

'Performing Research using EthnoDrama': A Rehearsed Reading of 'Passing On'

IATL Strategic Project: Final Report, September 2011

Professor Gillian Hundt, Claudette Bryanston, Dr Anne-Marie Slowther, Dr Ann Jackson, Dr Judith Purkis, Dr Christine Harrison

This award of £10,000 was utilised to produce and perform a rehearsed reading of a play 'Passing On' which was commissioned from Mike Kenny with funding from Open Space Learning (£5,000) after developmental research through a CAPITAL Centre fellowship held by Bryanston. The play was developed from transcripts on interviews with health professionals and bereaved relatives which were part of the data set of a completed research study on the experiences of families where a relative died in hospital within 48 hours of admission that was undertaken by some of the applicants on this award (Jackson, Hundt, Purkis) with funding from the Burdett Nursing Trust.

The award enabled the play to be developed in the main by Bryanston working with the writer and the actors with input from the academic staff. The play was developed in collaboration with Little Angel Theatre and a life size puppet represented the dying person. The play was performed as a rehearsed reading in June 2011 in two performances at the Arts Centre Studio Theatre. The audience consisted of students from across the university (with a large group of social work and medical students), health and social care professionals and the wider public. The performances were followed by a post show discussion with a multidisciplinary panel of theatre practitioners, social researchers and health and social care professionals.

The evaluations were informative and in the main positive in terms of the content and impact. The play has been revised in the light of the evaluation and debriefing with the theatre director and is going to be performed in London as part of the Suspense Festival of Adult Puppetry at the end of October (see flyer) with post show discussions and a pre-show symposium. This will be supported by an Impact Award from the Institute for Advanced Study and other additional funding. In addition, an Incubation Award has been awarded for the development of a programme of research on Performing Research using Ethnodrama. An abstract has been submitted to a meeting in France in May 2012 on Innovations in Pedagogy. Digital resources from the rehearsed reading are being prepared with further support from IATL.

Reflections on the process of collaboration have been written for the Open Space Learning website and are included within this report with the material of the evaluations. The budget was fully used and the Financial Report is attached in Appendix 3.

This award met the objectives outlined and the work is being taken forward both as a performance in London, as pedagogy using digital resources and as a developing programme of work on Performing Research.

Appendix 1 Reflections (not for distribution)

PASSING ON - Performing Research as Ethnodrama

Claudette Bryanston Senior Associate Fellow Institute of Health/Theatre
Director.

Prof Gillian Lewando Hundt , Professor of Social Sciences in Health, Co-Director Institute of Health, School of Health and Social Studies, University of Warwick

Background

Applied Theatre such as that developed by Boal (1979,200), and by the field of Theatre in Education (O'Toole 1977) and reviewed by Prentki and Preston (2009) has a history of stimulating social action. More recently, ethnodrama is a way to perform research on key social issues that engages diverse audiences both cognitively and emotionally (Akroyd & O'Toole 2010). Within health and social care, this is an effective and innovative way to engage stakeholders in the complexities and dilemmas of difficult contested areas. It is performance that is artistic but also critical social pedagogy (Shor 1992).

This is part of an ongoing collaboration between us – an experienced theatre director CB and an applied anthropologist working in the field of health

research (GLH). Each project has been developed from multidisciplinary research carried out by research teams of which GLH was a member.

Working within the Institute of Health at the University of Warwick has enabled us to utilise the findings from the primary qualitative research to develop applied theatre through ethnodrama. The first drew on understandings of stroke in South African rural villages (Stuttaford et al 2006), the second on the dilemmas and understandings of prenatal genetic screening of women and health professionals (Lewando Hundt et al 2011) and PASSING ON funded by OSL and IATL, developed from a study of end of life care (Jackson et al 2011). The research data in this study consisted of semi structured interviews with health professionals and bereaved relatives of people who had died within 48 hours of admission to a hospital (Jackson et al 2011).

Performing research enables the dissemination and transfer of knowledge beyond the writing of books and papers as well as providing a rich teaching and learning resource in both live and e learning contexts. The post show panel discussions involving academics, health professionals and theatre practitioners engage with ethical, conceptual and personal issues. A member of the audience said of our last collaboration.

It has come out of research but it is a piece of theatre and therefore it has a life of its own.'

The work of David Bradby and David Williams (1988) puts forward the case for the theatre director as author of the performance as an 'écriture scenique' and indeed the transformative work of the theatre director in taking research and developing it into theatre is in line with this approach.

The development of *Passing On* stemmed directly from the work undertaken by CB in 08-09 when she was awarded a CAPITAL Centre Fellowship to explore the potential for creating theatre for learning and social change on issues related to end of life care and death in hospital from this completed study. The Fellowship afforded time to research and develop a new play for performance based learning through drama workshops and collaboration with the Institute of Health and health professionals. This was a multi-disciplinary collaboration in which we explored and worked in a number of different ways but predominantly in the drama studio where we could begin to explore the social meaning given to actions and events enabling us to reflect iteratively and capture contemporary social discourses debates and dilemmas on end of life care and dying in hospital. CB developed collaboration with a playwright Mike Kenny and with Peter Glanville, the Artistic Director of Little Angel Theatre since it was felt that a puppet could represent the dying person more effectively as a theatrical device.

