

SUPERVISOR'S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE MASTER'S THESIS:

Attachment to the state magister's examination report.

STUDENT: JORDAN Wayne

Branch of study: MA in Directing of Devised and Object Theatre

Supervisor: MgA. Sodja Zupanc Lotker, Ph.D.

Wayne Jordan's thesis *Memoirs, Essays and Ceremonies* sums up his working during the studies of the MA in Directing Devised and Object Theatre at KALD DAMU. This is not a simple description of the work by a student, because Wayne is an unusual student. Wayne came to MA DOT as a mature director with a serious career in drama theatre in Ireland, and with a need to change how he makes theatre. The three years that he has spend with us were a time of reflection and transformation and working on numerous projects. This work describes the main projects within the new trajectory that Wayne has taken.

It started with the director entering the stage and becoming one of the performers. This is a decisive step that changed Wayne's perspective on how to make work, it gave him a possibility to be with collaborators - the performers and the objects and the audiences – in a different way. He stopped being a director watching from outside but became a present participant. For some artists this might be an obvious choice for some impossible, but Wayne did it and made the most of it. By stepping in all of his directorial strategies have changed and are now based in something he calls after Lepecki 'alognsidedness' a special way of 'being with' people and objects.

This allows him to communicate in a different way; to be present (physically and mentally) within the work more obviously but more gently; it gives him a

power to get the best out of collaborators – who become subjects and objects and bodies and minds – present and absent in the same time.

But most importantly it gives him the power to be with audiences in a new way. Not being there to tell them something, to impress them or to make them think or to entertain them. Wayne and his performances are that place where audiences feel welcome as they are, where they participate simply by being present and where anything is possible: because otherness and difference is a given.

Writing this thesis allowed Wayne to understand the trajectory he has taken and sum up the strategies he has 'acquired'. I hope Wayne will apply these experiences to teaching. He is highly capable of putting them into words and sharing them. I also hope Wayne continues with post-graduate studies one day and adds more theoretical context to his findings in practice.

I recommend the thesis for the defense.

Date: 14th of September, 2020

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