

the laramie project ten years later

The Laramie Project Ten Years Later: Reflecting on Impact and Legacy

the laramie project ten years later invites us to revisit a powerful piece of theater that has resonated deeply with audiences around the world. Originally created in the late 1990s by Moisés Kaufman and the Tectonic Theater Project, *The Laramie Project* captures the aftermath of the tragic 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard, a young gay man in Laramie, Wyoming. This groundbreaking play not only exposed the harsh realities of homophobia and violence but also sparked ongoing conversations about tolerance, justice, and human rights. As we look back a decade after the play's widespread acclaim and various performances, it's worth exploring how *The Laramie Project* has evolved, its enduring relevance, and the lessons it continues to impart.

The Journey of The Laramie Project: A Decade of Reflection

The Laramie Project was born from extensive interviews conducted by Kaufman and his team with the residents of Laramie shortly after Matthew Shepard's death. The resulting play is a verbatim theater piece, which means it uses the actual words of those interviews to construct its narrative. This approach gave the play a raw and authentic voice, making it a compelling examination of community, prejudice, and the ripple effects of a hate crime.

How the Play Resonated Over the Years

Over the past ten years, *The Laramie Project* has been performed countless times across the globe, from small community theaters to major stages. Its impact extends beyond entertainment—it has become a catalyst for education and activism. Schools and universities often incorporate it into their curricula to promote discussions on LGBTQ+ rights, social justice, and empathy.

The play's ability to humanize a complex issue through real voices allows audiences to connect emotionally with the material. This connection is vital for fostering understanding and challenging biases. As society's conversations about LGBTQ+ issues have grown more open and nuanced, The Laramie Project remains a poignant reminder of why these dialogues matter.

Revisiting the Themes of The Laramie Project Ten Years Later

Even a decade after its initial release, the themes explored in The Laramie Project feel strikingly relevant. Issues of hate crimes, discrimination, and community responsibility still dominate headlines and public discourse. Revisiting the play today encourages reflection on how far society has come—and how far it still needs to go.

The Ongoing Fight Against Hate Crimes

Matthew Shepard's murder was a turning point that brought national attention to hate crimes against LGBTQ+ individuals. The Laramie Project helped personalize this tragedy, showing the human cost behind statistics and laws. Ten years later, hate crimes remain a pressing concern worldwide. The play's continued performances highlight the importance of vigilance and education in combating intolerance.

The Role of Community in Healing and Change

One of the most compelling aspects of The Laramie Project is its exploration of how a community grapples with tragedy. The interviews reveal a spectrum of reactions—from denial and prejudice to remorse and activism. This nuanced portrayal encourages audiences to think about their own communities and the role they play in fostering inclusivity.

In many ways, The Laramie Project serves as a blueprint for collective healing. It underscores the power of dialogue and storytelling in bridging divides and building empathy. For communities still struggling with similar issues, this message is invaluable.

Educational Impact and Cultural Legacy

The educational impact of The Laramie Project cannot be overstated. Over the last ten years, it has become a staple resource in teaching about LGBTQ+ history, civil rights, and the consequences of prejudice. Educators praise the play for its ability to engage students emotionally and intellectually, prompting meaningful conversations that textbooks alone cannot achieve.

Incorporation into Curricula

Many schools and universities have integrated The Laramie Project into their literature, theater, and social studies programs. This inclusion helps students:

- Understand the real-life implications of hate crimes
- Explore themes of justice, identity, and community
- Develop empathy by hearing multiple perspectives

Such educational use reinforces the play's role as more than just art—it's a tool for social awareness and change.

The Play's Influence on LGBTQ+ Advocacy

Beyond classrooms, The Laramie Project has inspired activists and organizations devoted to LGBTQ+ rights. Its honest depiction of the consequences of hate encourages advocacy for legal protections and equal rights. Events and discussions surrounding performances often involve community leaders, activists, and survivors sharing their stories and strategies for progress.

Adapting The Laramie Project for a New Generation

As technology and social attitudes evolve, so too has the way The Laramie Project reaches audiences. Ten years later, adaptations and new productions have incorporated multimedia elements, digital platforms, and updated contexts to keep the story vibrant and accessible.