The Open Space Learning funded the playwright to deliver a script working closely with CB and the Institute for Advanced Teaching and Learning funded two rehearsed readings of *Passing On* each with a post show panel discussion which took place on 7.6.2011 at the Warwick Arts Centre. The performed reading was filmed so that therecording can be edited into vignettes to become an e- teaching resource for medical and social work students and health professional development and training accompanied by notes for the facilitator and research findings.

The rehearsed reading of this verbatim piece was a narrative through the voices of selected interviewees testimonies performed by 4 Midlands based actors who spent 3 days rehearsing. This choice allowed the puppet to be incorporated into the reading and for small moments of exploration of the use of the puppet to represent the dying person to be shared with an audience.

It is not gloomy, some is funny, and some sad but it is told with forensic detail by Joyce the daughter of a dying woman, and her heroic husband Jim with extraordinary insight and such courage, of which they both seem unconscious. The narrative is interspersed with the voices and viewpoints from a number of health professionals covering a wide range of issues, ranging from the frustration of an oncologist who finds he is unable to talk about death with his patients but is trying to offer professional support; to the porter who sees so much but generally whose voice is unheard and is there right to the end when a body is removed from the ward to the mortuary.

'The only thing that we can do ...is that we can treat that patient... the deceased patient with as much respect as we would a living one.....the way we move the patient...the way we treat them when we get down to the mortuary. There might not be anybody watching... but it's in your mind....how you treat that patient. You know I couldn't live with myself if I was to mistreat a deceased patient in any kind of way when you got them to the mortuary ...it would be like slapping a living patient'. (Porter)

Collaborations between arts and the academy are complex and time consuming and issues arise which are unexpected, or contested. Some of the issues that arose in this ongoing collaboration are touched on here.

Use of puppetry

The use of puppetry in the piece was an artistic decision. It was felt that a life size puppet could be manipulated on stage in and out of bed in a way that was not possible with an actor and could be androgenous, representative and symbolic allowing the audience to use their imagination and engage in different ways. The puppet was made by a free lance puppeteer recommended by The Little Angel Theatre with whom CB worked closely in the research and development phase. A mock up version was used during the preliminary workshops. It was critical to involve the puppeteer from the early stages as the design and structure of the puppet was critical and the movement language of the puppet was agreed and shared. For example CB wanted to feature the hands as the hands become so important being held continuously in the final hours by relatives and giving such comfort to both the dying and the carer at that time. The audience evaluation showed that its mere presence and the manner of its handling evoked considerable reaction. The two quotes below are examples from members of the audience.

'Cast did a super job of manipulating puppet. The process of live actors making the inanimate become animate, while it retains a distance and a symbolic quality.

Skeletal features, gender vagueness, wobbliness of head, seemed bit smaller than life-sized (excellent decision that), greyness, blobby legs - all these are very effective elements.

I remembered the feeling of moving my mother when she was very ill – the hands were incredible.

Ethics and copyright

The research had ethics approval from the NHS Research Ethics Committee and this requested consent for use of the material for educational purposes. The playwright having discussed the main themes and issues from the research decided to develop a script using verbatim text from a range of interviews. This was not expected and was a source of concern and we contacted the Chair of the Ethics Committee who felt that the consent originally sought and given covered this. However, in addition, we wrote to every interviewee in the original study, requesting their consent and made adjustments to the text to ensure anonymity. Such theatre has in recent years been used particularly when working with real life situations when the importance of authenticity and legitimacy are the most potent elements.

Producing the text and performance as a collaborative iterative process

The research team met with CB and the playwright and the Artistic Director from Little Angel Theatre to discuss summarised themes from the research. Discussions included not only the data but participants personal experiences. CB then worked iteratively on the dramaturgy with Mike Kenny and the first read through involved two members of the research team one of whom was a health professional as well as the actors and CB. The final version of the script reflected the feedback from the rehearsed reading from the audience, the advisory group, the research team and panel members.

The copyright of the play belongs to the playwright although the University of Warwick has the rights to utilise it for three years. These contractual arrangements, common in the world of theatre and intellectual copyright do not reflect the negotiated complex collaboration between the research participants, the researchers and the theatre practitioners.

Audience and Panel Discussions

The audience for these rehearsed readings included medical and social work students, and health professionals as well as others interested in the topic and one research participant. The feedback was engaged and useful and the panel discussions engaged with the ambiguity of decision making in end of life care. There was reflection on how the ways in which care is organised and delivered in nursing and residential homes, hospices, at home, in the community, by ambulance teams or in the hospital may be caring on the individual level but occurs within organisational constraints that may not meet families' preferences or needs. Experiences, choices, policies and their implementation in practice were discussed. There was also engagement with the use of the puppet, the artistic experience for the playwright and actors of delivering a verbatim piece of theatre in terms of giving voice.

