

## *director's notes*

“Throughout history the theater has been useful in specific ways at particular historical moments. Tragedy, for example, was invented in ancient Greece to provide a space and time for citizens to absorb the new concept of democracy and to consider the ramifications of democratic law and hegemonic order. In another context, say during the reign of a totalitarian regime when freedom of expression is repressed, the theater, via metaphor and allegory, can allow communication through indirect allusion. Currently we inhabit a culture in which busyness and distraction have become not only the baseline of modern existence, but also a subject of great urgency. The theater is in a unique position to offer alternatives to the fast pace and panic of our times. One of the most powerful aspects of the theater is the artists’ ability to alter the audience’s sensation of time by consciously changing the time signature. We can change the experience of time by first paying attention to how time passes.”

—Anne Bogart

“In silence or in sound, reading and being read to are forms of touch. The words of poets and writers stir us. When this happens we may be compelled to note, copy, or underline, and often to share that touch—by passing the book from hand to hand, by reading out loud, or by sharing the page. The distance between author and reader and reader and reader diminishes as the capacity of words to compel recognition travels from contact to contact, screen to screen, and perhaps from hand to hand. The condition of the book connects the far away found inside its covers to the window light, the cloth on the table, the wood of the chair, the objects near at hand—just as a thread passing through cloth appears and disappears, binding the surface of what is visible above to what is invisible below. The words *text* and *textile* share the same root. The relationship between a line of writing and a line of thread are that both have a recto and verso. The words allow us to travel and the tactile threads keep us here—the rhythmic exchange of one reeling out and the other pulling in. Cloth is the hand that is always touching.”

—Anne Hamilton