Modern Interpretations and Performances

Recent productions have experimented with immersive theater, interactive workshops, and virtual performances. These innovative approaches allow audiences to engage with the material in ways that feel immediate and personal. For example, some theater companies have invited audience members to participate in discussions or contribute their own stories of community and acceptance.

Using Digital Media to Expand Reach

With the rise of streaming platforms and social media, The Laramie Project has found new life online. Recorded performances, documentaries, and interviews with creators and cast members are widely available, making the play accessible to those who might never attend a live show. This digital presence helps maintain the play's relevance and encourages a broader conversation about the issues it raises.

Looking Ahead: The Future of The Laramie Project

While ten years have passed since The Laramie Project first moved audiences, its message remains urgent. The play's ability to foster empathy and understanding is needed now more than ever, as societies worldwide continue to confront issues of discrimination and violence.

As new generations discover The Laramie Project, they bring fresh perspectives and questions. This ongoing dialogue ensures the play is not static but a living work that evolves with the times. It challenges us all to examine our own biases and to be active participants in creating more inclusive communities.

The legacy of The Laramie Project ten years later is a testament to the power of storytelling to transform hearts and minds. It reminds us that behind every headline is a human story—and that those stories deserve to be heard.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later' about?

'The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later' is a documentary that revisits the town of Laramie, Wyoming, a decade after the 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard, exploring how the community and individuals have changed over the ten years since the tragedy.

Who created 'The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later'?

The documentary was created by the Tectonic Theater Project, the same company that developed the original play 'The Laramie Project,' with contributions from the filmmakers and original interviewees.

How does 'The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later' differ from the original play?

While the original play is a theatrical piece based on interviews conducted shortly after Matthew Shepard's murder, 'Ten Years Later' is a documentary film that revisits those interviews and the community to reflect on changes, progress, and ongoing challenges over the decade.

What themes are explored in 'The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later'?

The documentary explores themes such as tolerance, hate crimes, community healing, LGBTQ+ rights, the impact of violence, and social change within Laramie and beyond.

Why is 'The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later' significant?

It provides a reflective look at how a community grapples with tragedy, the evolution of social attitudes towards LGBTQ+ issues, and the long-term effects of hate crimes, emphasizing the importance of remembrance and advocacy.

Where can I watch 'The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later'?

Availability varies, but it can often be found on streaming platforms that specialize in documentaries, through educational distributors, or by purchasing/renting it via online platforms like Amazon or iTunes.

Has 'The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later' influenced LGBTQ+ advocacy?

Yes, the documentary has contributed to raising awareness about hate crimes and has been used as an educational tool to promote LGBTQ+ rights and tolerance in schools and communities.

What impact did revisiting Laramie have on the participants in 'The

Laramie Project: Ten Years Later'?

Many participants shared that revisiting Laramie allowed them to reflect on personal growth, ongoing challenges, and the importance of continuing activism to combat hate and promote understanding.

Additional Resources

The Laramie Project Ten Years Later: Reflecting on Legacy, Impact, and Continuing Dialogue

the laramie project ten years later remains a pivotal moment in the intersection of theatre, social justice, and LGBTQ+ rights discourse. Since its debut in 2000, the play has served as a powerful dramatization of the 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard, a young gay man in Laramie, Wyoming. A decade on, the work continues to resonate within cultural, educational, and activist communities, prompting ongoing reflection on themes of hate crimes, tolerance, and the role of art in social change.

This article delves into the evolving legacy of The Laramie Project ten years later, examining its sustained relevance, critical interpretations, and the broader societal shifts it both influenced and reflected. By analyzing the play's reception, adaptations, and place within contemporary dialogues on hate crimes and LGBTQ+ advocacy, this review seeks to unpack how The Laramie Project remains a touchstone for understanding America's cultural grappling with prejudice and empathy.

Historical Context and Genesis of The Laramie Project

The Laramie Project originated as a unique journalistic theatrical endeavor by Moisés Kaufman and the Tectonic Theater Project. The team conducted hundreds of interviews with Laramie residents, weaving together a verbatim script that captured a community's pain, denial, and eventual confrontation with the realities of homophobia and violence. This method of documentary theatre allowed for multiple perspectives, creating a complex mosaic rather than a singular narrative.

