Conference 2020

Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd February 2020

Father Daly Art Precinct,
Iona College, 85 North Rd, LINDUM, QLD 4178

Featuring a Special Presentation of Shakespeare’s Sonnets
Directed by Jennifer Flowers

Conference Presenters:
Greg Holdaway, Bryan Probets & Maggie Shephard

Keynote Speaker:
Lesley Irvine

QUT Lecturer - Creative Industries Faculty, School of Communication
FRIDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2020

6.30pm – 6.55pm  REGISTRATION
6.55pm – 7.00pm  HOUSEKEEPING & WELCOME
7.00pm – 9.00pm  WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE’S SONNETS – PART ONE

Throughout February, CSPT Inc. Members and Shakespearian Enthusiasts will attend a series of workshops and rehearsals with Jennifer Flowers which will culminate in the presentation of a range of William Shakespeare’s sonnets. The sonnets will be linked thematically and presented over the two nights of the conference. Family and friends are invited to attend the two performances as guests of the Association.

SATURDAY 22nd FEBRUARY 2020

8.00am – 8.40am  REGISTRATION
8.40am – 8.55am  WELCOME & HOUSEKEEPING
8.55am – 9.00am  MOVEMENT TO ROUND ROBIN VENUES
9.00am - 10.30am  SESSION ONE: ROUND ROBIN ROTATION ONE
Three small group 90 minute round robin practical sessions.

TOPIC ONE: “Inviting them to be with you, as you are with them.”
Presenter: Greg Holdaway

This session will be a practical exploration of the principles of the BodyMinded Alexander Technique for excellence in communication, speech and performance. It will explore a variety of movement and vocal warm-up exercises designed for coordinating the whole-self and developing skills in bodymapping for posture, balance and dynamic action. The workshop will explore how the power of constructive ideas can be effectively applied to performance. Participants are encouraged to bring teaching and performance questions to be addressed.

TOPIC TWO: Mime
Presenter: Bryan Probets

In this session, Bryan Probets will draw on his extensive experience as an actor to share a range of practical strategies and creative ideas to guide teachers in creating a narrative mime to be presented by a solo performer. He will guide workshop participants through a range of exercises designed to create an awareness of the shape, weight and size of mimed objects. Furthermore, Bryan will provide approaches and structures for successfully establishing character and shaping the mime's dramatic action towards achieving a climax and/or resolution. This workshop is targeted to assist teachers working with primary-aged students but the strategies and techniques will be applicable for all students regardless of their age.

TOPIC THREE: Strategies for a Primary Studio
Presenter: Maggie Shephard

As teachers we are always looking for new material and exercises to ignite and share with our classes. Maggie will share her approach to teaching Primary Speech and Drama classes in the small studio setting. However, all of these exercises can be easily adapted to suit larger sizes and spaces. This practical workshop will focus on using drama games to lead into student-devised drama and storytelling; improvisation and how it can help with understanding of text; and speaking for confidence and understanding in order to gain a reaction from an audience. The workshop participants will be encouraged to experience the exercises and to discuss how these exercises can be used/adapted for their own studios.
10.30am – 11.00am          MORNING TEA
11.00am - 12.30pm          SESSION TWO: ROUND ROBIN ROTATION TWO
12.30pm - 1.30pm           LUNCH
1.30pm - 3pm               SESSION THREE: ROUND ROBIN ROTATION THREE
3pm - 3.30pm               AFTERNOON TEA
3.30pm – 4.30pm            KEYNOTE: RETHINKING PUBLIC SPEAKING ANXIETY:
                           A NEW FRAMEWORK TO SUPPORT STUDENT SPEAKERS
                           Guest Speaker: Lesley Irvine

Public Speaking Anxiety (PSA) is an enduring challenge in education, employment and life. Speaking in front of others can evoke varying levels of unease, from mild to severe feelings of anxiety. As an experienced practitioner, Lesley wanted to further understand PSA in an educational setting. To do this, she undertook a professional doctorate which comprised of two connected projects. Drawing on critical reflective practice, Project 1 concluded that PSA is complex, prevalent, individual and unstable. To address such a multi-faceted phenomenon, Project 2 advanced a new framework of support. Specifically, this framework highlights the importance of developing sustainable speaking practices. Lesley believes her research has something to offer both teachers and students and she looks forward to sharing some of what she has learnt over the last four years.

