



# THEATRE TALK: Social (In)Justice

Creating Critical Thinking and  
Conversation Through Methods of  
Performance



By Meghan Baker  
Advisor John Bower

# BACKGROUND

School of Performing Arts & Cultural  
Education (S.P.A.C.E.)

Community Theatre

WWU's Theatre Department

Exploring and taking courses in critical  
studies around issues of injustice

Finding Fairhaven and designing my concentration  
~Staging Social Change: Critical Thinking and Theatre



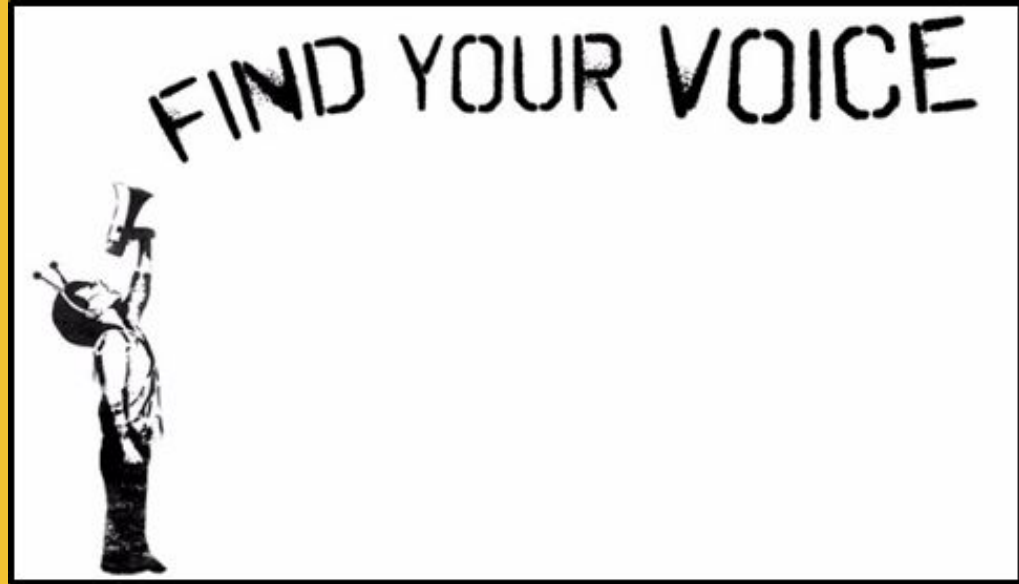
# Performance Activism

## Devised Theatre

- ~Method of collective creation  
(Dance, Theatre, Art, Etc.)
- ~Impetus and inspiration
- ~Importance of process

## Docu-Theatre

- ~Factual base
- ~Incorporation of documents and primary sources
- ~Often statement of critique

