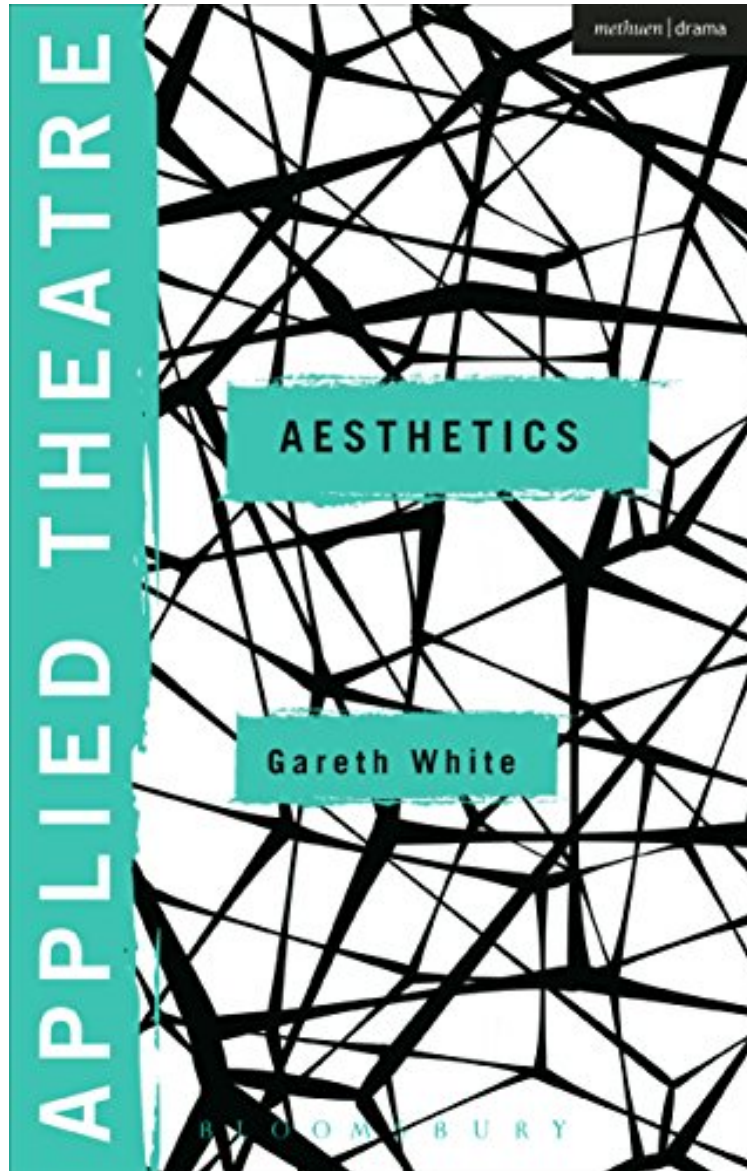


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Applied Theatre: Aesthetics

Gareth White

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Gareth White : Applied Theatre: Aesthetics before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Applied Theatre: Aesthetics:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Matthew Bernier Excellent

Applied Theatre: Aesthetics re-examines how the idea of 'the aesthetic' is relevant to performance in social settings. The disinterestedness that traditional aesthetics claims as a key characteristic of art makes little sense when making

performances with ordinary people, rooted in their lives and communities, and with personal and social change as its aim. Yet practitioners of applied arts know that their work is not reducible to social work, therapy or education. Reconciling the simultaneous autonomy and heteronomy of art is the problem of aesthetics in applied arts. Gareth White's introductory essay reviews the field, and proposes an interdisciplinary approach that builds on new developments in evolutionary, cognitive and neuro-aesthetics alongside the politics of art. It addresses the complexities of art and the aesthetic as everyday behaviours and responses. The second part of the book is made up of essays from leading experts and new voices in the practice and theory of applied performance, reflecting on the key problematics of applying performance with non-performers. New and innovative practice is described and interrogated, and fresh thinking is introduced in response to perennial problems.

Part theory and part case studies in practical application, *Applied Theatre: Aesthetics* offers a valuable perspective on the significance of beauty within the context of theatre engaged in social change. White's edited book is a well-written, well-formatted collection of essays offering conflicting, yet complementary views on these diverging notions of what a revolutionary aesthetic must resemble. ... Each case study is vastly different regarding context, methodology, scope, purpose, and space, yet each in its own unique way addresses the issue of aesthetics within applied theatre. ... White has cultivated an eloquent and yet successful argument for the use of beauty to encourage change. Collectively, these scholars and theatre practitioners have initiated a thoughtful and intriguing dialogue on the nature of aesthetics, particularly the potential inclusion of participatory aesthetics within the context of theatre in general and applied theatre specifically. Theatre Topics

About the Author Gareth White lectures in applied theatre and community performance at Central School of Speech and Drama, University of London, UK. He is also a director, performer and facilitator, with a particular interest in processes and theories of participation and collaborative processes.