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## An Ode to Performance Ethics: An Ode to Keyan Tomaselli

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performance ethics

provide the foundation for resistance,

critique, understanding

performance ethics

inspire militant utopianism, pedagogies of freedom

performance ethics imagine a world free of conflict and injustice

the autoethnographer's life is the topic, the site of inquiry

ethics are always personal, political and relational

ethics' duty is to inspire critique, to bring dignity,

to inspire hope, to model acts of activism

to be utopian, to be moral, to be an act of giving, guide

performance always does the work of advocacy,

performance is moral witnessing,

performance is a tool, a method,

a mode of inquiry, a path to understanding,

performance is always, already ethical

an intervention, which enacts the unimaginable

performance as resistance, as testimony, as justice, as re-enactment

social theatre for healing, for action, for community,

for turning experience into art

A performance ethic honours the past, imagines new futures,

demands to be heard, gives a voice

performance inhabits, imagines and bears witness to acts of activism

the ethics of radical performance demand that I pay



attention to the political economy of poverty, injustice, and human rights  
performance makes injustice visible (Madison)  
relational ethics offer guidelines: no harm,  
tell the truth,  
whose truth? Whose facts?  
long live critical pedagogy,  
long live the Theatre of the Oppressed  
spect-actors, simultaneous dramaturgy, catharsis, forum theatre,  
conscientisation, anti-model, oppressed person, joker, legislative  
theatre, authentic dialogue, image theatre,  
the main goal: help people who are suffering imagine and enact change in  
their lives through Theatre of the Oppressed  
a poetics of the oppressed, social theatre  
Freire:  
The words the dreams, the silences  
Rage, love, hope. Pedagogy of liberation  
Terror, military coups, jail, revolutions, exiles,  
Two policeman came to my house  
I was imprisoned  
I love brazil, i want her people to be free  
To be free i had to leave my homeland  
Nightmares at mid day  
Emaciated bodies, my pedagogy  
My ethics were written in the blood  
of those who were beaten until they died