

Art heals, documents and transforms

Cutting-edge artistic performances at the 2012 Drama for Life Africa Research Conference:

In addition to the celebrated keynote speakers attending the DFL Conference hosted by the Drama Department in collaboration with the DFL, the performance promises to entice and enthrall delegates.

Mmatshilo Motsei presents *What About Love?* as a once-off interactive performance. Complemented by a string of talented musicians and an interpretive dancer, Motsei will present a fusion of poetry, movement and storytelling with the heartbeat of drumming and the soulful sounds of the guitar and trumpet, blended and synchronised to depict her story of love as a counter to separateness and violence.

Gina Shmukler's production *The Line* is the culmination of the multi-award-winning actor and director's research on trauma and theatre. Having spent several months in areas affected by the xenophobic attacks that took place in May 2008, *The Line* is constructed from a series of interviews with South Africans involved in these violent events. Delivered in a spoken, verbatim style, the critically acclaimed play has been described as "powerful", "chilling" and "a must-see". *The Line* enjoyed commercial success earlier in 2012 at various venues, including the Market Theatre.

Performance artist, director and drama teacher **Myer Taub** will present his site-specific performance *Die Boek*. His performance deals with the hauntings of identity, displacement and love, and daringly takes on assumed conventions of theatre and representation in an attempt to activate new forms of storytelling superimposed on more traditional types. *Die Boek* is inspired by S Ansky's play *The Dybbuk*, regarded as a classic example of traditional Yiddish theatre.