

Rainbow of Desires: drama-based techniques to deal with internalised oppression and patterns of behaviour

Join our webinar to learn about the theory of the “Rainbow of Desires” drama techniques to explore emotions and internalised oppression, developed by Brazilian dramatist Augusto Boal.

Listen examples of the practical applications of “Rainbow of Desires” techniques from experts who have been long utilising them to educate people about and liberate them from oppression.

Find out more about our upcoming training on “Rainbow of Desires” in Italy between 24 and 29 September, funded by the European Union.

WHAT IS THE “RAINBOW OF DESIRES”?

The Rainbow of Desires is a concept developed by Augusto Boal, the Brazilian theatre director and creator of Forum-Theatre, Invisible-Theatre, Image-Theatre and Newspaper-Theatre. The Rainbow of Desires refers to the various emotions and desires that drive human behaviour and can be explored and represented through theatrical performance. The Rainbow of Desires set consists of different techniques, each useful for specific different oppressive situations.

The Rainbow of Desires provides a unique and powerful tool for exploring and representing human emotions and desires through theatrical performance. By using movement, gesture, and physical expression, The Rainbow of Desires has the ability to communicate complex emotions and desires in a way that is accessible to audiences of all backgrounds and languages.

Additionally, The Rainbow of Desires provides a valuable tool for personal and social transformation, allowing individuals to reflect on and explore their own emotions and desires and to create a more harmonious, fair and fulfilling life.

WHAT IS THIS WEBINAR?:

The webinar is part of the RoD-AE Project, managed by Giolli Coop (Italy) and Artemisszio Foundation (Hungary), exploring the uses of the Rainbow of Desires set of Boal’s techniques for Adult Educators. RoD-AE started on the 1st March 2023 and lasts 12 months, including a training (happening in September 2023 in Italy), an “on field experimentation” and the writing of a final tool-kit.

During this online event we’d like to explore the potential and contradictions of RoD techniques as connection between psychological and political dimensions.

AGENDA

- Introduction of the project, Theatre of The Oppressed and the origins of “Rainbow of Desires” and its theoretical background in Politics/Psychology.
- Invited experts sum up their experience using RoD techniques: Birgit Fritz, Paul Dwyer, José Soeiro.
- Q&A, discussion.

SOME QUESTIONS WE WILL EXPLORE:

- Are RoD set of techniques a psychologisation of oppression or can they move away from psychology to political and social engagement?
- How can these techniques connect the psychological and socio-political dimension of human behaviour?
- What should be taken into account when using RoD in a group?
- What success stories arose from the application of RoD techniques in a training setting?
- What are the requirements to have a successful experience, both from the side of the trainer and the participants?

EXPERTS:

- Paul Dwyer (Australia), Senior Lecturer and Chair of Discipline Theatre and Performance Studies School of Art, Communication and English | Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, The University of Sydney.
- Birgit Fritz (Austria), co-founder of the TO-Vienna group (2002), lecturer at FH-Würzburg for transformative theatre and autopoietic spaces, long standing practitioner of TO and drama therapist, strongly affiliated with India's TO network Jana Sanskriti.
- José Soeiro (Portugal), deputy of Bloque de Izquierda at the Portuguese Parliament, trainer of a TO group in Porto, he carried on a long process of Legislative-Theatre about youth legislation.

MODERATORS

Roberto Mazzini (IT) and Olga Irimias (HU).

GOALS OF THE WEBINAR

- 1) To clarify the field suitable for the use of Rainbow of Desires techniques, between sociology, politics, psychology as a theatre technique distinct from therapy.
- 2) To analyse the connection between individually lived emotions and societal contexts and values (micro-cosmos and macro-cosmos)
- 3) To help practitioners understand how to use these techniques by providing examples/cases from real life.
- 4) Introduction of the upcoming RoD training in Italy in September where participants will learn in detail about RoD techniques and the possibilities for their application.

HOW TO ATTEND?

Where: online, the link will be sent to the enrolled people.

When: 1st June 2023, from 10.00 to 13.00 CET.

Fee: this webinar is free of charge and is supported by the European Union.

How: The session will be recorded to have a wider use. We will talk in English.

Registration: Participants can register for the webinar by filling in this form:

<https://forms.gle/TXd2rrWM932u8mpJ7>

WHO CAN ATTEND?

- Adult educators, group leaders, art therapists, activists, artists who use a political approach, involving active methods, who will empower the communities and work for social change and transformation.
- The group is limited to 25 people to give the chance to interact.
- Other interested people could get the record of this event.

PREPARATION

To prepare we invite people to read the book (below), especially the theory from page 11 to 47, and/or the articles cited below.

REFERENCES

Augusto Boal, Rainbow of desire, Routledge, New York, 1995

(https://books.google.it/books/about/The_Rainbow_of_Desire.html?id=qx95QgAACAAJ&redir_esc=y)

https://issuu.com/nikolaikunitson/docs/rod_eng

(summary of RoD techniques)

<https://ceasefiremagazine.co.uk/augusto-boal-rainbow-desire/>

(article about RoD, TO and Boal's work in prison with its contradictions)

<https://www.intellectbooks.com/asset/520/atr-8.7.pdf>

(critical article about RoD techniques and systemic approach)

<https://www.madinamerica.com/2020/11/theatre-oppressed/>

(Social Adversity, Mental Distress, and the Theatre of the Oppressed)