

## **~a new THEATRE manifesto~**

### **BY COLLEEN SCALLEN**

and here we declare THAT ALL THEATRE FROM THIS DAY FORWARD SHALL BE **INCLUSIVE, INTERSECTIONAL, INNOVATIVE, INTENTIONAL, and IMPACTFUL.**

**1)** THEATRE SHALL ABOVE ALL BE **inclusive.** OF ALL IDENTITIES, SPANNING SEXUALITIES, GENDER IDENTITIES, RACES, RELIGIONS, ETHNICITIES, BODY TYPES, ABILITIES. OF METHODS AND EXPERIENCE LEVELS.

**2)** THEATRE SHALL BE **intersectional.** IT WILL INTERROGATE, APPRECIATE, AND EMULATE HOW IDENTITIES INTERSECT WITH EACH OTHER.

**3)** THEATRE WILL BE **innovative.** CLASSICS WILL BE ADAPTED AND EXPLORED WITH INCLUSIVE CASTING. POC, WOMXN, TRANS, AND QUEER PLAYWRIGHTS WILL BE PRIORITIZED, PUBLISHED, AND PERFORMED.

**4)** THEATRE WILL BE **intentional.** THEATRE PIECES WILL BE RESEARCHED TO HAVE A THEORETICAL AND HISTORICAL ROOT—AND THOSE ROOTS WILL BE INTERROGATED AND ADAPTED. IT WILL ADDRESS AND HARNESS THE POWER OF LANGUAGE. ARTISTS WILL DISCUSS, ADDRESS, AND SITUATE THEIR PIECES IN THE CURRENT HISTORICAL AND SOCIOPOLITICAL CLIMATE.

**5)** THEATRE WILL BE **impactful.** ALL ARTISTS INVOLVED WILL BE PAID A LIVING WAGE, AND THEIR CRAFT WILL BE COMPENSATED AND TAKEN SERIOUSLY AS A PROFESSION. PERFORMANCES WILL BE MADE ACCESSIBLE—FINANCIALLY, WITH SLIDING SCALE TICKETS AND MARKETING TO AUDIENCES OF ALL BACKGROUNDS, AND PHYSICALLY, WITH ADA COMPLIANT ENTRANCES AND EXITS AND SEATING, APPLICABLE CONTENT WARNINGS, AND AVAILABLE HEARING DEVICES AND ASL SIGNERS.

ART DOES NOT EXIST IN A VACUUM.

CISHETERO WHITE MEN WILL NO LONGER DOMINATE THE CONVERSATION.

THEORY WILL BE INTERROGATED AND DISCUSSED BEFORE BEING APPLIED, NOT SIMPLY TAKEN AT FACE VALUE.

FAT PEOPLE, QUEER PEOPLE, TRANS PEOPLE, PEOPLE OF COLOR WILL HOLD POSITIONS OF POWER IN THEATRE ORGANIZATIONS.

MOVEMENT WORK WILL BE UTILIZED AND EXPLORED IN WAYS THAT ARE RESPECTFUL TO ABILITY AND PHYSICAL CAPABILITY.

REHEARSAL PROCESSES WILL BE SILLY, FUN, HARD, BUT SAFE. EVERYONE INVOLVED IN THE PRODUCTION—ACTORS, DIRECTORS, DESIGNERS, STAGE MANAGERS, STAGEHANDS, TECHNICIANS— WILL HAVE CREATIVE INPUT.

INTIMACY CHOREOGRAPHERS AND PROTOCOLS WILL ALWAYS BE EMPLOYED AND UTILIZED.

INCLUSIVE. INTERSECTIONAL. INNOVATIVE. INTENTIONAL.  
IMPACTFUL. FEMINIST. SEX WORKER POSITIVE. RADICAL FAT  
ACCEPTANCE. BOLD. ENVIRONMENTAL. TRANS INCLUSIVE.  
BLACK LIVES MATTER.