

The 38th Annual Mid-America Theatre Conference
Hyatt Regency Galleria, Houston, TX
March 16-19, 2017

“Houston...We Have a Problem”

Practice/Production Symposium—Call For Papers, Presentations, Workshops, and Performances

The Practice/Production Symposium of the Mid-America Theatre Conference (MATC) is seeking proposals for paper and co-paper presentations, round-table discussions, organized panels, workshops, performances, and hybrid presentations that can be linked to the theme “We Have A Problem” broadly construed, from the perspective of directors, actors, choreographers, technicians, designers, playwrights, dramaturgs, stage managers, and audience members. We seek to examine current and emerging challenges in all production disciplines, as well as analyze the creation and reception of theatre from a variety of production perspectives. We especially encourage applicants to explore submitting in formats that include active involvement on the part of both presenters and auditors.

Possible investigations of ***“We have a problem”*** might include:

- How do problems manifest themselves in theatre practice and production?
- In what ways do we navigate our way around or through problems in rehearsal, production, or performance?
- What trajectories shift along the way to allow us to arrive at our theatrical destinations?
- How do we work with force, flow, inertia, and gravity in rehearsal and performance?
- What new frontiers are uncovered and explored through our theatre practices?
- How are unforeseen challenges necessary to the creative process?
- What is the value of the problematic to theatre practice?
- What problems do theatre audiences encounter in performance?
- What problems does the audience contribute to performance?

Papers and presentations may be critical reflections or analyses of specific theatrical events, or theoretical investigations of the work of significant practitioners. All presenters will have the opportunity to submit their work to *Theatre/Practice*, a peer-reviewed, open-access online journal created to encourage, recognize, and disseminate rigorous and high-quality scholarship on the practice and theory of theatrical production and reception. Submissions to *Theatre/Practice* are limited to work presented as part of the conference’s Practice/Production, Pedagogy, and Playwriting Symposia.

Applicants should email 150-250 word abstracts that include the applicant’s name, rank, academic affiliation, address, telephone, email, presentation format (single paper or co-paper presentation, panel presentation, roundtable discussion, workshop, or performance), title of presentation, and a 2-3 paragraph description of the presentation. Please include any special technology needs in your abstract (such as audio or video projection), and note that technology accommodations can be extremely limited during the conference. Individual paper and co-paper presentations will be limited to a 15-minute maximum. Other formats will be limited to a 45-minute presentation period followed by a 25-minute audience discussion and question period.

Deadline for submissions: October 15, 2016

Please send submissions electronically as MS Word or PDF files to BOTH:

Dan Dennis, Ohio University: dennisd@ohio.edu

Drew Vidal, Ball State University: dvidal2@bsu.edu