

European Science Foundation, Strasbourg, Conference Award, Roehampton University, "CIVICCentre: Reclaiming the Right to Performance" April 9th-16th 2003, ?2,000.

Web Curation

(2001 -) **e-state.org.uk and civiccentre.org**, web based.

(2001-) **Performance Architecture Location**, web based.

Research Projects Undertaken

See: here for continuing background.

I work as an academic, as a cultural practitioner and where possible as a public intellectual. I engage with theatre in practice, with the public staging of intellectual debate and with politically relevant engagements and interventions. Having directed the Council of Europe Workshop on Theatre and Communities (1881-1983), a neighbourhood theatre in the East End of London for eight years (1983 - 1991), directed public events and talks at the Institute of Contemporary Arts for four years (1994-1997), worked as a freelance writer in Barcelona for four years (1991-1994) and as Professor of Drama and Theatre Studies at Roehampton University (1997-2006) my interests lie in negotiating engagements between intellectual enterprise, innovative artistic practices and local neighbourhood contexts.

Most recently this work has been conducted through a five year programme of research and public networking between artists, academics and architects in a project called Performance Architecture Location. Supported by a ?250,000 major award from the Arts and Humanities Research Council over five years this project has generated projects with: Goat Island, Chicago, Olivier Perrier, Herisson, Armand Gatti and Helene Chatelain Paris, Societas Raffaello Sanzio, Cesena, La Friche, Marseille, Forced Entertainment, Sheffield, web sites [www e-state.org.uk](http://www.e-state.org.uk), www.civiccentre.org, international symposia Voice Ruin Play, Civic Centre: Reclaiming the Right to Performance, publications Architecturally Speaking: Practices of Art, Architecture and the Everyday, On Civility, and the forthcoming monograph project Poor Performance, networks of practitioners and academics through the PAL office staffed over four years. At the time of award this was the first major project of its kind in the Arts at Roehampton University and established a context for further awards that followed from the AHRB.

With the development of the Performance Architecture Location project and the need for research continuity across research projects at Roehampton I initiated the foundation of The Centre for Theatre Research in Europe.

Since moving to King's College London in 2006 I have reviewed and directed the MA Text and Performance Studies in collaboration with RADA, I have written and initiated two new undergraduate courses Theatre Capital, Performance Philosophy and I have assumed direction of Graduate Studies or the English Department. I am currently developing an interdisciplinary research project exploring performance within the disciplines of law, war studies, medicine, urban studies and the humanities and with colleagues in the School of Humanities and across the College developing the old Anatomy Museum and Theatre on the Strand as a research centre and publicly accessible project performance space (see www.anatomytheatre.com from 2007).

Undergraduate courses taught at King's College:

Theatre Capital, Performance Philosophy

Postgraduate courses taught at King's College:

MA Text and Performance Studies, Director.

Administration:

Director of Graduate Studies, English Department, King's College London

Member of School of Humanities Graduate Studies Board

Member of School of Humanities Taught MAs Committee.

March 2001 Paper: "Les Maternelles: Rising above Rationalism", for Thinking The City: Multidisciplinary Views on Urban Life and Culture Tate Modern, Bristol University and the Open University, ESRC funded International Conference, other speakers: Dolores Hayden, Yale University, John Rajchman, Columbia University, Daniel Miller, University College London, Lawrence Grossberg, University of North Carolina, Starr Auditorium, Tate Modern, London.

February 2001 Inaugural Lecture: Prodigious Performance: Infants, Animals and other Anomalies, Roehampton University, introduced by Professor Bruce McConachie, Director of Graduate Studies, University of Pittsburgh, USA.

December 2000 Paper: "Child Performance and Anthropomorphism in The Lion The Witch and the Wardrobe", closing session for International Conference, The Lion The Witch and The Wardrobe, Fifty years On, at The National Museum of Childhood, London, other speakers included Professor UC Knoepfelmacher, Princeton University.

November 2000 Paper: "La Paloma: Lost in Translation", International Conference, Migracions: Proces i Performance, Centre for Contemporary Culture, Barcelona, Spain.

