

**For Immediate Release**

January 13, 2012

# **Theatre Without Borders**

## **Acting Together on the World Stage**

### **Film Screening and Panel Discussion**

**What:** Acting Together on the World Stage Film Screening & Panel Discussion

**Where:** Tipton Hall

**When:** 6pm Monday, February 13

**How Much:** \$10 general | \$5 students/seniors

The Santa Fe Art Institute is very pleased to work with internationally recognized **Theatre Without Borders** to present a screening of the documentary film Acting Together on the World Stage immediately followed by a Panel Discussion.

The feature documentary Acting Together on the World Stage highlights courageous and creative artists and peacebuilders working in conflict zones. It features theatrical works and rituals that reach beneath people's defenses in respectful ways that support communities to configure new patterns of meaning and relationships. Panelists include Roberta Levitow co-founder and co-director, Daniel Banks, P.h.D., co-director of Theatre

Without Borders and founding members of the Acting Together project, as well as visual artist Jorge De la Torre.

### **About Theater Without Borders**

Theatre Without Borders (TWB) is an informal, volunteer, virtual community that shares information and builds connections between individuals and institutions interested in international theatre exchange. Founded in 2006 by a group of NY-based theatre artists, TWB has expanded to include two global symposia, an ongoing project in Iraq, a series of books with the Coexistence Project at Brandeis University, and work by members in Rwanda, Kenya, Israel, Palestine, Hungary, Azerbaijan, and many other locales. The founders are now looking at a succession plan and TWB's time at SFAI will be used to bring together the founding members, the intermediary group of leaders, and the next generation of leaders. In

addition to the Iraq-US-UK exchange, TWB has been invited to partner with FreeDimensional, looking at civil and human rights for artists internationally. As the core members live across the country, the residency at SFAI will permit TWB to generate a long-term plan. Attendees include TWB founders Roberta Levitow (Sundance East Africa) and Erik Ehn (Chair Playwriting, Brown University), Roberto Varea (Director, Center for Latino Studies in the Americas, Associate Prof. Theatre University of San Francisco), David Diamond (La MaMa Umbria), and Daniel Banks.

### **About Acting Together on the World Stage**

54 minute documentary film

From the boundary of human suffering and human possibility emerges the documentary film Acting Together on the World Stage. Witness the plays that animated the US civil rights movement; watch ancient rituals enacted alongside Peru's Reconciliation Commission; and

experience the beat of African and Australian youth addressing conflict through call and response. A companion disc with eighteen short videos, plus guides for discussion, planning, action and assessment, invites you to join the global peacebuilding performance community with your own acts of courage, compassion and resolve.

### **About the Panelists**

**Daniel Banks, Ph.D.**, is a theatre director, choreographer, educator, and dialogue facilitator who has worked extensively in the U.S. and abroad . He is Co-Director of DNAWORKS, an arts and service organization dedicated to dialogue and healing through thearts, as well as Co-Director of Theatre Without Borders and a founding member of the Acting Together project. He is on the faculty of the MA in Applied Theatre at CUNY, on the Founding Board of the Hip Hop Education Center at NYU, and an advisor at the Gallatin School at NYU. Daniel edited and wrote critical commentary for the recently published anthology Say Word! Voices from Hip Hop Theater (University of Michigan Press).

**Roberta Levitow** has directed over 50 productions in NYC, LA and nationally, with a particular emphasis on developing original writing and new American work. In 2004 she co-founded and directed Theatre Without Borders, an informal group supporting international theatre exchange ([www.theatrewithoutborders.com](http://www.theatrewithoutborders.com)) and became co-initiator of "The Acting Together Project" created with The Peacebuilding and the Arts Program at Brandeis University. As a Fulbright Specialist, she taught at universities in Hong Kong, in Bucharest, Romania and in Kampala, Uganda. She was a member of the Creative Team that created BENEDICTUS by Motti Lerner - a collaboration of Iranian, Israeli and US

artists and she co-initiated and co-designs the Sundance Institute Theatre Program's Sundance Institute EastAfrica program, where she is the Artistic Associate.

**Jorge De la Torre** is a visual artist that specializes in painting and installation. He has been with Working Classroom in Albuquerque for five years and has helped facilitate various public art projects and assisted resident artists during workshops. He has been teaching classes for three years and recently was the lead artist in the annual Day of the Dead project which was dedicated to the victims of human trafficking.

**About the SFAI:**

Founded in 1985, the Santa Fe Art Institute's mission is to promote art as a positive social force – both in our community and around the world – and to highlight art as a powerful tool for facilitating dialogue, bridging perspectives, and evoking visions of a better future.

**About Half Life: Patterns of Change:**

Cycles of Creation, Decay, and Renewal in Art and Life  
When an object or system stops performing its assigned function in contemporary society, we tend to replace it rather than repair it. However, artists redefine useless as useful by creating a new life for objects, and that renewed life alters the role of these objects entirely. Artists work similar magic with degraded landscapes, blighted neighborhoods, and other systems—infusing them with new purpose and expanding the potential for positive change. Ideally, this change is accomplished with the participation of the surrounding communities—transforming not only objects and systems, but also the communities themselves.

For more information about this or any SFAI programming,

please contact Michelle Laflamme-Childs at  
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