



MONOLOGUE BOOT CAMP

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WRITING PRACTICE

- When it's time to write, check in with your body. Release tensions.
- Spend 5 to 10 minutes writing out your current obsessions: whatever's on your mind. Then choose one word or image from your list and use it to write a first person present tense monologue.
- Go for a walk. Collect words that you see along the way. Go home and use three of your 'found' words to inspire a free write. This will loosen you up for more writing.

INSPIRATION

Ask what makes you joyful? What makes you angry? What makes you confused? Pick one topic and spend ten minutes writing a monologue.

TERMS

Solo Text – any work for solo performance (ie, verbatim play, multimedia, stand-up comedy, etc)

Monologue – belongs to a character within a play

Soliloquy – found in Shakespeare plays, a character breaks the fourth wall and addresses the audience

AUDIENCE

What is the audience's role in a play?

- Witness
- Participant (by implication)
- Recipient (ie, of haranguing)

Who is the audience of a solo text or monologue?

- Self (internalized)
- People listening
- God or gods

RESPECTFUL VOICE

Regarding cultural sensitivity in your work: as an artist, write what you want. When you share your work, ask: will it harm? Will it heal?

Artists have a responsibility for deep respect and deep consultation of any marginalized community which we choose to represent in our work. Artists must question deeply and honestly, then clarify intentions so that we have "integrity of vision".

Context is everything.

We must decolonize ourselves, not others (or before we aim to decolonize others).

Seek to "reclaim" classic plays, Shakespeare, etc, so that there is a possibility of reconciliation.