

What is “devised theatre”?

Devised playmaking methods and practices are characterized by variety: Variety in content and sources, in conceptions of authorship and collaboration, in ways of shaping and experiencing a performance or event – even in what is meant by **devising**.

*'Devising' suggests the craft of making within existing circumstances, planning, plotting, contriving, and tangentially inventing . . . A mode of work in which **no script exists prior to the work's creation** by the company.* (Heddon & Milling 2006, p. 3)

Devising with the **Data Corpus**

Devising doesn't just start at some point in the **Scaffolding** process – "Hey, now were devising!" **Scaffolding** *is* devising, *is* "planning, plotting, contriving . . ." from initial interest and ideation to research and data analysis to games and exercises meant **to elicit what is inherent** in the material, not what we want the material to be or say.

Analysis and synthesis are how you devise your working text – while you're concurrently inventing, designing, scavenging, experimenting, and otherwise **making a performance**.

There are a lot of "**how-to**" materials available for learning about and trying on approaches to devising. Check out our **Resource Bank** for useful publications and handbooks.



On offer here are four **Scaffolding** activities we use throughout a development and rehearsal process.

- **Wall of Dataturgy**
- **What's Happening**
- **Action Coding**
- **Graffiti Write Around**