

# The Festival of Original Theatre 2010: Performing Space and Space in Performance

January 21-23, 2010  
University of Toronto

For as long as there has been theatre, there has been a space that accompanies it; however, any significant contribution to the discussion of the powers and potentials of the space, place, and geography of the theatre have only appeared in recent years. The long-standing significance awarded to history and time resigned any discussion of space to a secondary role. It has only been in recent years that this “intellectual curse” that accompanies a study of geography has been lifted and replaced with serious and diverse discussions of space and geography becoming more prevalent in theatre and performance scholarship.

Taking its cues from the recent scholarship on space, geography, and landscape, the Graduate Centre for Study of Drama at the University of Toronto is now inviting graduate students to submit abstracts for papers and performance proposals for its annual conference the Festival of Original Theatre (F.O.O.T) to be held January 21-23, 2010. F.O.O.T seeks papers or performances proposals from all disciplines that explore or discuss the scenographic, the geographic, and/or the spacial and its relationship to theatre, performance, and performativity. Some topics may include:

- Site specific theatre(s)
- Performances in different locations/contexts,
- Theatre architecture,
- The function/effect of space, location, geography on character/actor/identity,
- Cyber-theatre, virtuality, and performance,
- The scenographer’s place in designing space; the different ways the designer can create “space,”
- Staging the globe: different places in one space,
- Borders, borderlands, and liminality in theatre/performance,
- Relationship between location and identity/nationality,
- Performing the city, country, nation, or multi-geographic locations,
- Staging home, homeland, homelessness, exile, and/or displacement,
- Staging theatre/performance in difficult locations,
- Discourse theory, space, and the performing body,
- The collision between geography and history in performance.

Please send abstracts (300 words) and a brief bio (100 words), along with any questions to this year’s Artistic Director at:

[foot.grad drama@utoronto.ca](mailto:foot.grad drama@utoronto.ca) by October 16, 2009.