

International PERFORMANCE DESIGN Symposium

at The Danish Institute in Rome

**in association with Roskilde University, Denmark
and Massey University, New Zealand.**

'Performative Expressions across Disciplines'

January 22nd-28th 2006, an International Performance Design Symposium will be held at the Danish Institute in Rome, with participating artists, architects, designers and academics from New Zealand, USA, Chile, Great Britain, Estonia, Czech Republic, Greece, Italy and Denmark.

This symposium aims to establish **PERFORMANCE DESIGN** as an interdisciplinary field, through an international gathering of like-minds from various disciplines. A dialogue between performativity and design provides common ground,

The event is structured around three thematic actions:- **disPLAY** (theatrical performance), **enCOUNTER** (cultural performance) and **conSTRUCT** (technical performance). However, like the term Performance Design, these terms resist definition, inevitably overlapping and interplaying. The Danish Institute and the City of Rome itself, provide the context for investigating these thematic actions, over five days.

Planning and participants

The event has been planned by Dorita Hannah (Professor of Performance Design, Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand) and Olav Harsløf (Professor of Performance Design, Roskilde University, Denmark), in collaboration with Erik Bach (Director of the Danish Institute in Rome).

The Symposium is the first of its kind and the 25 participating artists, theorists and designers, coming from a broad range of artistic disciplines and research fields, will each present their own work as interdisciplinary performative expressions. The common ground is where design and performance meet, be it on-stage, in the street, at home or in the virtual world.

The Performance Design programs in Wellington and Roskilde – both established in 2004 – have taken the initiative for this first international gathering of researchers that share in this emerging interdisciplinary field,

Whilst the mornings will be spent presenting and discussing research at the Danish Institute, the afternoons will involve a more embodied engagement with the City and the Institute, through workshop sessions that culminate in a series of presentations on Friday 27th.

The participants have been offered the opportunity to bring a few of their students to the Symposium and, during the week, everybody will take part in one of the three workshops, directed by the Italian set designer and visual artist Fabrizio Crisafulli (Professor of Design, Universities in Rome and Florence), two British performance artists and scenographers, Richard Downing and Simon Banham (Professors of Scenographic Studies, University of Wales, UK), and Omar Khan (Professor of Architecture, State University of New York at Buffalo, USA).

Public lectures

During the Symposium three public lectures will be given at The Danish Institute by Dorita Hannah, Olav Harsløf and Jon McKenzie (Professor of Modern Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA). In addition, and in collaboration with the British Institute, a presentation will be made by English/New Zealand choreographer Carol Brown (Senior Researcher, Roehampton University, London, UK), at the British School of Rome.

Invited participants are:-

Simon Banham : Scenographic Studies: University of Wales, UK	shb@aber.ac.uk
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Lilja Blumenfeld: Department of Scenography: Tallinn Art University, Estonia	lblumen@uiuh.fi
Carol Brown: School of Arts: Roehampton University, London, UK	carol@cranium.demon.co.uk
Henriette Christrup: Performance Design: Roskilde University, Denmark	henriette@ruc.dk
Fabrizio Crisafulli: Universities of Florence and Rome, Italy	gatd@iol.it
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John Di Stefano: Massey University: College of Creative Arts, NZ	J.J.DiStefano@massey.ac.nz
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Omar Khan: School of Architecture & Planning: State of New York University at Buffalo, USA	omarkhan@ap.buffalo.edu
Brandon Labelle: University of Copenhagen, Denmark	blabelle@earthlink.net
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Jon McKenzie: Department of English, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, USA	jonm@uwm.edu
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