

An Explorer's Desire - Direction Packet

This project is launched in response to the humanitarian crisis in the United States created at the southern border. Its goal is to bring attention and action to the challenges we face with myriad immigration issues and to counter the dehumanization of refugees and immigrants. We all must become a part of a solution. At the core of that solution is embracing the concept that we are all neighbors. We must care for each other in our cities and on this planet. We must become intelligent, caring human beings.

The event is designed as a ritual to bring people together around the sacred subject of human migration. A few food items are used at the event because the gathering of people over food is communal throughout all culture. The progression of discussion and the items chosen are intentional in relation to the plays as well as a forward movement toward empathetic discourse and contemplation.

It is difficult and sometimes overwhelming to face what is happening to people subjected to cruelty by our government in our name, or by other governments across the globe. But we cannot look away from it. Because it truly does touch us all.

This event is laid out for you to do easily, with minimum investment of time or resources. It gives you the possibility to connect to your neighbors creatively, to learn and share information and opportunities to take action on a local and global stage. We suggest one rehearsal with the actors prior to the event.

The event is fashioned after the Jewish holiday of Passover. It takes place at a table. As you will see from the photos below the table can be small or large. It is designed to be a read performance.



The script is composed of short pieces written by playwrights from around the world. The plays themselves cannot be changed. But if you find the “Host” directions to the audience need to be altered, feel free. Please contact us and tell us why since we are curious to know what you are thinking!

Event materials include the following:

Performance Script

Participant booklet for audience

Downloadable Music/Sound

Images in a pdf document (to be printed) or powerpoint (to be projected)

Preparation:

- As you will see from the script this participatory event evolves into inquiry and discussion. It is not necessary but would be best to try and locate an immigration resource center or not-for-profit in your community working with immigrants to see if they could join you at the event and bring their expertise with them to contribute. (see research page for informative links) If they are not available, do try to meet with them and gather as much information as you can in order to intelligently facilitate the conversation with your audience, and to know what is needed to support their work and the local immigrant/refugee population. Also, if possible, see if a recent immigrant neighbor is interested in joining you. They will have much to contribute and their presence will be important.
- You will see in the Participant Booklet for Audience there is a place for putting information about LOCAL organizations and actions to take. **Please fill these in prior to printing the booklets.**
- This event can be done in someone's dining room, a religious institution's basement, an office conference room, a classroom - in other words anywhere you can find a table and chairs to sit around it!
- Please try to bring to the table people who do not know each other and who have different backgrounds in order to allow a diverse, educational and robust conversation, and for people in your community to meet new people while exploring this issue. In our world as it is now, connection is important:



At the event:

- Please take photos and/or video to send back to us with a few words about how the event and discussion went and what was learned or shared. We will use this to promote the project further and involve more people as we move forward. You can contact us at info@theglobaltheatreproject.org
- Please follow [Creative Corps](#), [The Global Theatre Project](#) on Twitter and join [The Creative Corps Facebook](#) group and share your process, photo/video and experiences on social media with **#WeR-CreativeCorps** **#FamiliesBelongTogether** and **#MoralEmergency** as the hashtags.
- Remember that the point of the event is to encourage empathetic action. Be sure to give all the tools you can to your audience in order to be clear about how to do that. It begins by going on a journey together sharing stories, thoughts, and feelings while knowing you are working toward a common goal - peaceful coexistence with our fellow human tribe members. It doesn't matter whether they live across the way or across the ocean. Take your time. Allow 2.5-3 hours for the event. See what emerges naturally. Be sure everyone leaves with a plan of action. That all know what they can do to be of true assistance. This includes the actors who should also participate throughout along with the audience. Once the event moves into discussion, all are equal in participation and query!

Notes for performance:

Casting suggestions: We suggest that the Host/Conjurer is separate from the characters and that an ensemble of 4 play all other roles. However, if necessary the actor who is the Host can also take on other roles. Or the role of "Host" can be given to a designated audience member. Cast size and role distribution is ultimately your decision. We suggest you try to limit the number of actors to make as much space as possible at the table for audience members. Each new play title (in bold) is read by entire cast. When casting, we encourage diverse casts, but if diversity is not found in your community, the important point is to share the stories. Human beings sharing human stories. If you can't get actors, enthusiastic community members will be just fine!!! The following images may help inspire you:

The table is set with everything necessary



Images are shared (in this case projected)



Audience participates



The HOST begins the ritual of the event



Actors perform at table



Expert opens discussion





Research Links:

Although not necessary, here are some links to help give you, your actors and any other central players further information and background on the complex and human costs and challenges we have been facing, mostly still unsolved for quite awhile now. We are sure you will find others. And encourage you to send those to us through info@theglobaltheatreproject.org or on Creative Corps Facebook page or @_CreativeCorps on Twitter.

The Jungle of Calais/Good Chance Theatre:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zD-RyGco3kQ>

Two blog entries of a personal journey of a young woman to the US/Mexico border:

<http://www.britneywinnlee.com/uncategorized/theborderlands1/>

<http://www.britneywinnlee.com/uncategorized/the-borderlands-part-2/>

4.1 Miles NYTimes documentary short on Greek rescues in the Mediterranean Sea:

<http://www.nytimes.com/video/opinion/100000004674545/41-miles.html>

Stepping Over The Dead In A Migrant Boat NYTimes Photo Journal:

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/06/world/europe/migrants-mediterranean.html?_r=0

Borders and Barriers Washington Post Graphics and Interactive Media:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/world/border-barriers/global-illegal-immigration-prevention/>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/world/border-barriers/europe-refugee-crisis-border-control>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/world/border-barriers/us-mexico-border-crossing/>

Universal Declaration of Human Rights:

<http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>

Island Of Despair the Sydney Morning Herald:

<http://www.smh.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/island-of-despair-australia-intentionally-torturing-refugees-on-瑙鲁-says-major-amnesty-international-report-20161016-gs3sm4.html>

The Mediteranean's Deadly Migrant Route BBC News:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-32387224>

Mediterranean migrants crisis: Is military force the solution? BBC News:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-32428500>

Boat With Hundreds of Migrants From Myanmar Heads Farther Out to Sea/NYTimes:

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/05/16/world/asia/migrant-boat-myanmar-thailand.html?_r=1

South Africa deports Mozambicans after anti-foreigner violence BBC News:

[http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-32772793?](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-32772793?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_term=%2AMorning%20Brief&utm_campaign=New%20Campaign)

[utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_term=%2AMorning%20Brief&utm_campaign=New%20Campaign](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-32772793?utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_term=%2AMorning%20Brief&utm_campaign=New%20Campaign)

End Of The Line Washington Post:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/sf/world/2015/11/25/end-of-the-line/>