When the play premiered, it arrived at a moment when hate crime legislation and LGBTQ+ rights were hotly contested in the United States. Matthew Shepard's murder had galvanized national attention, challenging audiences to confront the consequences of intolerance. The Laramie Project's innovative approach gave voice to diverse local viewpoints, from grief-stricken family members to conflicted townspeople, thus humanizing a tragedy that might otherwise have been dismissed or oversimplified.

Impact on Theatre and Documentary Drama

The Laramie Project's success helped popularize the genre of verbatim theatre, encouraging playwrights and directors to explore real-life events through firsthand accounts. Its nuanced storytelling eschewed overt politicization in favor of presenting raw, sometimes uncomfortable truths, prompting audiences to engage critically rather than passively consume.

Ten years later, the play is frequently cited as a benchmark in documentary theatre, inspiring numerous adaptations and similar works addressing social issues. Its enduring performance worldwide underscores its universal themes of justice and empathy. However, critiques have emerged regarding the potential limitations of representing complex communities through select interviews, raising questions about narrative authority and the ethics of storytelling.

The Laramie Project Ten Years Later: Societal Reflections and Cultural Resonance

A decade after its inception, The Laramie Project continues to serve as an educational tool and catalyst for dialogue. Schools, universities, and advocacy groups incorporate the play into curricula and awareness campaigns, highlighting its role in fostering conversations about LGBTQ+ rights, hate crimes, and community healing.

Educational Use and Awareness Campaigns

One of the most significant legacies of The Laramie Project is its integration into educational environments. The play's accessible format and emotionally compelling content make it an effective medium for discussing difficult topics such as homophobia, violence, and the importance of allyship. Many educators report that the play provokes meaningful discussions and empathy development among students, contributing to a more inclusive school culture.

Furthermore, organizations dedicated to combating hate crimes often utilize the play in awareness campaigns, drawing on its emotional impact to humanize victims and emphasize the importance of legislative protections. These efforts align with broader initiatives spurred by the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009, which expanded federal hate crime laws, reflecting a societal shift in recognizing and addressing such violence.

Evolving Interpretations and Critiques

While The Laramie Project is widely praised, ten years later it also faces critical reassessment. Some scholars argue that the play's focus on a predominantly white, rural community may overlook intersectional dimensions of hate crimes affecting people of color, transgender individuals, and other marginalized groups. This critique invites a broader understanding of hate and violence beyond the specific context of Matthew Shepard's case.

Additionally, the play's format—relying on verbatim interviews—raises questions about selective storytelling and whose voices are amplified or silenced. As conversations about representation and narrative authority intensify, The Laramie Project serves as a case study in balancing artistic interpretation with factual complexity.

Comparative Perspectives: The Laramie Project and Contemporary Hate Crime Narratives

In the decade since its premiere, cultural and political landscapes have shifted considerably. The rise of social media, increased visibility of LGBTQ+ communities, and ongoing debates around hate crime legislation have influenced how The Laramie Project is perceived and employed.

From Stage to Screen and Beyond

The Laramie Project's adaptation into a 2002 HBO film expanded its reach, bringing the story to a broader audience. This adaptation further cemented Matthew Shepard's legacy and the play's message. Over time, new media and formats have continued to reinterpret the narrative, including digital projects and community-based performances.

Comparing the original stage production with subsequent adaptations reveals how storytelling strategies evolve to maintain relevance. While the core themes remain, newer versions often incorporate contemporary references or updated perspectives to resonate with changing audiences.

Broader Hate Crime Representations in Media

The Laramie Project's influence extends into how media addresses hate crimes more generally. Its success demonstrated the power of personal testimony and community engagement in telling difficult stories. Since then, numerous documentaries, plays, and films have adopted similar approaches to highlight issues of racial violence, gender-based hate crimes, and systemic discrimination.

