Acting Together on the World Stage: The Unique Contributions of Performance to the Creative Transformation of Conflict

Wednesday, March 21
Peter Wall Institute
University of British Columbia, 6331 Crescent Road, Vancouver

Attendance is free, but you must register in advance at: pwias.assistant@pwias.ubc.ca

Dr. Cynthia Cohen, director of the program in Peacebuilding and the Arts at Brandeis University, will introduce the documentary Acting Together on the World Stage and share the central learnings of her six year collaboration with Theatre Without Borders. The film highlights the work of courageous and creative theatre artists and community leaders engaging the resources of performance in efforts of non-violent resistance, rehumanization and reconciliation. Their personal stories are accompanied by clips of performances of artist-based and community-based theatrical works as well as traditional Indigenous ceremonies. The film demonstrates the breadth and depth of the emerging field of peacebuilding and the arts, and invites discussion about how artist-peacebuilders address both aesthetic and socio-political intentions, balance imperatives to remember the past and imagine the future, and celebrate distinct identities while embracing interdependence.

4:00 pm
Introductory remarks, Dr. Cynthia Cohen, Director of the Program in Peacebuilding and the Arts at Brandeis University

4:15 pm to 5:15 pm
Film presentation Acting Together on the World Stage: Performance and the Creative Transformation of Conflict, a documentary film co-created by Cynthia Cohen and Allison Lund

Commentators – reflections on the issues - Professor Rena Sharon, UBC School of Music, Professor James Stewart, UBC Faculty of Law, Professor Maureen Maloney, SFU School of Public Policy, and facilitated by Professor Michelle LeBaron, UBC Faculty of Law

5:30 pm to 6:00 pm
Audience discussion

6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Reception and continued informal discussion