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A journal of women's thoughts, questions and visions for theatre

Editorial Board: Geddy Aniksdal Maggie Gale Julia Varley Production Coordinator: Rina Skeel Cover: Marco Donati

FOREWORD

Since the first year of the Magdalena Project's existence in 1986, the need for a newsletter was felt in order to keep the communication flowing between the women involved in the Project's activities. The Newsletter grew to the format it has today, four pages of quick, flexible editorials, articles, news, photographs and critical forums with the function of information, documentation and discussion. Ten years later we noticed that women involved in the Project were approaching words, theory, explanations and analysis with more curiosity and familiarity than before and that this demanded more space. We also felt the need to stimulate women to write so as to start building their own memory and critical perspective within theatre history.

The Open Page aims to give space to analytical articles and to create an "open page" in which many experiences and voices can join and, through a collective vision, find a transforming knowledge useful to our practice in theatre. If the Magdalena Project aims to support the work of women in theatre, The Open Page aims to support the words, the memory, the reflection, the thoughts of women working in theatre. We aim for balance in contributions from experienced authors and scholars, practitioners wanting to put thoughts on paper and first-time-writers usually accustomed to expressing themselves with actions on stage. The journal is not formally ambitious, but wants to contribute towards creating greater space for women in theatre to write.

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The Open Page is an annual journal and each issue will be dedicated to a theme. The first was Women-Theatre-Myth, the second is Women-Theatre-Lives, the third will be Women-Theatre-Politics.

In collecting the articles we have given great importance to international diversity, but the choice of publishing in one language has forced us to confront the problem of translation. There are many interpretations when translating and we are aware of the difficulties and consequences of what necessarily becomes an incorrect version of the original. We have tried to be faithful to the meaning of the texts, even when not respecting English scholarly form and grammar. Some of the articles are written in English by women whose mother tongue is not English. Other articles have been translated. The gender form chosen by each author for the word actress-actor-female performer has been respected.

We would welcome comments and suggestions for the future of The Open Page and also contributions and information about current work in relation to the theme of the third issue: Women -Theatre - Politics.