However, the play's specific context—rural Wyoming in the late 1990s—means that it represents only one facet of America's multifaceted experience with hate and violence. Contemporary narratives often

emphasize intersectionality and the experiences of diverse victims, reflecting evolving social awareness.

Ongoing Relevance and Future Prospects

As The Laramie Project marks a decade since its creation, its continued relevance is tied to persistent social challenges. Hate crimes, discrimination, and debates over LGBTQ+ rights remain prominent issues worldwide. The play's capacity to spark dialogue, empathy, and activism ensures its place in cultural and educational spheres.

Yet, its future impact depends on continual contextualization and critical engagement. Audiences and educators must consider how the play fits within broader frameworks of justice and representation, acknowledging both its strengths and limitations.

- **Strengths:** Emotional engagement, educational utility, pioneering documentary theatre method
- **Limitations:** Potential narrative selectivity, limited intersectional scope, dated cultural references

For theatre practitioners and activists alike, The Laramie Project ten years later offers a blueprint for harnessing art to challenge prejudice and foster community healing, while also inviting ongoing reflection about inclusivity and narrative complexity.

The enduring power of The Laramie Project lies not only in recounting a tragic event but in encouraging an ongoing conversation about humanity's capacity for both cruelty and compassion. As new generations encounter the play, its lessons continue to provoke thought and inspire action, proving that theatre can be a vital instrument of social change well beyond its initial debut.

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the laramie project ten years later: The Laramie Project and The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later Moises Kaufman, Tectonic Theater Project, Leigh Fondakowski, Greg Pierotti, Andy Paris, 2014-06-03 The Laramie Project, one of the most-performed theater pieces in America, has become a modern classic. In this expanded edition, it is joined by an essential and moving sequel to the original play. On October 7, 1998, a young gay man was discovered bound to a fence outside Laramie, Wyoming, savagely beaten and left to die in an act of brutality and hate that shocked the nation. Matthew Shepard's death became a national symbol of intolerance, but for the people of the town, the event was deeply personal. In the aftermath, Moisés Kaufman and members of the Tectonic Theater Project went to Laramie and conducted more than 200 interviews with its citizens. From the transcripts, the playwrights constructed an extraordinary chronicle of life in the town after the murder. In *The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later*, the troupe revisits the town a decade after the tragedy, finding a community grappling with its legacy and its place in history. The two plays together comprise an epic and deeply moving theatrical cycle that explores the life of an American town over the course a decade.

the laramie project ten years later: The Laramie Project , 2012 THE STORY: On November 6, 1998, gay University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard left the Fireside Bar with Aaron McKinney and Russell Henderson. The following day he was discovered on a prairie at the edge of town, tied to a fence, brutally beaten, and close to death. Six days later Matthew Shepard died at Poudre Valley Hospital in Ft. Collins, Colorado. On November 14th, 1998, ten members of Tectonic Theatre Project traveled to Laramie, Wyoming and conducted interviews with the people of the town. Over the next year, the company returned to Laramie six times and conducted over 200 interviews. These texts became the basis for the play *The Laramie Project*. Ten years later on September 12th, 2008, five members of Tectonic returned to Laramie to try to understand the long-term effect of the murder. They found a town wrestling with its legacy and its place in history. In addition to revisiting the folks whose words riveted us in the original play, this time around, the company also spoke with the two murderers, McKinney and Henderson, as well as Matthew's mother, Judy Shepard. *THE LARAMIE PROJECT: TEN YEARS LATER* is a bold new work, which asks the question, How does society write its own history?

the laramie project ten years later: The Laramie Project Moises Kaufman, 2010-01-13 On October 7, 1998, a young gay man was discovered bound to a fence in the hills outside Laramie, Wyoming, savagely beaten and left to die in an act of hate that shocked the nation. Matthew Shepard's death became a national symbol of intolerance, but for the people of Laramie the event was deeply personal, and it's they we hear in this stunningly effective theater piece, a deeply complex portrait of a community.