.This is an ongoing collaboration and funding permitting, the play will be performed at the Suspense Festival in London in November 2011. We are grateful to the Open Space Learning in Real World Contexts and the Institute for Advanced Teaching and Learning for their support.

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10:31-45

Appendix 2 Evaluations from the audiences attending the two rehearsed readings

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatregoer	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
student		email/word of mouth		occasionally	no	yes	It isn't something I've thought about in depth before. End of life care should be almost 'advertised' as a preparation we all have to go through to help our families as a whole receive the best care	I liked the interview extracts	Those who have passed on are now voiceless and I think this was a fantastic representation		no	
member of public		mouth/email		regularly	no	yes	It is not something I have really considered so really I found it interesting	I liked this, it really felt that what was being portrayed was an honest	I thought that this worked well to highlight the fact that all these decisions		yes	

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatre goer	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
							and honest portrayal of different viewpoints	account of individual experiences	were being made for and not by the person at end of life			
member of public		from one of the actors		regularly	no	no		Very well done- I was impressed to see that the mutual care was high	absolutely brilliant-very moving	The issues raised are very relevant and each and even one of us has had to face lack of care either for ourselves or our elderly relatives	yes	very constructive and informat
member of public		other	one of the actors	regularly	no	no answer	Have had several experiences like this myself and found this production to be a realistic interpretation	Very good to get truthful, yet different points of view. Great to see a piece if insightful theatre making people to discuss.	Very interesting, good representation, very lifelike, made the aspect of life/death more realistic+moving		yes	very good, id for the creato of this piece take on board some of the comments+p ible make changes- thought the piece would only need

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatregoer	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
												tweaking
student	sociology	email		occasionally	no	yes	This play was brought to life the context of countless books I have read on the topic for a sociology module. I have not really had any experience of this myself.	Authenticated the views expressed; any frustrations at the healthcare system may have seemed too political had the material been written specifically for the play.	Perhaps trivialised the person-but really emphasised the dependency she has on her carers. Not sure what the effect would have been had you had a real old person to act the role	I think people in the audience found that they could connect and relate to the process carers had to go through for dying.	yes	very interesting
student	social work	email		occasionally	no	yes	Interesting to hear multiple perspectives-patient relatives, medical staff.	I thought it was effective	I thought the use of the puppet was excellent, very realistic	I thought a little unjust that social worker/ social services were shown in the worst light-as usual	yes	very useful to hear reasons and ethos behind the pl
student	health and social studies(SW)	email-attendance of course		occasionally	no	yes	general awareness at issues at end of life care-	enjoyed it-think it-it made the performance	very good thought she was very life-lite+portrayed	was there at some positives about social work and research?! We	yes	interesting to hear+ understand the reasons

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatregoer	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
							never had close personal or work experience at it so found the different aspects(family, hospital, chaplain, porter etc.) enlightening.	more personal, however some of the monologues were difficult to follow in context with the play.	the fraility at her wel	always get portrayed negatively!		behind+ development the play/research
student	social work	other	compulsory attendance	rarely	no	no		perhaps fewer 'you knows'- this distracted my a little	very life-like		yes	
member of public		Gillian Hundt		occasionally	yes	no	already familiarize with issues	excellent	inspired		yes	Seemed to help audience to understand purpose of the plan-so, very helpful
student		other	tutor	occasionally	yes	yes	in regard to patients/ family	real life situations aided			no	

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatregoer	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
							choices	understanding of issues				
student	social work	from our course		rarely	no	yes	made it more realistic				no	
student	social work	other	tutor	occasionally	no	yes	personal accounts		realistic/ showed fragility			
student	social work	lecturer		occasionally	no			made it life like	very representative of how little voice and control an elderly person has.			
health professional		other	staff	regularly	yes	yes	raised issues	very good	very powerful	interesting different perspectives ie D, chaplain, family	no	
student	medical school	intranet		occasionally	no	no		very relevant and effective	relevant and effective impact, good poppet!		no	
health professional		email/word of mouth		regularly	no			Good. Perhaps a bit long- the order arising was a	I think the puppet was very powerful		no	

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatre	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
								laboured				
student		other	tutor	occasionally	no	yes	the issue for au people individual and emotional.	fantastic!-personal emotional.	very good-life like		no	
student	social work	other	tutor	never	no	no				I was confused by what was going on-she was dead, then alive.	no	
student	social work	email		rarely	no	yes	awareness and respect+family	interesting	eye opener, bit sorry		yes	
student	social work	other	Tony	rarely	yes	yes	thought process of family	interesting to realise they're people's opinions	bit scary-moved well thought		yes	
student		email		occasionally	no	yes	with regards to different types of care expenses	interesting to realise they are peoples experiences	I understood why and found it effective and symbolic also quite (harrowing)		no	
student		word of mouth		regularly	no	yes			It was very touching and		no	

