VCE Drama
Advice for teachers 2019–2024

Example of performance styles

Performance styles may be drawn from the following three categories:

*Ritual and storytelling (Unit 1)*

Includes: rites of passage, ritual theatre from across the ancient and contemporary worlds, Greek theatre, Elizabethan theatre, Butoh, puppet theatre (Wayang from Indonesia), Kabuki, Noh, mime, clowning, vaudeville, Commedia dell’arte, opera (including chinese opera), Indigenous storytelling.

*Contemporary drama practice and performance styles (Unit 2)*

Includes: docudrama, verbatim theatre, performance art, improvisation, Australian Gothic, feminist, political, queer, contemporary Indigenous, circus, stage mockumentary, agit-prop.

*Theatre Companies or practitioners*

Includes: Red Stitch, The Hayloft Project, Ilbijerri, Sisters Grim, Blak Cabaret, Circus Oz, Kage, Human Animal Exchange, The Escapists, Back to Back, Stalker Theatre Company, Zen Zen Zo (physical theatre), Meow Meow, Paul Capsis, Stefo Nantsou and Tom Lycos (Zeal Theatre), Richard Franklin, Tammy Anderson, Donna Jackson, Nilaja Sun.

*The work of drama practitioners and associated performance styles (Unit 3)*

Some drama practitioners are associated with a particular performance style while others have a body of work in the form of plays or performances that may draw on conventions from other practitioners. They include:

Antonin Artaud (Theatre of Cruelty), Bertolt Brecht (Epic Theatre), Jerzy Grotowski (Poor Theatre), Samuel Beckett (Absurdism), Augustus Boal (Theatre of the Oppressed), Ariane Mnouchkine (Theatre Du Soliel), Peter Brook, Ann Bogart, Erwin Piscator, Pina Bausch, Joan Littlewood, Robert Wilson, Australian New Wave Theatre, Magical Realism, Gothic, Musical Theatre, Feminist theatre, Film Noir, German Expressionism.