4.30pm – 4.45pm           SHORT BREAK
4.45pm – 5.30pm            ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
5.30pm – 6.50pm            CONFERENCE DINNER
6.50pm – 6.55pm            MOVEMENT TO SONNETS – PART TWO
6.55pm – 7.00pm            HOUSEKEEPING & WELCOME
7.00pm – 9.00pm            WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE’S SONNETS – PART TWO

CONFERENCE RATES

The 2020 Membership Fee must have been paid to obtain Financial Member Rates.

EARLY BIRD RATE: Must be received by Friday 31st January.
Financial Member: $300
Student/Associate Member: $240
Non-Member: $360

REGULAR RATE: Must be received by Friday 14th February.
Financial Member: $360
Student/Associate Member: $300
Non-Member: $420

Reminder: In the interests of a greener society, please bring along your own coffee cup.
Refreshments provided as indicated in the conference schedule.
ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

Jennifer Flowers is an actor/director and teacher who spent her formative years learning from Patsy McCarthy and Therese D’Arcy and acquiring the AMEB and Trinity College qualifications (LSDA & FTCL). She has acted and directed for all the major Australian theatre companies and has received many nominations and awards for her directing and acting in Queensland and interstate. In 2005, she was granted a Churchill Fellowship to observe the teaching of Shakespeare in the UK and the US. The use of language in theatre productions is a particular interest and she especially enjoys working with young people on great and enduring texts which are nowadays somewhat neglected. She has served as a board member of the Queensland Theatre Company and has peer assessed grant applications for Arts Queensland.

Greg Holdaway is Director of Training at Sydney Alexander Technique and creator of the BodyMinded training. Greg has been investigating and teaching movement and performance potential for over thirty years. Greg has a Masters (Honours) degree in Human Movement and has been training professional Alexander technique teachers for many years. His focus is the practical education of performers and others for rehabilitation, health and performance improvement and in the professional development of music, voice and performance teachers in support of their teaching.

Lesley Irvine is the Unit Coordinator for Strategic Speech Communication within Creative Industries at QUT. She is a qualified teacher and journalist who has worked as a newsreader at a Brisbane radio station and a speech writer at Education Queensland. Lesley has travelled extensively throughout Queensland conducting communication and media training sessions as well as teaching professional and speech communication in Hong Kong. She has also run private communication coaching for broadcasters, politicians, business leaders and students. Lesley has completed a Master of Arts (Research) focussing on prepared oral presentations and is the final stages of a professional doctorate where her topic area is public speaking anxiety.

Bryan Probets is an award winning actor who has pursued a career in both theatre and film, acting with several of Australia’s major theatre companies and appearing in many international and locally made films. In 2003 he was a member of Queensland Theatre Company’s Emerging Actors’ Ensemble and that year won the MEAA Award for Best Emerging Artist. From 2004-2006 he was an Artistic Associate with the company. Bryan is a recipient of several awards including a Gold Matilda Award for his overall contribution to theatre in 2012, and a Silver Matilda Award for his performance in As You Like It (2012). He is a graduate of the University of Southern Queensland. For the stage, he has worked with Queensland Theatre, Sydney Theatre Company, La Boite Theatre Company, Opera Queensland, Shake & Stir Theatre Company, Matrix, QPAC, Out of the Box and HotHouse Theatre Company. Simultaneously to the theatre, Bryan has focused on film work over recent years and is also a voice over artist for television and radio and has provided character voices notably for the CGI animated international children’s series, Farmkids.

Maggie Shephard is a speech and drama teacher. She has more than 20 years of experience as a speech, drama and theatre teacher, and director of youth theatre. She initially trained at NIDA and after a brief professional career returned to her hometown of Babinda. She moved to Cairns and began teaching young people Speech and Drama. In 2003, Maggie began N-QADA where she runs weekly drama classes for students from Grade 2-12 to adult. Classes are heavily focused on Speech and speech making, preparing students for competitions, the eisteddfod and exams. The students are extended by performing two challenging shows each year that build on their acquired knowledge developed in classes. Maggie is passionate about the benefits of a speech and drama education. She believes that training students to have skills in a variety of forms of practical communication is most important as it touches all aspects of life and these skills are transferable to the outside world.