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatregoer	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
									even better from a real person.			
student	life sciences	email		regularly	no	yes		I like this very much became this it expresses the opinions.	Clever seemed odd at first but quickly got used to it	I did not felt at all upset by it, a bit sad at points but never upset, which surprised me with te context.	no	
sudent		email		regularly	yes	yes	varied perspectives	made it confusing at times	this was effective		no	
student	psychology	email		occasionally	yes	yes	I would considered it a few times from the POV go the dying person and the relatives, but not from a professional point of view	I liked it, it was natural speech and so accurate- it made it 'real' rather than an impression of what goes on.	The puppet was brilliant, found it really conveyed what was going on. Also it let me think about all people in that position, not just that individual character.		no	
sudent	social work	email		rarely	yes	yes	Great awareness of	slightly confusing.	really liked the puppet	relevant interesting issues raised	no	

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatregoer	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
							DNR in terms of ambulance response to patients without one.	Good idea but not too flowering at times				
student	social work	email		rarely	no	yes	families wishes for where the patient dies	very powerful as realistic and true.	again realistic because of as facial expression, height and build		no	
student	social work	email		occasionally	yes	yes		was a more honest approach allowed, greater understanding	allowed ir to be realistic but also distancing from the topic		yes	honest and informative
student	education	word of mouth		occasionally	no	yes	The fact that they have to keep resuscitating with the doctor arrives.	That's what I found good as well	trumps vr from MT	It's not just the elderly, my mother died of cancer at 62 and the issues weren't all that different.	no	
student	social work	other	tutor	never	yes	no		good	good		no	

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatre goer	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
health professional		email		occasionally	yes	yes	provided an opportunity to reflect in a supportive environment a good way to present research like immediately	I think this an excellent idea, however I hadn't realised this until I read the question. I feel this should be highlighted more- apologies it, have missed some pre-performance inf.	very powerful strong presence.	I really wanted the discussion of comments made by paramedic and mortuary worker.	yes	interesting although it wasn't easy to hear any questions/comments made.
researcher		email/word of mouth		rarely	yes	yes	360 degrees views from a range of people concerned.	important, sometimes confusing, thought because of each actor playing a variety of roles. I would be just happy just with text,	I found this a very disturbing/distracting.	Important and interesting. How was me 'cage' selected? I would like maybe some more 'cases'.	yes	interesting, hard to hear thought!

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatregoer	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
								perhaps a book or booklet. Closer to me original speaker.?				
health professional		word of mouth		occasionally	no	yes	How important it is for all concerned to have discussions about what a person wants.	I think it worked well	again- I think this worked well		yes	interesting to hear different people's views about what they have seen.
student	social work	lecture		occasionally	no	yes	general awareness of family views and feeling	Was a bit confusing where@what stage of life the mother was. Some of the monologues were difficult to follow.	I thought the puppet was very life like and gave a representation well, I don't think you needed the real life speech of the mother.	Why is social work shown in a bad light?	yes	interesting to hear about the regards and the reason for making the play and what is hoped to be archived through the play- maybe not enough time.

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatregoer	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
student	SHSS	poster		never	no	yes	in terms of care from relatives and expectations from professionals and power shifts and some times the help pleases felt by relatives.	Good, more of these mode of shows of research should be acceptable.	I know the research about carers and health professionals but he end of life program should have had more face	no	yes	informative, interacting and emotional
student		email		occasionally	yes	yes	actually the most impressing thing was the idea of showing the research resulting in this way finding.	Amazing. I had read the research abstract before performance and it really made into one picture.	I think this special care elder adult patients becomes like a puppet and it alto filled the gap of patient's voicewith memory scene (I find it very realistic)	It was really emerging issue to ... about the laid will- I wonder how often people writhe or accept it.	yes and no	It really beautifully resumed the play quite interesting as well
student		email		occasionally	yes	yes	Children. Letting go -	Authenticated the	Very Good - brought home	Home 'end of life' inappropriate.	yes	Illuminated t issues of

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatregoer	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
							the resuscitation side of it - DNR useful	performance	the frailty of old age	Thoughtful about end of life needing to not be a taboo issue especially so people understand DNR		societal attitude to wors death which is odd ignored
student	social work	email		occasionally	yes	yes	Pressure on families	Good	Interesting but I was wondering whether it dehumanised ill person	A good way of initiating debate and thinking about death	yes	Very useful and informative
member of the public		word of mouth		rarely	yes	no		I thought parts were disrespectful and excluded sensitivities. BUT daughter conversation was disrespectful of mother and undignified	Fine	I wondered what was the purpose of the story. And why a drama presentation. What was it supposed to achieve?		I did not like went on far too long. Aspects were inappropriate
student	social work	email		occasionally	yes	no		Came across very well, very realistic	I liked the puppet, thought the	Valid issues - would be interested in social work role	yes	Very interesting could have been longer

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatre goer	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
									facial expression was very good	more		
student	life sciences, Oxford Brookes	word of mouth		occasionally	no	yes	Made me think of the available options and the difficult choices for patients and carers	Fantastic	Very clever	Emotive and real	yes	Good insight into the research and why it was carried out. Essential to completing the theatre experience and interpreting it
student	SHSS	other	dept	never	no	yes	There is not much suitable care. Its better for people to die at home	Good	Good		yes	
student	social work	other	dept. mandatory attendance was part of course	regularly	yes	no		It made the play lack a bit of drama to the emotion; though realistic, despite the	It was the best bit, though made it problematic when switching to actor to voice	Why was there no service care/work professionals dialogue in the show as well as medical	yes	Was good to hear feedback but some of the questions seemed unfocussed