July 2000 Keynote Lecture: "The Principle of Performance", Between Nature, International Conference on Ecology and Theatre, Lancaster University, UK. Paired with Professor Una Chaudhuri, Chair of Drama, New York University, US.

March 2000 Paper: "The Tiger Economy", International Conference, Animals in Culture and Society, Centre for Twentieth Century Studies, University of Milwaukee, Milwaukee, USA.?

Conference Curation, Direction and Chairing5

April 2003 Direction, Hosting and Chair: CIVICCentre *Reclaiming the Right to Performance*, 7 Day International Symposium in collaboration with the Council of Europe, the European Science Foundation and in partnership with: Imperial College, London University, the Natural History Museum, London, the Art Workers' Guild, the London School of Economics, the Science Museum and the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK. Keynote speakers: Rustom Bharucha, Professor Richard Sennett, Professor Doreen Massey, Professor Janelle Reinhelt, and leading cultural commentators: Alain Badiou and Krysztof Wodiczko.

March 2003 Chairing and Curation of Panel "Action and Activism (social and political interventions and activism)" Live Culture: Performance and the Contemporary, Tate Modern, London. Book, "Live Culture" ed Adrian Heathfield, published by Tate Publishing, 2004.

November 2002 Launch of Epitaph, Societas Raffaello Sanzio, twinned with leading Italian critic Franco Quadri, Bonci Theatre, Cesena, Italy.

July 2001 Curator and Chair, International Symposium: "Voice, Ruin, Play", directed on behalf of London International Festival of Theatre in collaboration with Societas Raffaello Sanzio, Cesena, Italy.

December 2000 Launch of "On Animals", Performance Research, Volume 5 No. 2, Routledge, address and dialogue with Professor Alphonso Lingis, Penn State University at The Royal Society of Arts, Public Lecture Programme, London

November 2000 Launch of "Architecturally Speaking", Tate Modern, Dialogue with architectural practice, MUF.

Other

Grants/Income Generation 1999-2006

1999-2005?

?253,000? **Arts and Humanities Research Board**, Major Award, "Locating the place and potential of performance between pedagogic institutions, professional practices and public contexts".

August 2004, Key note address, 'Say, Performance: Exemplary Exceptions' Internationale Sommerakademie, 20th - 28th August, Mousonturm, Frankfurt/Main. Companion key note addresses by Jacques Ranciere, Rebecca Schneider, Franko B.

May 2004? Keynote address: "Proxy Performance: the politics of props", Group Dynamics Symposium, Zagreb-Cultural Kapital 3000, Centre for Drama Art Multi-Media Institute, Zagreb, Croatia.

July 2003 Keynote Address: "At The End of the Everyday", Leisure and Visual Culture, Leisure Studies Association Conference, Roehampton University, London, UK.

April 2003 "Can/Cannot: Potential in Performance", Paper, Activations Panel, Live Culture, international Symposium, Tate Modern, London, with Alistair MacLennan.

April 2003 Closing paper and address, 'Civic Centre: Migrant Performance' with Halvor Lervik, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Imperial College, University of London, UK, closing event of international conference: **Civic Centre**: Reclaiming the Right to Performance.

November 2002 Key Note Paper, 'Concrete Casting: Damilola Taylor and the politics of play', The Landscape of Childhood, Conference, London International Festival of Theatre, The Roundhouse, London, UK.

September 2002 Paper 'The Performance of the Everyday' Symposium Michel de Certeau Now, University of Bristol and Bristol Watershed, partnered as penultimate speaker with Tom Conley, translator of Michel de Certeau, and Professor of Romance Languages, Harvard University, USA.

September 2002 Address and Dialogue: 'Machining Architecture: Fluidity, Accident and the Potential of Process'. Keynote Address and Dialogue with Lars Spuybroek, Venice Biennale architect, Rotterdam, for Opening of Nightwalking: Navigating the Unknown, Rescen International Conference, Purcell Room, London South Bank, UK.

July 2002 Paper with Adrian Heathfield: 'Falling Now' Closing event of International conference: [u5]Creative Reuse, presented in role of Visiting Scholar, Goat Island Summer School, Art Institute of Chicago, USA.

