

DEVISED PERFORMANCE RESPONSE, I

How Do I Respond to Devised Work?

Use the fundamental underpinnings of Devised performance—relocation of text and focus on concept/idea; non-definability of process and product; multi-disciplinary complexity or collision; and horizontal working/playing field—to create topics of discussion and questions toward a fruitful conversation.

Concept

- What was the idea of the work, or the concept?
- Was it clear to the ensemble?
- Did it change over time working together? How?
- Did you best serve this idea?

Working Process & Compositional Devices

- What was the process?
- What theatrical/artistic conventions did you choose to work with?
- Did your choices best serve your idea?
- Of what you chose for conventions (dance, movement, music, sound, words, visual, architecture, etc.) was each given space to have power?
- Was there a balance of powers of compositional elements, or was each compositional element given space to explore the idea?
- Did you create a text? If so, and given our traditional way of working, how did you prevent the text from becoming central to your work?
- What did you learn about your idea/concept in creating this work?
- How do you now understand the world in a different way after doing this work?
- How do you now understand yourself in a different way after doing this work?

Locating the Power(s) in the Process and with the Ensemble

- Did the members of the ensemble all contribute to the creation of the work in some way?
- How did the work move from process to final product? Was there a particular shift in your work?

Effective conversation with spectators

- How did you best “speak” your ideas to your spectators?
- Do your spectators understand the idea or concept of this work?
- Are your spectators affected by this work?
- When they leave the theatre after the performance, will your spectators see something about the world in a different way?
- When they leave the theatre after the performance, will your spectators see something about themselves, or understand themselves in a different way?