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								harrowing story it was hard to connect fully with the situation and play	person and end of life scene			
student		email		occasionally	yes	yes	In terms of quality of care of older people who are so frail and dying	I think it was brilliant and thought through	It was excellent and well presented	It was quite long	yes	Very good and informative
student	social work	email		never	yes	no		Good	I think an actual person would have been more hard hitting. Coughing was poor	No	yes	Interesting
student		other	university lecturer	rarely		yes	Lack of control family members have during a relatives final	Very realistic	It was good, well designed and a crucial idea	While informative the perspective of the play was very one sided towards the family members. I would	yes	The organisation of the play was rude and didn't seem to be open to audience questions as

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							stages of life			like to have seen more about the pressure and stress professionals can potentially face on a daily basis		interpretation of the play if it didn't correlate with their vision of the play
student	social work	other	university lesson	occasionally	yes	no		Good realism	Very good idea, symbolising the way many older people feel at this stage of their life (however this was undermined by having a scene when the actress played her mum)	They brought back memories of my own work with older people and my involvement when they were at the end of their life	yes	Informative and good to know changes have been implemented because of research would have been good to have more time
student	social work	email		rarely	yes	no					yes	
student		email		occasionally	yes	yes	A clearer understanding of the hospital	It should have been summarised	Human will be better	There was no emotions - Minimise the word 'you know'	yes	People more able to ask questions

I am	student dept	How hear about perform	How hear about perform other	Theatregoer	Carer or been carer	Enhanced understanding	If yes	Words aspect of perform	Artistic choices aspect	Content or issues	Attend discussion	Yes
							procedure					
student	social work	email		rarely	yes	yes	It helped to make the issues regarding end of life care much clearer	It should have been summarised in the actors own words	A human would have made it for me	It was not emotional	yes	
student		email		rarely	yes	yes	We need to continue supporting those nearing the end in a supportive, positive respectful way	ok	Very creative	It's a difficult time for the family, it seems there is still not much support and clarity as to where the patient should be	no	
researcher		word of mouth		occasionally	yes	no	Potentially good in juxtaposing health prof. views and carer ones and starting to show how painful care	wfw was fine BUT it was so very repetitive. I'd rather have seen some DIFFERENT carers' experiences	Very realistic - but what was the live dying person scene about - seemed to be a missed opportunity	Some who was who issues - took me ages to figure out that he chaplain was the chaplain	yes	V important to reflect on the variety of reactions-the CONTEXT & research findings made a lot sense of it handout

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							routines can be. Good on the resus dilemma	contrasted. It was for me - much too long				perhaps for a audience on this? As well the emotions health warning. Also how to handle diversity of responses po
student		email		rarely	yes	yes	The issues surrounding feelings and concerns of relatives and those dying	Good	The puppet was a good representation	Makes a good understanding of end of life	no	
member of public		word of mouth		occasionally	yes	yes	A difficult subject	Good, realistic but the 'you know' was a bit too much. Somewhat quoting!	Not sure. The puppet's face very grim	A very necessary exploration of the issues. It is clear that some attraction should be paid to the comfort of the patient. We are too keen on prolonging life		
student	SHSS	email		occasionally	yes	yes	Brought comments	Excellent very insightful	I though the actual puppet		no	

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							and experiences of those involved to life - more than just on paper		was brilliant but thought was unnecessary for the play - distracted from issues			
student	social work	email		regularly	no	yes	Different professional and family viewpoints. What can be difficult - practicalities, respite, wards, difficulty in getting nursing appointments, medication, carer's views vs person's views, communication	Excellent - naturalistic, real	Excellent, well executed, good interaction, felt real		yes	Useful to find out more about different aspects of pla including research it was based on and use of drama disseminate findings

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student	social work	email		rarely	no	yes	Interventions and hospital support	ok	Would prefer a humanbeing	A bit too long	yes	Informative
student		other	course	regularly	no	yes		Make it more authentic	Best choice	More input on why certain services were helpful and others were not	yes	
researcher		email		occasionally	yes	yes	The need to get people to talk about it	How many 'you knows' in the original?	Excellent puppeteer	No attempt to introduce better ways	yes	Impossible to hear contributors from the back
student	SHSS	email		rarely	yes	yes	What issues professionals, family and others have to face	Very explicit - good to support facts	Fair		yes	Good
student		other	part of course	never	no	no		I thought this was very good, as it gives us an insight to carers	The puppet was a good representation. I found it slightly scary, maybe the face		no	

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								perspectives	of the puppet could be a little softer			
member of public		word of mouth		occasionally	yes	yes	The difficulties in trying to match peoples' needs	These were very informative and added much useful information to the main storyline	Very engaging	It highlighted a lot of poor management within hospitals and the guilt between desire and reality	no	
student	Drama and Theatre Education	other	colloquium	regularly	no	yes	Varied views from people who involve in the porters, patients' relatives, doctors, carers	Its authentic and voracious experience. It was really moved when the carer described his 'own' experience of taking care of parents who were poorly ill	Extremely powerful and express the 'fading life' in a very subtle way	I've never come across such concerns and this play helped me to raise them	no	
student	Drama and Theatre Education	other	workshop	never	yes	yes	Very true situation sometimes	Very good	Quite powerful, but not too much		no	

