



RHODES UNIVERSITY

**drama**department



**inTranceit 2012**

## **Special Thanks**

Thank you to the Rhodes University Drama Department and staff: Prof Andrew Buckland, Juanita Finestone-Praeg, Alex Sutherland, Athina Vahla, Jaques de Kock, Melissa Pentz, Willie Coombs, Oliver Cartwright, Sara Slabbert, Robert Haxton, Roux Engelbrecht, Vusi Mnyobe. Special thanks to all cast and technical crew of *inTranceit* 2012. Thank you to the National Arts Festival for their support.

This programme is dedicated in loving memory of  
Royden Anthony Paynter

# inTranceit 2012

The Rhodes University Masters students present the sophomore programme of new innovative and exciting works to last year's Ovation Award winning premiere *inTranceit*. 2012's programme promises to be in every regard bigger. Five works by two directors, two choreographers and a contemporary performance artist outline the diverse and effervescent programme.

## TENDER

Directed by Madele Vermaak

PJ's | Tues 03 Jul @ 12:30 | Wed 04 Jul @ 17:00 | Thur 05 Jul @ 20:30  
R30(Public) | R20(Student) | R20(Friends) | R20(Block) | 13+

## THE MEMORY OF WATER

Written by Shelagh Stephenson

Directed by Debbie Robertson

NG KERK Hall | Thur 28 Jun @ 18:00 | Fri 29 Jun @ 13:00 | Sat 30 Jun @ 18:00  
R30(Public) | R20(Student) | R20(Friends) | R20(Block)

## ERASURE

Choreographed by Nicole Theunissen

ARTS LOUNGE | Mon 02 Jul @ 19:00 | Tues 03 Jul @ 19:00 | Wed 04 Jul @ 19:00  
R30(Public) | R20(Student) | R20(Friends) | R20(Block)  
*Limited Audience*

## HYDROLUNATICS!

Created by Whitney Turner

Drostry Arch | Thur 28 Jun @ 13:00 | Thur 05 Jul @ 13:00 | Sat 07 Jul @ 13:00  
Free

## THE RUSTY SPOONS COLLECTIVE

Choreographed by Alice Thompson

The Train Station | Fri 06 Jul @ 19:30 | Sat 07 Jul @ 19:30 | Sun 08 Jul @ 19:30  
R30(Public) | R20(Student) | R20(Friends) | R20(Block) |  
*Limited audience 45*

# TENDER



*"It is no measure of health to be well adjusted to a profoundly sick society"* J, Krishnamurti

*Tender* is a Devised work presented as an explosive exploration of South African life experienced through a multiplicity of perplexed, curious and searching perspectives. In this collaborative exploration we weave together a series of responses presented as interlinking vignettes. *Tender* explores Identity and Identification in a multi-cultural South African context, as well as personal fears, desires and hope.

A series of works have been crafted in their respective rooms only to have them come together in one creative shack where the whole has been carefully moulded into this presentation. These responses serve as galvanising balls of potential itching to bursts open and engulf us with an undiscovered world of sufficient sustenance to suffice us; to leave us completely satisfied. Only they exist to tease us, to give us something, to leave us with something - a potential - an overwhelming need for more. What's more satisfying than that?

Directed by:	Madele Vermaak	
Cast:	Robert Haxton Elisha Mudly Fezi Mthonti Tyson Ngubeni Maude Sandham	Nomcebisi Moyikwa Danielle Alyssa Bowler Sandi Dlangalala Michele Calista Ellis Megan Knowles
Stage Manager:	Jaclyn Spence	
Design:	Madele Vermaak	
Mask design:	Tarryn King	
Animations by:	Jaime Waddington and Lauren Fletcher	
Filming and Editing:	Madele Vermaak	
Music:	<i>Tender</i> by Blur <i>I put a Spell on you</i> by Marilyn Manson <i>Hush Now</i> by Fink <i>I Fink u Freeky</i> by Die Antwoord	
Venue:	PJ's	
Performance Dates:	3 July @ 12:30   4 July @ 17:00 5 July @ 20:30	



**Director's note:**

**Mary:** I think maybe that French guy was right.

**Mike:** Sorry?

**Mary:** The one who said water was like magnetic tape. My mother's the ghost in the machine. She goes through us like wine through water. Whether we like it or not. Nothing ends entirely.

- Shelagh Stephenson

Three sisters and their partners gather at the home of their recently dead mother and revisit the past in poignant and often hilarious ways; in a bittersweet comedy which proves that sometimes death can reveal the absurdity of life.

If you don't believe in ghosts, you've never been to a family reunion.