the laramie project ten years later: The Laramie Project Moisés Kaufman, 2009 On October 6th of 1998 Matthew Shepard was beaten and left to die tied to a fence in the outskirts of Laramie, Wyoming. He died 6 days later. His torture and murder became a watershed historical moment in America that highlighted many of the fault lines in our culture. A month after the murder, the members of Tectonic Theater Project traveled to Laramie and conducted interviews with the people of the town. From these interviews they wrote the play *The Laramie Project*, which they later made into a film for HBO. ... 10 years later, Moisés Kaufman and members of Tectonic Theater Project returned to Laramie to find out what has happened over the last 10 years. Has Matthew's murder

had a lasting impact on that community? How has the town changed as a result of this event? What does life in Laramie tell us about life in America 10 years later? And how is history being rewritten to tell a new story of Matthew Shepard's murder, one that changes the motivation of his killers from homophobia to a drug deal gone bad despite all evidence to the contrary?--Laramie Project web site. This is an epilogue to the original play.

the laramie project ten years later: The Memory Marketplace Emilie Pine, 2020-06-30 What happens when cultural memory becomes a commodity? Who owns the memory? In *The Memory Marketplace*, Emilie Pine explores how memory is performed both in Ireland and abroad by considering the significant body of contemporary Irish theatre that contends with its own culture and history. Analyzing examples from this realm of theatre, Pine focuses on the idea of witnesses, both as performers on stage and as members of the audience. Whose memories are observed in these transactions, and how and why do performances prioritize some memories over others? What does it mean to create, rehearse, perform, and purchase the theatricalization of memory? *The Memory Marketplace* shows this transaction to be particularly fraught in the theatricalization of traumatic moments of cultural upheaval, such as the child sexual abuse scandal in Ireland. In these performances, the role of empathy becomes key within the marketplace dynamic, and Pine argues that this empathy shapes the kinds of witnesses created. The complexities and nuances of this exchange—subject and witness, spectator and performer, consumer and commodified—provide a deeper understanding of the crucial role theatre plays in shaping public understanding of trauma, memory, and history.

the laramie project ten years later: Violence in American Popular Culture David Schmid, 2015-11-02 This timely collection provides a historical overview of violence in American popular culture from the Puritan era to the present and across a range of media. Few topics are discussed more broadly today than violence in American popular culture. Unfortunately, such discussion is often unsupported by fact and lacking in historical context. This two-volume work aims to remedy that through a series of concise, detailed essays that explore why violence has always been a fundamental part of American popular culture, the ways in which it has appeared, and how the nature and expression of interest in it have changed over time. Each volume of the collection is organized chronologically. The first focuses on violent events and phenomena in American history that have been treated across a range of popular cultural media. Topics include Native American genocide, slavery, the Civil Rights Movement, and gender violence. The second volume explores the treatment of violence in popular culture as it relates to specific genres—for example, Puritan execution sermons, dime novels, television, film, and video games. An afterword looks at the forces that influence how violence is presented, discusses what violence in pop culture tells us about American culture as a whole, and speculates about the future.

the laramie project ten years later: In the Lurch Ryan Claycomb, 2023-01-18 Some of theater's most powerful works in the past thirty years fall into the category of verbatim theater, socially engaged performances whose texts rely on word-for-word testimony. Performances such as *Fires in the Mirror*, *The Laramie Project*, and *The Vagina Monologues* have at their best demonstrated how to hold hard conversations about explosive subjects in a liberal democracy. But in this moment of what author Ryan Claycomb terms the "rightward lurch" of western democracies, does this idealized space of democratic deliberation remain effective? In *the Lurch* asks that question in a pointed and self-reflexive way, tracing the history of this branch of documentary theater with particular attention to the political outcomes and stances these performances seem to seek. But this is not just a disinterested history—Claycomb reflects on his own participation in that political fantasy, including earlier scholarly writing that articulated with breathless hopefulness the potential of verbatim theater, and on his own theatrical attendance, imbued with a belief that witnessing this idealized public sphere was a substitute for actual public participation. In *the Lurch* also recounts the bumpy path towards its completion, two years marked by presidential impeachments, an insurrection, a national reckoning with racism, and a global pandemic. At the heart of the book is a central question: is verbatim theater any longer an effective cultural response

to what can look like the possible end of democracy?