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							conflicted with ethical issues		movement			
student		email		regularly	yes	yes		The use of those words were extremely helpful to audiences in order to develop a deep understanding and make connections with their own lives (some words reminded me of true stories I've heard/experiences)	I really liked that part because it was a medium of enhancing our understanding. I prefer the use of puppet rather than an actor because the whole approach seems less scaring		no	
researcher/health prof/member		word of mouth		regularly	yes	yes	It made me really think about the	Good choice - not always clear who was	Brilliant	The play was too long by about 1/3rd. The voice of		

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of public							unsuitability of the acute hospital setting for dying	who, and also might have been strengthened by having more than one 'carer' voice.		the patient was missing and ways to include this need to be considered.		
member of public		word of mouth		occasionally	yes	yes	It took me back to my own experience of a number of relatives dying in a gentle way and will stimulate some reflection.	I think this worked. I didn't realise this was the case and it gave it authenticity. The attention to the details very much accords with my experience.	I though this was moving and effective. Reminded me I felt for my grandmother who I saw infrequently. I guess also a metaphor for negative aspects of care. Movements of puppet were very effective.			
member of public		email/poster/word of mouth		rarely	yes	yes	Practical and emotional difficulties of	I really liked it. I thought that it	The puppet was amazing and provoked	I don't think I've really ever given much thought to	yes	Very insightful Very interesting to hear what

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							remaining at home. Sadly all too common situation where access to help is difficult more through what you learn rather than what you are told (experience) ie. access to District Nurse, Incontinence Nurse	therefore stayed true to the real perspectives of the interviewee and also added some humour.	memories of the frame and demeanour of a relative of mine who died. I actually had empathy for the puppet!	where is the best place to die. What that entails or how I will be faced with such decisions in the future therefore very thought provoking.		other people took from the performance.
student	Economics	email		occasionally	no	yes	A breadth of issues including relationships, responsibilities, the law, treatment(s)/c	Made it more realistic but didn't suspect they were quotations.	Sometimes it was distracting and the actors looked somewhat distracted with multitasking,	Sometimes the script was somewhat confusing as to whether the old person was dead or not.	yes	Interesting and further insightful of audience's background and play origin.

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							are, the hospital environment and problems.		but overall it was quite effectively and a different way to act scene.			
member of public		word of mouth		regularly	no	yes	The inadequacy of present arrangements. Need for much more thought and back up systems.	Good up to a point. Gave it a very real feel. But could have been developed into a more coherent story. Subplots were not really developed.	Like the work of the puppet. Face was very thick and moving.	Important to emphasise the DNR form Q of self funding - ability to pay (or not) crucial. Liked the screens also use of curtain.	yes	Useful
member of public		word of mouth		occasionally	no	yes	The fact end of life care perspectives differ yet somehow overlap.	Profound and authentic. It enabled the play to flow.	Very realistic as I thought she was a real person!	I have known people who have had cancer not just old people and died and my grandad who was in a home who had to be moved to hospital. I thought the play realistically	yes	Although I did not ask a question I found the questions and answers give informative.

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										portrayed these issues regarding end of life care.		
student	Economics	other	friend	occasionally	no	yes		It helped to give a personal understanding.	Symbolises how old people can be treated.		yes	
student	English	other	from partner (social worker)	occasionally	no	yes	Mainly re my own situation when the time comes.	Very good, but wasn't sure until the end whether it was one case.	Very effective, wasn't sure how this would be until the performance.	From my own experience I was clearly very lucky. My wife was well cared for in hospital.	yes	Very interesting!
health professional		word of mouth		regularly	yes	no		Very real.	Excellent.	Said in discussion.	yes	Good, would have had more
member of public		poster, word of mouth		regularly	yes	no		I think it would have been better with more editing.	Excellent.	Some aspects would have been improved eg. use of hoist? Differentiation between NSH care and social care	yes	A good discussion - with comment on both the theatrical and issues concerning

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										should be clarified, eg. NSH provide incontinence pads and hoisting (getting to toilet) is social....of death at home.		dying.
health professional (ex)/member of public		poster (at Arts Centre)		occasionally	yes	yes	Recently cared for my mother in her home before her death. I knew she wanted to be in her home and am glad we did not have the experience as shown in this performance.	Complimented - gave other aspects.	Given a truer representation of frailty - how withdrawn people may become - advantage to 'highlight moving' patient.	It is a misconception that hospices are only for cancer patients at the end of their lives. Hospices are for anybody who has a life limiting illness to use at the end of life.	yes	Very useful - hearing other peoples' opinions and experiences.
researcher/health professional		email/word of mouth		occasionally	no	yes	Dilemmas re 'best place' to die. Tensions between personal	Evocative and meaningful. The performance came across as authentic, I	Extremely powerful. I was surprised how life like the puppet was	I was curious to see how this topic would work as a theatre piece. Highly engaging	yes	Really interesting to hear more information about the