**Directed by:** Debbie Robertson  
**Written by:** Shelagh Stephenson

**Cast:**

<b>Mary:</b>	Ananda Paver
<b>Teresa:</b>	Kelsey Stewart
<b>Catherine:</b>	Megan Wright
<b>Vi:</b>	Ester Van Der Walt
<b>Mike:</b>	Zano Mthembu
<b>Frank:</b>	Ed Pepperell

**Stage Manager:** Bianca Binneman  
**Design:** Bianca Binneman  
**Set Construction:** Willie Coombs

**Venue:** NG KERK HALL

**Performance Dates:** 28 June @ 18:00 | 29 June @ 13:00  
30 June @ 18:00



ERASURE



*erasure* is a love letter in motion. It is both intimate and blatantly public. It's about the non-locality, the liminality of memory. It's about the space that exists between what occurred and what we speak or write or create in its aftermath.

Love letters are a means of self-expression that serve to not only shape, but reflect emotional experience. These letters, "despite their conventions, provide an imprint of the writer's identity, not simply by the signature, but through the 'traces of the body' that produced them in inkblots, teardrops, erasures".

This work aims to transpose the act of writing a love letter from a literal understanding to an embodied creative practice. Artistically, the layers of this work are intertwined: as the audience wanders through the performance space, the house itself functions as a shell that holds the self. They are guided through the psyche of whoever this shell belongs to, in no particular order, with no particular narrative. The pieces of the story are simply there, to be witnessed.

The fragments of this work are named: "*anaesthesia*", "*touch*", "*erasure*", "*amnesia*" and "*solitary*".

A cyclical view of creation and performance provides a framework for the making of *erasure* as a re-fabrication. The fragments of this work are individually re-cycled and re-captured through both the working process and the performance in itself.

For this reason, audience members are invited to re-capture the fragments - *photography is welcomed at all performances*.

Choreographed by: Nicole Theunissen

Cast: Rachael Clark  
Aaron Lynch  
Siya Stone  
Dan Whitehorn  
Lauren Vankeirsbilck  
Nicole Theunissen

Stage Manager: Jesika Kilian

Crew: Mike de Silva  
Pascale Reynard

Designer: Melissa Pentz

Venue: The Arts Lounge, 17A Somerset Street

Performance dates: 2 July @ 19:00 | 3 July @ 19:00  
4 July @ 19:00



The work *Hydrolunatics!* is founded on personal enquiries by the director and cast into their own engagements and relationships with water as an element and more specifically, as a precious and increasingly scarce commodity. While this premise forms the foundation of the work, it uses these established relationships to investigate various aspects of what is known as water politics - politics affected by the availability of water. These ideas are transformed into visual images that are expressed in a street parade combining physical comedy, clowning, spectacle and visual art with the participation of the audience.

*Hydrolunatics!* is an exciting and poignant work that offers audiences of all walks of life an opportunity to consider the essential role water plays in their lives, whilst simultaneously posing the question: “what is the future of our water?”

Created by: Whitney Turner in collaboration with the cast

Cast: Jason Joseph  
Amy Ernst  
Siya Stone  
Dan Whitehorn  
Llewellyn Barnard  
Alastair Kingon  
Keegan van Zyl  
Luke Cadden  
Nadia Du Plessis

Design: Whitney Turner

Venue: Drostdy Arch

Performance Dates: 28 June @ 13:00 | 5 July @ 13:00  
7 July @ 13:00

# The Rusty Spoons Collective



'The Rusty Spoons Collective is an event that consists of a series of interactive, participatory dance/music games.

"We've become blind from too much seeing. Its time to press up against things, squeeze around, crawl over - not so much out of a childish naivete to return to the playground, but more to acknowledge that the world begins to exist at the limits of our skin and what goes on at the interface between the physical self and external conditions doesn't detach us like a detached glance." Robert Morris

Please dress warmly in clothes that you can move in. Due to the nature of the event, it may run longer than the published 50min duration but participants are free to leave at any point if necessary.