July 2002 Paper: 'Infant Animal Estate', Queen Mary, University of London, ESRC funded conference: Transforming London: Rethinking Regeneration Through Commerce, Planning and Art, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London, UK.

July 2002 Paper: 'The Prospect of Performance' Federation of International Theatre Research, World Congress, Cultural Memory2, Amsterdam, NL.

May 2002 Paper: 'Speech Sites', Paper presented as part of Roehampton at Riverside, William Morris House, Hammersmith, London, UK.

April 2002 Paper: 'Prospects of Performance', Performance Studies International Congress2, 5Life, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University, USA.

December 2001 Paper: 'The Performance Prodigy', Man and Beast International Humanities Symposium, Whitney Humanities Centre, Yale University, USA.

July 2001 2 Papers: 'A Small Enthusiasm', 'Prodigious Performance III', presented as resident international scholar for Goat Island Summer School, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, USA, previous resident scholar Professor Peggy Phelan, Stanford University.

June 2001 Key Note Lecture: '20/20 Vision, Seeing Through Theatre', London International Festival of Theatre, 20th Anniversary Lecture, Sadlers Wells, London, UK. Other lecturers in anniversary series: Rustom Bharucha and John Fox.

April 2001 2 Papers: 'Prodigious Performance II', "Small Talk", Performance Studies International Conference, Translation, University of Mainz, Mainz, Germany.

On Civility II, DVD, curated by Gianna Bouchard, ed. by Alan Read, London: Taylor and Francis, 2004, 2 hour documentary material including 90,000 words, ISSN 1352-8165.

DVD includes research archive material and papers from **Civic Centre: Reclaiming the Right to Performance**, including: desperate optimists, Andrew Gibson on Alain Badiou, Eugene Van Erven, STUT Theatre, Platform, Societas Raffaello Sanzio, Alan Read. Taylor and Francis.

Chapters in Edited Collections:

"Play-Ground-Nature-Table", essay in *Between Nature*. eds. Gabriella Giannachi and Nigel Stewart, Manchester: Palgrave, 2004, pp. tba, 5000 words, ISBN tba.

"Say Performance: Some Suggestions Regarding Live Art" a 5000 word essay (pp. 242-249), commissioned by Tate Modern for *Live: Art and Performance*, ed. Adrian Heathfield, London, Tate publishing, 2004, pp. 280. Essay concludes book, opening essay by Peggy Phelan. ISBN: 1-854-37501-6

"L'infante, l'animale, gli automi", "Enfance, animaux et automates" 2 x 4000 words, pp. 16-31, in *Epitaph* ed, Romeo Castellucci, Milan: ubulibri, 2003, pp.255. Essay translated into Italian and French. ISBN: 887748216-8

"PULSE: When all the dust has settled", 5000 word critical essay (pp. 132-169) commissioned by Artangel for *Off Limits: 40 Artangel Projects* publication to mark their 10th anniversary. Contributors include: Marina Warner. London, Merrell, 2002, 256 pp. ISBN: 1902201140

"Sign/Signature", 4000 words (pp.52-63), in? *To Be Continued: Artists' interventions into the public realm*, ed. Deborah Smith and Kate Fowle, London: Batsford, 2003, pp. 96. ISBN: 0-7134-8794-1 (pb)

"Fear, Fur, Fauna, Falling: Into Bed with The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe", *Papers*, Volume 12, No. 1, April 2002, 6000 words, pp.20-29.

"Infant, Animal, Automota" 4000 word essay commissioned by Societas Raffaello Sanzio for *Epitaph*, other contributors: Franco Quadri, Frie Leysen, Christina Ventrucci. Milan: Ubulibri, 2003, pp.225

"The Placebo of Performance" in *Psychoanalysis and Performance*, ed. Patrick Campbell and Adrian Kear, London and New York: Routledge, 2001, pp. 147-165. ISBN: 0-415-21204-9 (hb), 0-415-21205-7 (pb)

Architecturally Speaking: Practices of Art, Architecture and the Everyday, editor, London and New York: Routledge, 2000, pp. 320, including essays by Zaha Hadid, Professor Kenneth Frampton, Professor Anthony Vidler, Professor Edward Soja, Professor Doreen Massey, Professor Krzysztof Wodiczko, Professor Marc Auge.

