

Dear CATR 2023 Delegates,

Welcome from across Turtle Island, the land, waters, and shores called “Canada,” and beyond! At *CATR 2023: Performing Shores / The Shores of Performance*, two hundred drama, theatre, and performance scholars and practitioners will gather online and in Mi’kma’ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi’kmaq People. *Ça fait exactement vingt ans que le colloque de l’ACRT se tient à Halifax et nous sommes ravis d’y revenir en 2023!*

The Canadian Association for Theatre Research is constitutive of its members. Since 1976 we have gathered as a unique advocacy group to share our research, our practices, and our perspectives through the multi-pronged medium of the annual conference. *Chaque année il y a eu de grands défis, surtout ces dernières années lorsque que nous sommes passés en ligne et puis en format hybride. Mais depuis 47 ans nous n'avons jamais échoué, nous avons toujours prospéré.* We owe a true debt to Roberta Barker, Kailin Wright, Heather Davis-Fisch and their team of volunteers and staff who have made CATR 2023 possible. *Merci à Roberta Barker, Kailin Wright, Heather Davis-Fisch et à leur équipe de bénévoles et d'employés qui ont rendu possible le colloque de l’ACRT 2023.* I speak from experience when I say that chairing our conference brings great rewards of collaboration, learning, and discovery. *Je tiens également à remercier nos commanditaires, les agences académiques et artistiques, les éditeurs et les donateurs individuels qui ont fourni des fonds pour cet événement.*

I’ll conclude with my President’s Challenge to you: Attend the sessions that best sync with your own research and praxis, *but also*, please, step outside your usual focus and attend sessions on topics with which you’re less familiar, featuring scholars and artists whose work is new to you. *L’étendue des activités de nos membres est vraiment inspirante.* This breadth has opened up new horizons as we perform our shores, and shore up our performances at CATR 2023!

Robin C. Whittaker
CATR President / *Président de l’ACRT*