Choreographed by:	Alice Thompson
Dancers:	Lexi DeConing Sarah Roberson Hannah Lax
Musicians:	Elizabeth Gaisford Jae Braun Seneliso Dladla Danielle Bowler
Stage managers:	Melissa Pentz Erin Cutts Corbin Sneddon
Crew:	Ziphezinhle Mpanza Yonela Zondani Pascale Regnard
Designer:	Catherine Ash
Photography:	CJ Chandler
Venue:	The Train Station
Performance dates:	6 July @ 19:30   7 July @ 19:30 8 July @ 19:30



Madele Vermaak completed her B.A degree in 2009 with Journalism and a distinction in Drama. In the same year she performed a leading role in the multi-award winning production of *DIE BANNELINGE*, directed by Heike Gehring and written by Bauke Snyman. In 2010 she completed her Honors degree in Drama with a distinction, specializing in Directing, Acting, Contemporary Performance and Physical Theatre. In 2010 Madele' was the musical director and musician in the National Arts Festival Student Production of *RUBBER*, directed by Robert Haxton. In 2011 she performed in the Encore Ovation-award winning production *Sub-* directed by Gavin Krastin for the 2011 National Arts Festival. During the course of her studies Madele' has directed multiple successful productions, including *Hard Candy* (2010) as well as *Romeo & Juliet* (2011) and *Hush* (2012) for the multi-award winning company UBOM! Eastern Cape Drama Company.



Debbie Robertson completed her B.A degree in 2009, and a B.A. Hons degree in 2010 with distinction, specializing in Directing, Writing, Acting, and Dramatic Literature. Debbie is currently in her second year of Masters specializing in Directing. She has performed in excerpts of Sam Shepard's *Red Cross*, Alan Ayckbourn's *Table Manners*, Fiona Shaw's *Scarborough* and a site-specific work of *Antigone* devised by Jen Schneeberger as part of Theatre in Motion 2010 at the Rhodes Drama Department. Robertson has directed a wide variety of successful productions during her time at the Rhodes Drama Department, including the *The Baltimore Waltz* (2010). Robertson debuted as a director at the National Arts Festival 2011 devising and directing Rhodes University's student production, the darkly comic *Taste* which sold out every performance.



Nicole Theunissen is a dancer, performer and choreographer. She graduated from Stellenbosch University in 2009, after completing her BDrama degree, having majored in Physical Theatre and Electronic Media. In 2010, she completed her BA Honours in Drama at Rhodes University, majoring in Contemporary Performance, Physical Theatre and Choreography. During this year, she collaborated on work for First Physical Theatre Company's *New Voices* programme. Currently in her second year of reading toward an MA in Choreography, her choreographic concerns tend toward the performance of history, memory and autobiography.



Alice Thompson is a second year masters student at Rhodes University, specialising in choreography. In 2011 she founded 'The Rusty Spoons Collective', which promotes a democratic, collaborative approach to the construction and performance of dance events. She has employed this inclusive approach while teaching at disadvantaged schools on the Cape Flats in Cape Town, at the Rhodes University Drama Department, for the Amaphiko Dance Project and for the Oxford University Dance Society. In 2008 she graduated with distinction from her BA Honours Degree in Drama and received the Johnathan Marks award for choreography.



Whitney Turner is currently completing the final phase of her Masters degree in Drama, specialising in Contemporary Performance at Rhodes University. In 2010 she graduated with a bachelor of Fine Arts, specialising in the field of sculpture. With capabilities and interests that stretch beyond the realms of creating sculptural work, Whitney took a bold step in shifting to post-graduate studies in Performance Studies. Whitney has had work displayed at two Rhodes Fine Art Student Exhibitions during the National Arts Festival, as well as the Aardklop festival in Potchefstroom.

## **inTranceit 2012 Production Team**

Production Manager	Jacques de Kock
Assistant Production Managers	Melissa Pentz Matshawandile Kesheni
Finance & Administration	Robert Haxton
Set Construction	Willie Coombs
Marketing & Media design	Robert Haxton
Costume Manager & Supervisor	Sara Slabbert
Photographer	Cat Pennels

## **Drama Dept & Theatre Complex**

Production Manager	Royden Paynter
Theatre Administrator	Robert Haxton
Substitute Production Manager	Jacques de Kock
Chief Technical Officer	Oliver Cartwright
Head of Wardrobe	Rita Westbrook
Design & Technical Supervisor	Roux Englebrecht
Secretary	Vusiwe Mnyobe
Workshop Manager	Willie Coombs
Stage Hand	Welcome Mgwanci
Resident Photographer	Cat Pennels

## **Theatre Management Committee**

Chair	Mr Tim Huisamen
HOD Drama	Professor Andrew Buckland
HOD English	Professor Dirk Kloppe
HOD Music	Professor Mark Duby
HOD School of Languages	Professor Russell Kaschula
Theatre Director	Ms Alex Sutherland
Theatre Administrator	Mr Robert Haxton
Production Manager	Mr Royden Paynter
Senate	Dr Anton Krueger
Senate	Professor George Euvrard
Finance	Mr Mike Oliver
Estates	Mr Cromwell Dyala

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