"Speech Sites", in *Architecturally Speaking, Practices of Art, Architecture and the Everyday*, London and New York, Routledge, pp.119-154, ISBN: 0-415-23543-x and pp.2000

"On Animals", guest editor, *Performance Research*, Vol. 5, No. 2, 2000, pp.1-140 essays by: Alphonso Lingis, Jean Marie Pradier, Romeo Castellucci, David Williams, Phillip Zarilli, Tim Etchells, Steve Baker, Rachel Rosenthal, Michael Dobson, Joe Kelleher and Adrian Kear.

"Acknowledging the Imperative of Performance in the Infancy of Theatre", *Performance Research*, Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 61-69, 2000.

Recent and forthcoming conference presentations

Papers Presented

December 2004 , Paper, "On performance as such and on Human Performance in Particular", research symposium, drama department, Kent University.

Name: Alan Read

Job Title: Professor of Theatre

Qualifications: BA (Exeter), PhD (University of Washington)

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Alan Read is Professor of Theatre, King's College London.

Alan Read is the author of *Theatre and Everyday Life: An Ethics of Performance* (Routledge, 1993, 1995), and the editor of *The Fact of Blackness: Frantz Fanon and Visual Representation* (Bay Press, 1996) and *Architecturally Speaking: Practices of Art, Architecture and the Everyday* (Routledge, 2000) a set of essays exploring space, place, architecture and artistic practice. Alan Read is the founding consultant editor of the Routledge journal *Performance Research* and guest editor of two issues: *On Animals*, Vol V, no. 2, 2000 and *On Civility* Vol IX, no. 4, 2004.

In the 1980s he was Director of the Rotherhithe Theatre Workshop in London, in the early 1990s worked as a freelance writer in Barcelona, and from 1994-1997 was Director of Talks at the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London (see: [here](#)) He has just completed a book on theatre as an anthropological machine that in the interface between humans and animals in performance constructs contemporary understandings of 'a life'. The book is due for publication in 2007 and is titled: *The Last Human Venue: Nature Theatre & Politics*.

Alan Read has recently completed a five year Major Research Award from the Arts and Humanities Research Council entitled *Performance, Architecture, Location* based at Roehampton University. The project aimed to consider the relationship between performance, pedagogy and public in an encounter between performance, urbanism and the everyday. Allied to this research is the development of a web site to house materials relating to the work, in the form of essays and images, which can be accessed at: www.civiccentre.org and www.e-state.org.uk. As part of this project he has curated the international research symposium CIVICCentre: *Reclaiming the Right to Performance*, a 7-day event which took place across London from the 9th-16th April 2003.

Teaching

Alan teaches lecture and seminar-based courses in a number of urban/performance related fields and has devised courses such as 'Performance, Urbanism and the Everyday' and 'Theatre Capital' which have grown from his research interests locating pedagogy within the urban London context. Alan is currently director of studies for a number of PhD students. In 2004 Alan alongside the staff team at Roehampton inaugurated **The Centre for Theatre Research** in Europe and became its first Director.

Recent and Forthcoming Publications

The Last Human Venue: Nature, Theatre & Politics (due for publication in 2007), pp. 350

Edited Books/Journals:

On Civility, *Performance Research*, vol IX no. 4, pp. 160, 90,000 words, London: Routledge, ISSN 1352-8165, ISBN 0-415-34740-8 (book and journal), Editor, including papers by: Rustom Bharucha, Alphonso Lingis, Alain Badiou, Janelle Reinhelt, Societas Raffaello Sanzio, Doreen Massey, Jan Cohen Cruz, Krzysztof Wodiczko, Peter Harrop, Paul Rae, Neera Chandhoke, Sally Doughty, Mike Mangan, Steven Connor, David Williams, Jeb Weisman, Adrian Kear, Alan Filewod, Joe Kelleher, Nigel Rapport. London: Taylor and Francis, 2004. Including introduction 2000 words and article 10,000 words by Alan Read.?