This presentation aims to bring to the fore the politics of resistance (internal and external) and complexities of association that artists from racialized backgrounds encounter when faced with the challenge of engaging their ancestral memory through performance.

In these times of transformation and recovery we turn to the following questions: What are the legacies we carry in our bodies and senses, and what do we leave behind? How do colonial legacies continue to impact our ability to listen to the stories that need to be told, and sense what needs to be felt? What is our responsibility as cultural producers, collaborators and potential audiences? In this presentation, I navigate between my voice as an artist and researcher to construct a profile of The Arrivals Legacy Project as a viable tool for addressing the ruptures caused by migration (forced or otherwise) and for creating new epistemologies of knowing legacies, that might inspire a future imaginary that is rooted in the past but not bound by it.

There are stories, mingled in our blood, buried in bones and breath … stories waiting to be told …

Diane Roberts

As an artist practitioner, researcher and emerging scholar, Diane Roberts has collaborated with innovative theatre visionaries and interdisciplinary artists for the past 30 years. Her directorial and dramaturgical work has been seen on stages across Canada. Roberts’ celebrated Arrivals Legacy Project has birthed a vision for theatre that encourages African and Indigenous ways of knowing as a steppingstone to creative expression. She is a candidate in the Interdisciplinary Humanities doctoral programme at Concordia University in Montreal and a 2019 Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Scholar.

This international, interdisciplinary, multi- and intersensory conference is co-sponsored by the Concordia Centre for Sensory Studies.

For further information please contact us at senses@concordia.ca

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UNCOMMON SENSES III: BACK TO THE FUTURE OF THE SENSES – KEYNOTE II

WEAVING NEW WAYS OF KNOWING: decolonizing the senses, recovering legacies

Saturday May 8, 2021
1:30 – 3 p.m.
Exclusively via ZOOM video conference