

PERFORMING COMMEDIA DELL'ARTE
CORINNA DI NIRO

Title of thesis

Thesis: *Performing Commedia dell'Arte in a contemporary Australian context with reference to Antonio Fava's method: a continuous translation.*

Thesis linked here

https://ap01-a.alma.exlibrisgroup.com/view/delivery/61USOUTH AUS_INST/12140731850001831

Creative artefact – performance: *The Marriage of Flavio and Isabella*

Performance linked here

<https://unisa.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=07b54585-41ad-4f3a-af68-a9d10177eadd>

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Description of the research project

This thesis analyses the translation of Commedia dell'Arte comprising a dual process of performance practice and an understanding of the genre's history to impact practitioners working with the genre characteristics of Commedia dell'Arte in contemporary performance practice. The research method was tested and trialled over two years (4 separate seasons of performances) and consisted of developing a new Commedia show relevant to the 21st century Australian context – *The Marriage of Flavio and Isabella* performed for 2000 students across Australia. Feedback from audiences combined with the expert advice from Antonio Fava were used to further develop the show.

Key research findings

A key research finding is the adoption of a three-dimensional approach to authenticity: genre characteristics, time (present day) and place (location and audience) supports drama teachers and actors to create Commedia performances that are more accessible and translatable for audiences who have not previously experienced Commedia.

Keywords

Commedia dell'Arte; Drama Education; Australia; Three-dimensional approach; Authenticity.