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							assumptions & desires & 'practical concerns', how little voice patients can have (through use of puppet)	don't think it matters that it was a mix of cases.	and she reminded me of older people I have worked with myself.	and though provoking.		research process and the decisions that were made in creating the theatre piece.
member of public		word of mouth		regularly	yes	yes	It 'dramatically' reminded me how awful hospitals can be particularly for a dying person and also problems of having to resuscitate.	Understand why found the repetition difficult. Needed editing.	Very good indeed.		yes	
member of public		word of mouth		occasionally	yes	yes	Need to talk to my children about my end of life	Made it vivid. Brought out complexities of issues.	Very good. It enabled me to concentrate on the carers points of view,	Spread the word.	yes	Dangers of generalisation from this 'one case' stuck, stimulating b

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							preferences and DNR.		without losing awareness for the person.			tiring.
member of public		other	University intranet	occasionally	yes	yes	Re-awakened some issues and concerns.	Seemed to lack 'word for word' content that might have been collected from 'professionals', ie. Doctors/nurses and other associated staff.	Seemed to serve the purpose.	Issue of resuscitation not exposed (enough).	yes	
health professional		poster/word of mouth		occasionally	no	no		I thought it was helpful.	I thought it was very effective.	The point about resuscitation was very appropriate - there is a prevailing myth that resuscitation gives a change of prolonging life.	yes	Interesting.
health professional		word of mouth		regularly	no	yes	A bit more insight into some family	Effective but occasionally slightly	Very effective.	Nursing and GPs are not always as portrayed. If this	yes	

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							perspectives every 'case' is an opportunity to learn.	disjointed.		play is developed as show to the public it may reinforce stereotypes. This is a concern, resuscitation important to show as is important.		
member of public		word of mouth		occasionally	no	yes	The need for respect; need for change; contradictions between feelings/needs of family carers and different professionals.	Yes a very good idea. However, I was not always sure about a stereotype casting representation of very different circumstances.	Brilliant! Puppet developed a persona which at times objectified the patient but not always - made sense.	Really great content and range of perspectives. At the end I remained baffled about solutions.	yes	Excellent. The play set up the discussion, but it is in the discussion that the play came to life - providing the best learning experiences.
student	Sociology	email/poster		regularly	no	yes	To some extent, you can understand better the	It's understandable but sometimes you get tired	I think it was ok but maybe an actor/actress could help to a	When people are close to the end of their lives they need is love, patience and warm	yes	Not very interesting.

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							different kinds of involvement in this process, how many different actors play a role here.	with a lot of roles and information. The performance tends to be plain and images did not work well, they were not well integrated.	better understanding of this situation. Her role was very passive while it should be more active.	environment. I find horrible the mobilisation of elder care.		
member of public		email		regularly	no	yes	Thought provoking, brought some emotional context of issues.	Some disjointed aspects, possible related to different 'stories', sometimes not sure perspective the actor was speaking from.	Very effective. Wondered about more than one narrative running alongside one another (different puppets).	Great material to use for scenarios for training - DVD. Lots of issues covered.	yes	Interesting issues to hear around health perspective.
researcher		word of		regular	no	yes	Too many to	I could hear	Brilliant,	The story of the	yes	Valuable.

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		mouth		ly			list.	real people, repetitive, thoughtful, inconsistent - with a clear voice.	moving.	'assessment' and cope home did not come over really clearly - maybe it was not clear from the interview either.		Could go on tomorrow, next week.
researcher		word of mouth		occasionally	no	yes	1.Experiences of carer - feelings/impact. 2.What happens after death-where you are home/tin/fridge. 3.also importance of health professional - quite often missed in research.	Innovative, novel and 'real'. Wonderful method dissemination. Powerful insight from different perspectives. 'True'expression. Didn't feel like the research had been 'creamed' ie. felt whole and complete.	Found this very powerful.Real/true to life. The way the puppet 'died' was incredibly emotional - allowed me to reflect on my own experiences. Resonates to the physicality of my grandparents.Really powerful.Even more than a	Respect in end of life. Appreciation of carers quality of life/support/psychological support. Did the actual discussion/interview at the end of life actually help those interviewed.	yes	Thought providing - would like to be involved in further discussions. I have plenty to say on this topic.Family ends reaction 'what are you going to that for'. This related to our lack of inability/preferece not to discuss death

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									real person/actor.			
student	Statistics	word of mouth		occasionally	no	yes	did not know of all the difficulties.	Makes it quite real, but a bit repetitive at times.	Interesting because person could not speak for themselves - often case in real life.		no	
member of public		other	invited as interviewee	rarely	yes	yes	Made me more aware of other peoples' end of life problems as well as my experiences.	Added realism, from normal comments of public being used.	Good. Also more lifelike in aspect than an actor.		no	
student	English	email		regularly	no	yes	Filled me in on the specific debates of home vs hospital care and the types of pressure on carers.	Very good, though perhaps with slightly more judicious editing or interspersing to break it up (cf. of out	Stunning, really captured the fragility of the life.	Very sad, very difficult. But important, glad it's being told. The attention to physical details was particularly important	no	

