminder: Revised Abstracts for papers, panels, shifts, roundtables and lunch time sessions

We would like to ask participants who have not submitted their revised abstracts yet to do so as soon as possible in order to facilitate the compilation of the programme book.

Please fill out the form for revised abstracts and send the file to camillo.gw@uu.nl, taking note of the word limits for the respective categories of submission:

- All Papers: 200-250 words
- Panel Introductions: 200-250 words
- Shifts, Roundtables, Committee Sessions: 250-500 words

Forms can be found here: <http://www.psi17.org/page/programme-5165>

If you do not manage to send us your revised abstract by **April 1**, we would work with the original abstract. If we did not previously receive an abstract from you, your work will not be in the programme book.

4. Pre-sale tickets Festival a/d Werf

The performances and installations at Festival a/d Werf, which are mentioned in the online programme and previously introduced in our last newsletter, have been specifically programmed to match the themes and topics of the conference. The complete programme of Festival a/d Werf will be online on April 1 at www.festivalaandewerf.nl.

Festival a/d Werf kindly offers PSi delegates an exclusive pre-sale between April 1 – 14! Online ticket sale for Festival a/d Werf will be available for registered conference participants from April 1 onwards. Only registered delegates will be provided with a login code and password that grants access to an online reservation page. We will make sure that you receive your tickets together with your delegate pack on arrival.

More details on how to purchase tickets for the Festival will follow shortly. Please note that tickets for performances of Festival a/d Werf are **not** included in your conference registration fee.

5. Special Shift on Wednesday, May 25

On May 25th, in addition to the prelude panel with Brian Rotman, Alva Noë, Jon McKenzie and Michal Kobińska, and the festive opening for the conference, we would like to draw your attention to an interesting shift to be presented on the day, entitled “Bicycle, Spoon, Map” by Laurie Beth Clark and Michael Anderson.

Bicycle, Map, Spoon

a performance shift

Spatula and Barcode productions (Laurie Beth Clark and Michael Peterson)

One possible alternative model for a theatre of memory: to bicycle according to a hand-drawn map en route to a surprising bowl of soup.

The bicycle accelerates time and compresses distance; it is a *technology* inseparable from the experience of modernity, yet it is still human-scaled and intimately connected to the landscape. Before Camillo, vernacular cartography represented *memory*, not as suspended in abstract space, but as a record of passage through place. The spoon is the simplest and most evocative human tool designed to make possible a range of *experience*.

Bicycle, Map, Spoon is a performance link between PSi17 and its place, the environs of Utrecht. Participants will bicycle to series of performance sites mapped out in a progression suggestive of the complex history of the city and region, attending to the city's origins, urban development and history of migrations.

Biking is a typically-Dutch activity, so to add a truly cultural experience to your conference experience here in Utrecht, take part in *Bicycle, Map, Spoon*!

6. Party on Saturday Night, May 28

There will be a big party at the City Theatre together with Festival a/d Werf on Saturday night, May 28. Great music, dance, and fun guaranteed. Mark your calendars and don't forget to join in and party with us!

7. Budget Accommodation in Amsterdam

If you are on a tight budget, we would advise you to consider booking a room in a hotel, hostel or pension in Amsterdam. There are much more budget accommodations in the centre of Amsterdam.

There are good train connections between Amsterdam Central Station and Utrecht Central Station, and the ride takes only 30 minutes. Trains run till late at night. The price for a same-day return ticket (2nd class) is €13,40.

8. 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. 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.

9. Wanted: Participants for the following Shift programmes

The following projects are Shift programmes to be presented at Camillo 2.0. These proposed events, however, cannot happen without the active participation of PSi delegates! Read on to find out more about them, and if you are interested in participating, please contact the respective coordinators of the projects—their emails addresses are listed below.

Cruising for Art - Utrecht (Brian Lobel)

CALL FOR INTIMATE PERFORMANCES FOR GRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEE SHIFT

Taking the 'cruise' as a starting point, Cruising for Art (which premiered at the V&A Museum, London, in 2009) is a frame for curating one-on-one performance in which an audience member and performer connect through a wordless cruise.

For full description of Cruising for Art, see: www.blobelwarming.com/cruise.html.

The Graduate Student Committee is interested in providing a space for students to showcase rigorous performance work that might not otherwise find a venue at the PSi conference. Using the structure of Cruising for Art, we are looking to gather otherwise disparate performance practice in a manner which is site-responsive, theoretically engaging, sexy and aligned with a queer history of people being intimate with strangers in public spaces. While the graduate student cabaret (PSi Toronto) brought together artists with cabaret experience, Cruising for Art will create a frame in which intimate performances can be showcased. All graduate and postgraduate students are encouraged to submit performance work.

Performances should be 2-5 minutes, suitable for 1-2 audience members, and repeatable throughout a 2 hour period. Performances should be completely mobile and have tech needs handled by the performer.

All performers need to be registered for PSi17.

Proposals of 250 words should be sent to Brian Lobel (blobelization@gmail.com) by 8 APRIL, 2011 and include:

- 1) Contact Details
- 2) Description of Proposed Work
- 3) Description of how the work relates to current research
- 4) Any technical considerations
- 5) Confirmation of attendance at PSi

Oral History Project (Nathan Hedman and Melissa Wong)

Dear Graduate Student Members of PSi,

I write with a special request. Those familiar with PSi history know of its significant contribution to the field through its persistent, often inspired, attempts to effect a rapprochement between research and performance. At the moment, this ongoing history is lodged in file cabinets and attic memorabilia, and preserved through vivid impressions and memories. The task of the *PSi Archive* is to collect the history of PSi by drawing these scattered resources together under a single home so that the story of *Performance Studies international* is accessible to future scholars and performers. Our task is two-fold: procurement of all extant material related to PSi conferences, and second, the recording of oral histories of those same conferences. This is where you come in.