the laramie project ten years later: Dying to Be Normal Brett Krutzsch, 2019-02-01 On October 14, 1998, five thousand people gathered on the steps of the U.S. Capitol to mourn the death of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student who had been murdered in Wyoming eight days earlier. Politicians and celebrities addressed the crowd and the televised national audience to share their grief with the country. Never before had a gay citizen's murder elicited such widespread outrage or concern from straight Americans. In *Dying to Be Normal*, Brett Krutzsch argues that gay activists memorialized people like Shepard as part of a political strategy to present gays as similar to the country's dominant class of white, straight Christians. Through an examination of publicly mourned gay deaths, Krutzsch counters the common perception that LGBT politics and religion have been oppositional and reveals how gay activists used religion to bolster the argument that gays are essentially the same as straights, and therefore deserving of equal rights. Krutzsch's analysis turns to the memorialization of Shepard, Harvey Milk, Tyler Clementi, Brandon Teena, and F. C. Martinez, to campaigns like the It Gets Better Project, and national tragedies like the Pulse nightclub shooting to illustrate how activists used prominent deaths to win acceptance, influence political debates over LGBT rights, and encourage assimilation. Throughout, Krutzsch shows how, in the fight for greater social inclusion, activists relied on Christian values and rhetoric to portray gays as upstanding Americans. As Krutzsch demonstrates, gay activists regularly reinforced a white Protestant vision of acceptable American citizenship that often excluded people of color, gender-variant individuals, non-Christians, and those who did not adhere to Protestant Christianity's sexual standards. The first book to detail how martyrdom has influenced national debates over LGBT rights, *Dying to Be Normal* establishes how religion has shaped gay assimilation in the United States and the mainstreaming of particular gays as normal Americans.

the laramie project ten years later: For the Gay Stage Drewey Wayne Gunn, 2017-06-02 Previous surveys of the gay theatrical repertoire have concentrated on plays produced on Broadway or in London's West End. This comprehensive guide goes well beyond these earlier studies by introducing productions from Off Broadway, from regional theaters in the U.S. and U.K., and from Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. Also included are Puerto Rican, Indian and Filipino plays written in English, as well as translations from other languages. Well over half of the works discussed here appear for the first time in such a study.

the laramie project ten years later: Zachary Quinto Monique Vescia, 2014-12-15 Zachary Quinto is one of the great success stories of today, and once readers learn that he didn't let his sexual orientation hold him back, they will be inspired to reach for the stars as well. Most people don't know that Quinto hid his sexuality for many years. Only when he came out did his fans truly embrace him. This book details the arc of Quinto's life to date, including his early years in Hollywood playing small roles and his later stardom, eventually taking over Leonard Nimoy's role as Spock in the *Star Trek* remake.

the laramie project ten years later: Theory/Theatre Mark Fortier, 2024-10-01 This fully updated and revised fourth edition of *Theory/Theatre* is a unique and highly engaging introduction to cultural theory as it relates to theatre and performance. It is a comprehensive and accessible examination of current theoretical approaches, from semiotics and poststructuralism, through to cultural materialism, postcolonial studies, queer and feminist theories. Key updates to the new edition include further perspectives and expanded content on: - Technology, audience reception and liveness - Further examinations of feminism, transgender and gender theory, as well as queer theory - Disability studies - Critical Race Theory - Decolonization - Intersectionality - Critical Phenomenology Bringing contemporary voices and examples to light, author Mark Fortier introduces the ways in which established and emerging theories can interact with theatre and performance. This is essential reading for undergraduate and postgraduate students of theatre and performance studies.

