

Research Statement for Peer Review of Creative Works

Live Performance of Creative Works

Tracy BOURNE

Writer, Producer and Performer – Play, New work - Running With Pigs
Post Office Theatre, Ballarat, 17-19 November, 2006

Research Background

The interior female world is a relatively unknown theme in new musical theatre works. *Running With Pigs* was written in response to the personal story of one woman's experience of pregnancy, birth and stillbirth. It examines the ways in which myth and metaphor can act as a framework for a woman's shifting emotional and physical journey.

Research Contribution

This work used a complex layering of art forms to allude to the various modes of performance, including; text by Tracy Bourne, visual art by Sophia Xeros-Constantinides, and music by Madeleine Flynn and Tim Humphries. The visual art referred to the dream-like world of the unborn child, the music carried the emotional weight of the woman remembering her childhood and imagining the future, while the stories within the text were told directly to the audience. Although the use of multiple art forms in theatre is not new, the distinguishing feature of this work was the utilisation of these forms to reveal personal and intimate material.

Research Significance

This piece was funded by the Regional Arts Victoria fund, and was performed in Ballarat at the Post Office Box Theatre on 17th-19th November, 2006. A conference paper entitled 'The Intimate Spectacular: Telling the truth in music theatre' was given at the Australasian Association for Theatre Drama and Performance Studies 3-7 July, 2007 on the way in which this piece used multiple forms to tell personal stories.