The oral history of the PSi archive will commence at the Utrecht conference with graduate students (you!) interviewing past PSi leadership and conference organizers. We anticipate pairing 20 senior scholars of the field with 10-20 graduate students, based on shared interests and influence, and the graduate's ability to commit to an interview of 60-90 minutes at the conference. Some minimal interview protocol and technology training would be required (details to follow)-, as well as the donation of time it takes to conduct the interview, prepare a brief post-interview summary and upload the material to a digital dropbox. Of course, the recording equipment and the venue to conduct and upload the interviews will be provided on-site. What we need from you is a reply with your interest in conducting such an interview.

After we collect a list of graduate interviewers we will make public the list of senior interviewees we've secured and together work out a pairing that is mutually beneficial and interesting to you. In the case of an overabundance of applicants we will attempt to pair you up with interviewees in our

next round of interviews. We will then follow up with specific details about the format of the interview and what steps you'll need to take to prepare.

I hope you will take us up on this unusual opportunity to initiate the PSi Oral Archive by engaging a senior colleague of interest in the history of this burgeoning field.

Please email your interest to both Nathan Hedman (RA of PSi board member Tracy Davis) at psiarchives@northwestern.edu and Melissa Wansin Wong (Chair, PSi Graduate Students Committee) at wwansin@gmail.com with a short statement of interest, including your name, institutional affiliation and research interests.

The deadline is the 31st of March. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best,
Nathan Hedman and Melissa Wansin Wong

Independent Scholars' Committee (Kim Skjoldager-Nielsen) Rebooting! Annual Meeting

The Independent Scholars' Committee is dedicated to address the needs and concerns of PS Independent Scholars.

After a few dormant years, online outreach has attracted old and new members reaffirming the importance of the committee. The goal of this year's meeting is to "reboot" the committee and its work. Issues that challenges current affairs of the PSi will be discussed, including:

- How do we define an Independent Scholar?
- Free conference participation
- A letter of official acknowledgement of Independent Scholars' research
- Establishing a sub-site at www.psi-web.org for presenting and promoting independent research
- The need for research into the conditions of Independent Scholars
- The need for PSi to address funding issues internationally
- Continued outreach online and in person

There is still time to raise other issues by emailing the chair of the committee, Kim Skjoldager-Nielsen, at kim.skjoldager@gmail.com.

All who consider themselves Independent Scholars are urged to get involved in the committee and to volunteer for projects. Do come to the Independents' meeting at the conference this year!

Pecha Kucha (Sarah Bay-Cheng)

PechaKucha was devised in Tokyo in February 2003 as an event for young designers to meet, network, and show their work in public. Since then, it has turned into a massive celebration, with events happening in hundreds of cities around the world, inspiring creatives worldwide. Drawing its name from the Japanese term for the sound of "chit chat", it rests on a presentation format that is based on a simple idea: 20 images x 20 seconds. It's a format that makes presentations concise, and keeps things moving at a rapid pace. It also requires that images and ideas become performances.

In this shift, Camillo 2.0 x PechaKucha, this format has been adapted to performance studies research. Part conference presentation, part improvisation, part media, and all performance, the PechaKucha shift gives scholars and artists the opportunity to showcase their work in a dynamic, visual, and interactive environment and conference participants the chance to view performance studies scholarship in a totally new way. Presenters prepare 20 slides of anything--texts, photographs, images, diagrams, colors, nothing--and then each slide appears for 20 seconds. Once the slideshow starts, the presenters have 20 seconds per slide (6 minutes and 40 seconds total) to perform and present while the audience comes along for the ride. This unique format is devised and shared by Klein Dytham architecture.

If you are interested in presenting PechaKucha-style in this shift, please approach Sarah Bay-Cheng at baycheng@buffalo.edu.

Theory-ography 2 (Thomas DeFrantz)

SLIPPAGE seeks participants for the SHIFT presentation
Theory-ography 2: We Dance Theory

this is an original open structure for performance first shown at Dancespace in November 2009, by SLIPPAGE: Performance|Culture|Technology.

for this iteration, we wonder where dance theory ends, and what happens at the end of the dance. we echo, improvise, reflect, mediate, move through it. movement produces theory produces reflection produces archive produces repertory produces. or the other way 'round.

participants are invited for three performances of this score that will be staged at different times during the conference. an ability to improvise movement, speak loudly, and share generosity are required. rehearsals/discussions by skype at the end of april, and rehearsal on-site in utrecht tuesday, 24 may, the day before the conference begins.

this SHIFT will be open for participation from conference attendees who engage the score as it unfolds. please direct all inquires to Thomas F. DeFrantz, director, SLIPPAGE, defrantz@mit.edu.

For further information about Camillo 2.0, don't forget to check out our website: <http://psi17.org/>. Previous editions of our newsletters are also available [online](#).

If you have any questions regarding registrations, please direct all enquiries to camillo@uu.nl; if you have other questions about the programme, please contact our conference assistant Evelyn Wan at camillo.gw@uu.nl.

Looking forward to seeing you in May!

Best regards,

Evelyn Wan,
Conference Assistant

On Behalf of PSi #17 Conference Committee