the laramie project ten years later: LGBT Youth Issues Today David E. Newton, 2014-04-21 The increasing numbers of LGBT teenagers who choose to live their lives as out youth

face unique issues within their schools, families, and communities. This book provides information that will help LGBT youth overcome their challenges and give non-LGBT youth a better understanding of sexual identities different from their own. While all youth are likely to face traumatic or stressful situations in their transition to adulthood, lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgendered (LGBT) youth face significant and specific challenges in their lives—a result of living in a society that has yet to accept or be comfortable with the idea of same-sex or other non-heterosexual attraction, especially among young people. *LGBT Youth Issues Today: A Reference Handbook* presents historical background on the topic, provides an up-to-date examination of the issues of concern to LGBT youth, and offers in-depth information and resources for further research. In addition to providing frank, accessible information about the problems, controversies, and solutions facing today's LGBT teenagers, the work contains a chapter of essays from informed individuals regarding same-sex relationships among youth, voicing the experiences and opinions of activists, social workers, psychologists, educators, parents of LGBT youth, and LGBT youth themselves. Also included is a chapter profiling about 20 individuals and organizations that have been involved in discussions about gay and lesbian youth, such as Tony Perkins, Kevin Jennings, Robert Parlin, the GLBT National Help Center, It Gets Better, Gay Lesbian Straight Educational Network (GLSEN), Family Pride Coalition, Out Scouts, Family Research Council, and the National Organization for Marriage (NOM).

the laramie project ten years later: *Dps* ,

the laramie project ten years later: Devised Theater's Collaborative Performance Telory D Arendell, 2022-10-19 This book provides a fascinating and concise history of devised theatre practice. As both a founding member of Philadelphia's Pig Iron Theater Company and a Professor, Telory Arendell begins this journey with a brief history of Joan Littlewood's Theatre Workshop and Living Newspapers through Brecht's Berliner Ensemble and Joe Chaikin's Open Theatre to the racially inflected commentary of Luis Valdez's Teatro Campesino and Ariane Mnouchkine's collaboration with Théâtre de Soleil. This book explores the impact of devised theatre on social practice and analyzes Goat Island's use of Pina Bausch's gestural movement, Augusto Boal's Theatre of the Oppressed in Giving Voice, Anna Deavere Smith's devised envelope for Verbatim Theatre, The Tectonic Theatre Project's moment work, Teya Sepinuck's Theatre of Witness, Pig Iron's use of Lecoq mime to build complex physical theatre scripts, and The Riot Group's musical arrangement of collaborative devised text. Included are a foreword by Allen J. Kuharski and three devised plays by Theatre of Witness, Pig Iron, and The Riot Group. Replete with interviews from the initial Pig Iron collaborators on subjects of writing, directing, choreographing, teaching, and developing a pedagogical platform that supports devised theatre.

the laramie project ten years later: How to Read a Play Damon Kiely, 2024-10-08 Now in a fully updated second edition, *How to Read a Play* offers methods for analyzing play scripts from a diverse range of perspectives, giving directors practical tools as they prepare for production. Based on interviews with award-winning directors, university professors, and experimental theatre companies, *How to Read a Play* provides practical advice on how to first approach a script, prepare for design meetings, get ready for casting sessions, and lay the groundwork for rehearsals with actors. The book starts with a brief historical overview of famous directors, surveys the work of experimental theatres that devise their work, and ends with twenty-one practical exercises. The second edition includes material from interviews with a diverse range of directors and features perspectives on identity, race, trauma, and joy in working on new plays and redefined classic works. *How to Read a Play* is written for anyone who loves studying the craft of directing. Students and early career directors will be introduced to basic techniques for breaking down a script for production. Established artists will enjoy a behind the scenes peek at the methods and processes of directors with a diverse range of perspectives.

the laramie project ten years later: Creating Verbatim Theatre from Oral Histories Clare Summerskill, 2020-09-13 Offering a roadmap for practicing verbatim theatre (plays created from oral histories), this book outlines theatre processes through the lens of oral history and draws upon

oral history scholarship to bring best practices from that discipline to theatre practitioners. This book opens with an overview of oral history and verbatim theatre, considering the ways in which existing oral history debates can inform verbatim theatre processes and highlights necessary ethical considerations within each field, which are especially prevalent when working with narrators from marginalised communities. It provides a step-by-step guide to creating plays from interviews and contains practical guidance for determining the scope of a theatre project: identifying narrators and conducting interviews, developing a script from excerpts of interview transcripts and outlining a variety of ways to create verbatim theatre productions. By bringing together this explicit discussion of oral history in relationship to theatre based on personal testimonies, the reader gains insight into each field and the close relationship between the two. Supported by international case studies that cover a wide range of working methods and productions, including The Laramie Project and Parramatta Girls, this is the perfect guide for oral historians producing dramatic representations of the material they have sourced through interviews, and for writers creating professional theatre productions, community projects or student plays.

