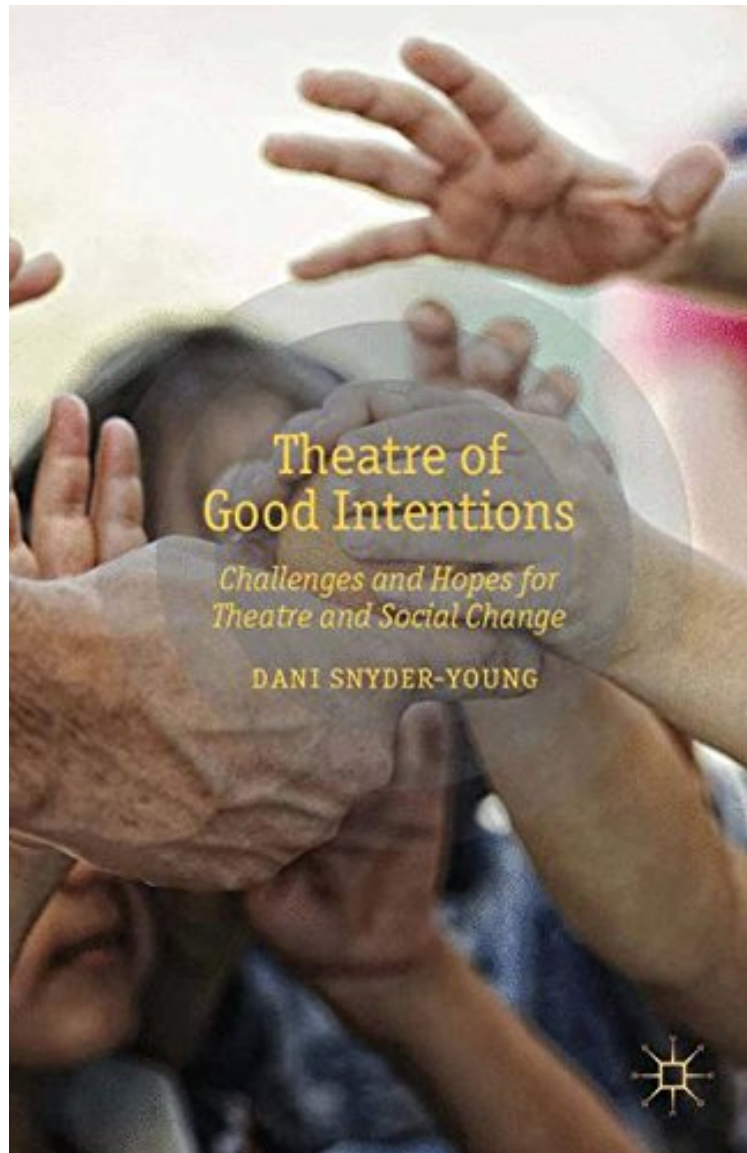


(Download free pdf) Theatre of Good Intentions: Challenges and Hopes for Theatre and Social Change

Theatre of Good Intentions: Challenges and Hopes for Theatre and Social Change

D. Snyder-Young

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D. Snyder-Young : Theatre of Good Intentions: Challenges and Hopes for Theatre and Social Change before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Theatre of Good Intentions: Challenges and Hopes for Theatre and Social Change:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Insightful look behind theatre for social change By T. A.

Fisher Snyder-Young takes a thoughtful look at the work being done in theatre that works for social change. Using a helpful variety of relevant case studies, she carefully and skillfully examines both the benefits of and concerns surrounding applied theatre projects. With a respectful approach and clear insight, she gently challenges practitioners to more closely examine the work being done, particularly noting the times when the work reinforces rather than works to change stereotypes and other institutional and sociocultural norms of behavior and belief. Additionally, Snyder-Young lays a theoretical foundation for her examination and for the field itself that benefit both beginning applied theatre practitioners and well-established ones. She pays particular attention to the challenges that come with privilege, working in institutions, and misplaced good intentions. I especially appreciated her discussion of catharsis. By looking separately at the impact of this work on participants and on audiences, Snyder-Young also reminds the reader how those groups receive and respond to applied theatre work differently. Applied theatre instructors would do well to include this book as part of their curriculum while applied theatre practitioners would be well-served by reading it and then discussing it with their colleagues.

Theatre of Good Intentions examines limitations of theatre in the creation of social and political change. This book looks at some of the reasons why achieving such goals is hard; examining what theatre can and can't do. It examines a range of applied and political theatre case studies, focusing on theatre's impact on participants and spectators.

About the Author Dani Snyder-Young is Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts at Illinois Wesleyan University, USA. Her research focuses on applied theatre. Previous publications include articles in *Research in Drama Education: The Journal of Applied Theatre Research*, *Theatre Research International*, *Youth Theatre Journal* and the *International Journal of Learning*.