Emergence at World Stage Design Festival, Cardiff 13th & 14th September 2013

Emergence will be curating a day of events as part of the 2013 World Stage Design Festival in Cardiff on 13th September. We will be showing the film 'Walking to the Summit' and presenting 'Doin' Dirt Time' in the World Stage Design Award winning sustainable theatre built to mark the event in the courtyard of Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama. Both presentations will both be followed by a discussion on the role of the arts in creating a sustainable society. We will also be hosting a sustainable venues symposium with our partners Creu Cymru and running a World Café style event on, sustainability and resilience.

Participants are free to come to individual events or book for the whole day. For more details and for bookings contact http://www.wsd2013.com

In addition Emergence will be organizing a micro land journey along the beginning section of the Taff Trail on Saturday 14th September.

Schedule of Events

Resilience in the Face of Challenge Creu Cymru

Creu Cymru is the development agency for theatres and arts centres in Wales. It currently has 44 member organisations who pay an annual fee to receive a range of services. With support from the Welsh Government's Support For Sustainable Living Fund, Creu Cymru is working with Cardiff University, Julie's Bicycle and Cynnal Cymru-Sustain Wales to develop a project to support the theatres and arts centres of Wales in becoming more resilient in facing the challenges of the 21st Century, particularly addressing the following 3 areas:

- energy and waste consumption & treatment
- the supply chain examining theatre production and touring
- communicating to audiences the issues and potential solutions

This session is designed to give theatre makers and producers an opportunity to hear how the project is progressing and work together on collaborating over programming and artistic response. The event will be a learning seminar to share best practice and showcase this project to an international audience.

Date: 13th September Time: 9.30am-11am Venue: (TBC)

Creu Cymru Emergence is supported by Cynnal Cymru-Sustain Wales, Welsh Government, Cardiff University and Julie's Bicycle.

DOIN' DIRT TIME

by Suzi Gablik

Performed by Philip Ralph, Fern Smith and Rhodri Thomas

Based on a transcript of an astonishing interview by internationally renowned arts commentator Suzi Gablik in her book *Conversations Before the End Of Time*. In "Doin' Dirt Time" Gablik speaks to Rachel Dutton and Rob Olds, two celebrated American artists who have made the decision to give away all their artworks and possessions. Following the interview they disappeared into the American wilderness.

This powerful piece questions the role of the arts in society as the two protagonists explain their reasons for not only stepping out of the art world but also stepping out of society itself. The performance uses a fascinating technique pioneered by Alecky Blythe of Recorded Delivery Theatre, in which actors interpret verbatim recordings in real time.

Fern Smith & Philip Ralph play Dutton and Olds, with Rhodri Thomas taking the part of the interviewer. Fern Smith is founder member of Volcano Theatre and co-founder of Emergence which advocates creative practice for a sustainable future. Philip Ralph trained as an actor before turning to writing. His first play Deepcut won the Amnesty Freedom of Expression Award in 2009. Rhodri Thomas is co-founder of Emergence, an environmental biologist, actor, writer and producer now working with Cynnal Cymru-Sustain Wales.

Doin' Dirt Time is performed with the kind permission and full support of Suzi Gablik and aspires to bring new audiences to her inspirational body of work - essential reading for artists, activists and anyone interested in prolonging life on earth!

Followed by a short discussion.

Date: 13th September Time: 2.30pm-4pm

Venue: AHC Sustainable Theatre

Emergence presents

World Café: A sustainable enquiry

Fern Smith and Rhodri Thomas co-founders of Emergence will facilitate a participatory inquiry into the role of the arts and artists as change-makers. World Café is an open and informal technique which uses the collective wisdom of groups to address a number of over-arching questions of relevance to the people present in the room.

The questions will be related to the people and projects we have individually encountered which inspire us to create a more sustainable practice in our life and work. This will be an invaluable opportunity to meet and share with other designers,

theatre makers, producing and receiving houses and to follow a line of enquiry in an open, honest and structured manner.

The World Café methodology is a simple, effective, and flexible format for hosting large group dialogue.

The World café will be preceded by an introduction to the work of Emergence, the ideas which have inspired it and it's impact to date on the arts scene in Wales and beyond.

Date: 13th September Time: 11.30am-1pm

Venue: (TBC)

Walking to the Summit by Peter Telfer & Dan Gifford

Shot in mid Wales at the 2012 Emergence Summit and the Centre for Alternative Technology, *Walking to the Summit* is a beautifully-composed film which captures the movement and the stillness of a journey, and the breathtaking beauty of the country through which it moves.

Designed, mapped and curated by Welsh artist, Simon Whitehead, the Emergence Land Journey is a 100 mile long, large-scale site responsive event, punctuated by daily visits from local artists or individuals connected to the particular landscapes of the journey.

The Emergence Summit brought together artists and pioneers to 'create the future,' visioning a world in which people and the planet matter as the top priority. Walking to the Summit is a fascinating document of the group of forty artists who made a commitment to stand up for sustainability by walking the Emergence Land Journey, traversing some of the most challenging and least-inhabited areas of Wales. The Emergence Land Journey aimed to connect people and places in creative and unfamiliar ways, an opportunity for deepened dialogue, concentration and reflection upon the things we take for granted. Walking to the Summit offers a continuation of this dialogue.

Directed & edited by **Peter Telfer**Photography by **Peter Telfer** & **Dan Gifford**Music by **Ansuman Biswas**.

The film will be introduced and discussed by Fern Smith, Emergence co-founder.

Date: 13th September Time: 4.30pm-6pm

Venue: AHC Sustainable Theatre, World Stage design Festival,

Cardiff

The Walking Party

To mark the closing of the World Stage Design Festival and the Emergence contribution to the event we invite you to join The Emergence Walking Party. Emergence is an initiative which advocates 'creative practice for a sustainable future'. Emergence facilitates making space for dialogue, inspiration, new connections and creative solutions to old problems.

This is an opportunity to meet, walk and talk with a like-minded community of practice. Something changes as we leave the fluorescent lighting and the carpeted rooms behind and move into the landscape. A number of Emergence events have successfully integrated the perambulatory into their structure. We become more creative, intuitive and open as we take ourselves and our inquiry into the unknown or into the Great Outdoors. The Walking Party follows the famous 'Taff Trail' out of Cardiff, minutes away from the foyer at The Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama. This is not an archeological, architectural or historical walking tour though there may be those amongst us who might share their knowledge. The event will be 'self-organised' in the best sense – trusting that the right conversations and necessary meetings will occur as an emergent consequence of the activity!

Before we leave, there will be an opportunity to meet, introduce ourselves and share a little about our experience and curiosity about creating a sustainable practice.

Before we leave, there will be an opportunity to meet, introduce ourselves and share a little about our experience and curiosity about creating a sustainable practice. Bring walking shoes/boots, waterproofs, (if you think you need them!), water, packed lunch and bus/train/taxi fare back to Cardiff. We will initially head for Castle Coch (6 miles) and if sufficient interest head for the Italian Café in the valley town of Pontypridd (13 miles). There are possibilities of catching bus and train back to Cardiff Central at a number of places along the route. For more details and to book a place contact fern@volcanotheatre.co.uk.

The Taff Trail is a multi-purpose route between Cardiff and the Market Town of Brecon. 55 miles (88km) in length, it passes close to Pontypridd and Merthyr Tydfil and through a wide variety of urban and suburban landscapes of those towns and the open moorland of the Brecon Beacons.

Date: 14th September Time: Meet 10am

Venue: Welsh College (room to be confirmed) then Taff Trail