the laramie project ten years later: How to Rehearse a Play Damon Kiely, 2020-06-07

Based on interviews with over forty award-winning artists, *How to Rehearse a Play* offers multiple solutions to the challenges that directors face from first rehearsal to opening night. The book provides a wealth of information on how to run a rehearsal room, suggesting different paths and encouraging directors to shape their own process. It is divided into four sections: lessons from the past: a brief survey of influential directors, including Stanislavski's acting methods and Anne Bogart's theories on movement; a survey of current practices: practical advice on launching a process, analyzing scripts, crafting staging, detailing scene work, collaborating in technical rehearsals and previews, and opening the play to the public; rehearsing without a script: suggestions, advice, and exercises for devising plays through collaborative company creation; rehearsal workbook: prompts and exercises to help directors discover their own process. *How to Rehearse a Play* is the perfect guide for any artist leading their first rehearsal, heading to graduate school for intense study, or just looking for ways to refresh and reinvigorate their artistry.

the laramie project ten years later: *Moment Work* Moises Kaufman, Barbara Pitts McAdams, 2018-04-17 A detailed guide to the collaborative method developed by the acclaimed creators of The Laramie Project and *Gross Indecency*--destined to become a classic. A Vintage Original. By Moisés Kaufman and Barbara Pitts McAdams with Leigh Fondakowski, Andy Paris, Greg Pierotti, Kelli Simpkins, Jimmy Maize, and Scott Barrow. For more than two decades, the members of Tectonic Theater Project have been rigorously experimenting with the process of theatrical creation. Here they set forth a detailed manual of their devising method and a thorough chronicle of how they wrote some of their best-known works. This book is for all theater artists—actors, writers, designers, and directors—who wish to create work that embraces the unbridled potential of the stage.

the laramie project ten years later: *Theater and Crisis* Patrice D. Rankine, 2024-03-04

Demonstrates how myth, literature, and theater are part of and respond to public or political events

the laramie project ten years later: *Performing the Queer Past* Fintan Walsh, 2023-08-24

'Tender and rigorous, this book invites readers to linger with difficult pasts and consider how best to grasp their hauntings, demands and manifestations in the present. This is a book about mourning as well as holding, a simultaneous act of exhumation and a laying to rest.' *anna six*, author of *Madness, Art, and Society: Beyond Illness* 'This is an extraordinary book, in which queer theatre and performance become sites of celebration and resistance, as well as holding the potential for performers and audiences to work through painfully felt yet difficult to articulate experiences towards feelings of hope. Replete with rigorous, generous and creative readings, it is also a meditation on Walsh's own emotional engagement with queer theatre and performance, and how our cultural attachments can sustain, enliven and contain us.' Noreen Giffney, psychoanalytic psychotherapist and author of *The Culture-Breast in Psychoanalysis* Why do contemporary queer theatre and performance appear to be possessed by the past? What aesthetic practices and dramaturgical devices reveal the occupation of the present by painful history? How might the

experience of theatre and performance relieve the present of its most arduous burdens? Following recent legislation and cultural initiatives across many Western countries hailed as confirming the darkest days for LGBTQ+ people were over, this book turns our attention to artists fixed on history's enduring harm. Guiding us through an eclectic range of examples including theatre, performance, installation and digital practices, Fintan Walsh explores how this work reckons with complex cultural and personal histories. Among the issues confronted are the incarceration of Oscar Wilde, the Holocaust, racial and sexual objectification, the AIDS crisis and Covid-19, alongside more local and individual experiences of violence, trauma and grief. Walsh traces how the queer past is summoned and interrogated via what he elaborates as the aesthetics and dramaturgies of possession, which lend form to the still-stinging aches and generative potential of injury, injustice and loss. These strategies expose how the past continues to haunt and disturb the present, while calling on those of us who feel its force to respond to history's unresolved hurt.

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