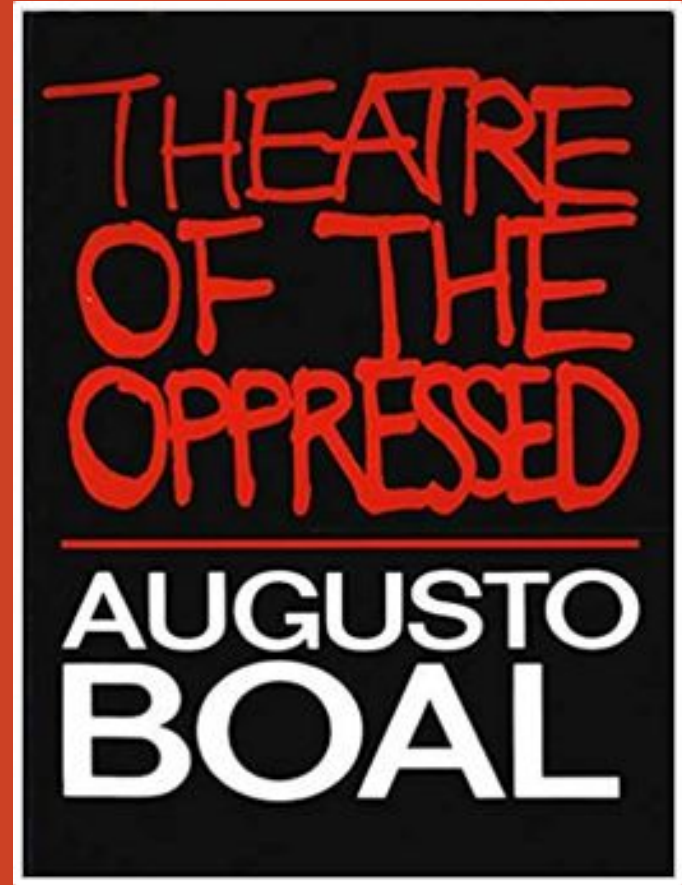


# Theatre of the Oppressed

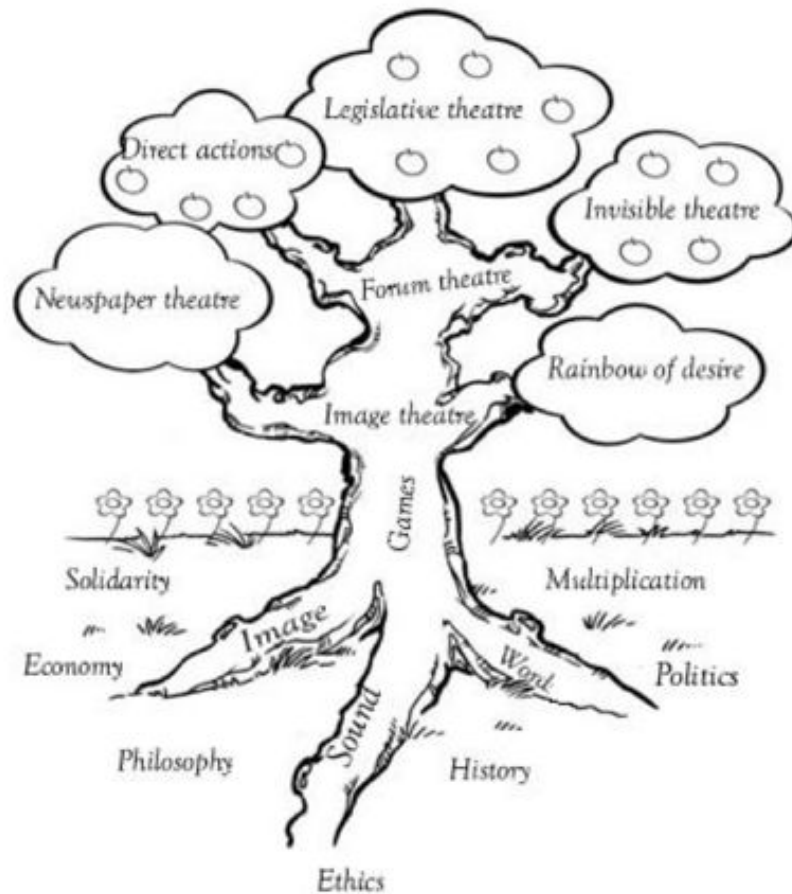
Augusto Boal (1931-2009)

~Political Activist, Drama Theorist,  
Theatre Practitioner

- Forum theatre
- Legislative Theatre
- Invisible Theatre
- Newspaper Theatre



## Tree of the Theatre of the Oppressed



# Other Examples of Performance Activism

Adapting old texts

Drama Therapy

Drag

Dramaturgy

Talk-Backs



Bob the drag Queen performs at New York City Pride, 2016

# Children's Theatre

Supporting and educating through theatre

The difficulties and possibilities of youth theatre and activism

Methods of blending critical thinking and activism with constraints of youth theatre

~Adaptation and using classics as a jumping off point

~Discussions





# Senior Project

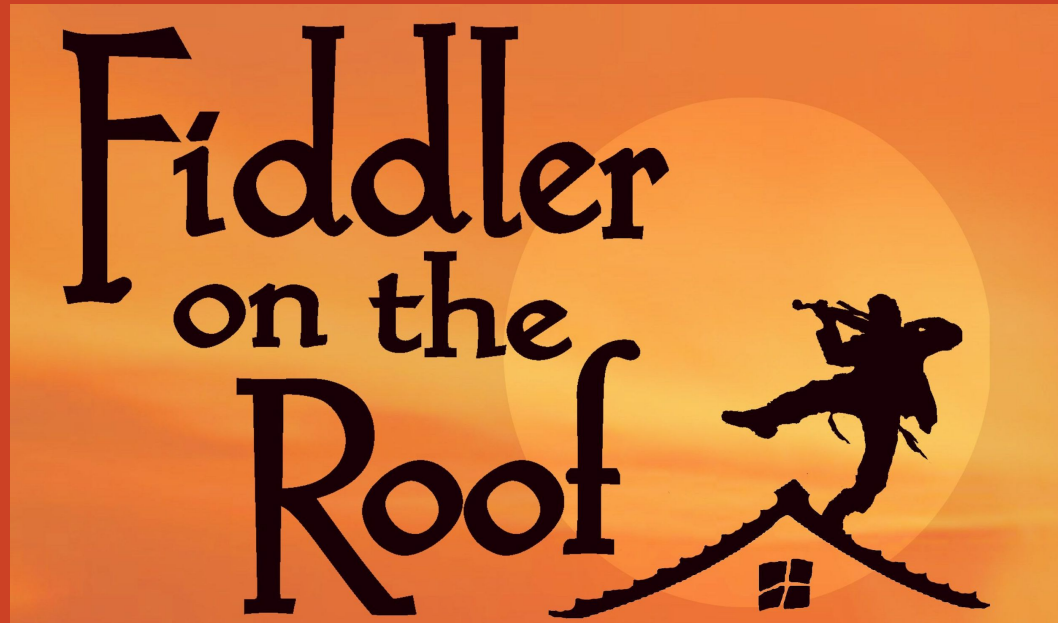
Plan and impetus

EVERYTHING OUT THE WINDOW!

Adjusting

Final Product:

- ~Introduction to Activist Theatre
- ~Dramaturgical packet
- ~Discussion Prompts and Activities







# Questions?

## THANK YOU!



*"If you have come here to help me you are wasting your time, but if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together."*

*~ Lilla Watson*