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								joints verbatim shows).				
student	English	word of mouth		occasionally	no	no	No-only because I am already aware of the issues.	It made the performance very realistic and made it easier for me to emotionally engage with the story.	Impressive. The fragility and vulnerability of the character was enhanced and very well represented by the puppet that needed the hands of the puppeteer.	I think it was very informative, educational and realistic.	no	
student/health professional	WMS(post grad p/t)	email		occasionally	yes	yes	Brought home some of the issues faced.	A little distracting but very well performed.	Excellent. Showed how sometimes we don't listen to that person and they often have no voice in what is going on around them.	Excellent performance. Highlighted areas that we as professionals often take for granted.	no	

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student/health professional	Education	email		occasionally	yes	yes	Possibility some views from carer at home. (I have 30+ years experience in acute and chronic care setting.)	Very well done. Gave credence to what was said.	Very effective.	Emotive subject for those that have experienced it. Brilliant Performance sensitively covered.	no	
student/health professional		word of mouth		occasionally	yes	no		Brilliant, very perceptive.	Excellent representation of how people are treated and perceived, especially the muteness, people talking at the without regarding a reply.	Very good interpretation of peoples perceptions, emotions, guilt, justification of actions, their feelings and interpretations of the persons dying feelings without actually asking or taking perception of how that person feels.	no	

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member of public		word of mouth		regularly	yes	yes	Differences between 'fighting illness' and accepting end of life.	It was distracting to have actors reading scripts.	I thought it worked very well.	At times I wasn't clear about which point in the process their play was in.	no	
researcher		email		regularly	yes	yes	Mirrored many observations I have come across in my own research.	Very good - realistic.	Excellent.	Mirrored the research in a thought provoking fashion. Raised issues that should be discussed.		
student	WMS	word of mouth		occasionally	yes	no	No - as I have experienced end of life care.	Some good/some bad.	Looked fail in need of care. So more realistic than many actors could be.		no	
student	WMS	email		never	no	no		Good.	Good.		no	
student	WMS	word of mouth		occasionally	yes	no			Surprisingly more easily related to than a real actress.	One sided, didn't really provide a medical view/angle.	no	
student	WMS	email		occasionally	no	yes	Patients' right to die with	Very accurate and portraying	Surprising at when the		no	

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							dignity and respect and ensure that they had the highest quality of life nearing the end of their life.	patient's emotions opinion and wishes.	puppet got on stage, but found that using the puppet was fascinating at portraying death.			
student	WMS	email/poster/word of mouth		rarely	no	yes	The whole process - hot it affects family.	Good- real and powerful.	I liked it.		no	
member of public		word of mouth		occasionally	yes	yes	Views of all concerned.	Not everyone would think it was portrayed but good generally.	Brilliant!	Did not necessarily agree with the sentiment of preferring to die at home.	no	
member of public		word of mouth		regularly	yes			Think it was too long and repetitive for purposes of a theatre piece.	this worked very well - very moving and more than an actor would have been.	Very important issues for all of us, not sure about the focus on one experience when there are so many different experiences.	no	

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student	SHSS	other	SHSS	rarely	no	yes	In every respect. Multiple perspectives.	Authentic and valuable.	Authentic and valuable, symbolic, increased insight.	Authentic, emotional, not sentimental. Challenging ethically.	no	Had other commitments
member of public		word of mouth		regularly	yes	yes	Sharpened awareness of specific hospital procedure.	The transition from one story to another was not always quite clear. Authenticity important.	A good aspect. It emphasises helplessness and voiceless. Moving - specific without being a personal story.	These issues must be addressed!	no	
researcher		other	friend	occasionally	no	yes	Feeling, system, suffering of patients and the need of support for carers.	Very good.	Very good and support the theme of the play.		no	
student	English	other	Arts Centre	regularly	no	yes	The occasional ugliness of death.	The fact it wasn't learnt made it feel a tad chunky. But its	At first it felt difficult to accept as it made the aim subject feel			

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								language was beautifully simple.	subjugated and silenced, but it worked I think.			
member of public		word of mouth		occasionally	no	yes	Views from professionals.	I liked it - felt real.	Absolutely wonderful, brilliant idea.		no	
researcher/health professional		word of mouth		rarely	yes	yes	Staff knowledge and action.	I think it was the right way to do so.	Was right.		no	
student	Theatre and Performance Studies	word of mouth/other	Box Office	regularly	no	yes	It is a taboo subject, very rarely addressed.	Enhanced - not putting words into character.	Represented a person at that stage of life generally-good.	Very thought provoking.	no	
member of public		word of mouth		regularly	yes	yes	NHS professional nurses.	Good, authentic but a little 'wordy'.	Absolutely incredible and powerful metaphor.		no	
student	English and Theatre Studies	poster		regularly	no	yes		Made it very believable.	Thought the puppet was great.		no	

