



Jeffrey Sichel – a great teacher and mentor to countless artists

Jeffrey Sichel is in large part the reason I got so deeply involved in the work of global theatre and international exchange. More than any other US-based artist I knew, he was out there making it happen, doing path-breaking work in India, China, Spain, and so many other places. When just over a decade ago, I knew little to nothing about this world, Jeffrey was so generous about bringing me into his networks and connecting me to his colleagues around the world (many of whom are now among my closest friends and collaborators). He and I became great friends and partners in that work. I felt so grateful to be "under his wing."

When we were first developing our Laboratory for Global Performance and Politics at Georgetown, he more than anyone else was the one who encouraged me and made me feel that this work was essential, and he urged me on countless times when it all seemed too difficult.

Jeffrey was so refreshingly uninterested in the glory of this own recognition. He didn't do this work for fame or money. He was a great teacher and mentor to countless artists around the world. His passion was bringing people together through performance,

especially younger and emerging artists, in collaborative projects across cultural differences. Without the visionary mind and relentless work of Jeffrey Sichel there would be no Network for Higher Education in the Performing Arts.

All of us involved in ITI, in the Network for Higher Education in the Performing Arts, and in the larger work of bringing people together and building relationships through the performing arts, owe Jeffrey their immense gratitude.

May his memory serve as a blessing and as an inspiration for us to move boldly forward in this work with his spirit of selflessness, courage, kindness, intelligence, his sense of justice, and his artistry.

Derek Goldman

Board Member of ITI-UNESCO Network for Higher Education in the Performing Arts

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