

Department of Theatre & Dance

School of the Arts

January 9, 2014

Dear Lois and Jerry,

On behalf of the students, faculty and staff of the University of Nevada, Reno, I extend our greatest thanks and admiration. The Living Theatre residency was a terrific success in Reno.

A Day in the Life of the City provided students with the freedom to devise a new work within the safety of an established and reliable structure. They valued the opportunity to collaborate with and learn from working New York artists. In addition to the hands-on experience of working with you on the project, the venerable name of the Living Theatre appeared in texts and readings assigned in coursework throughout the rest of the semester. It gave students a personal connection to the reading, and I believe a greater context for and appreciation of the history of our art form.

I also received glowing feedback from colleagues, whose classes you visited during your residency. The discussions you led and presentations you gave were repeatedly described, as not only informative, but deeply inspirational.

It was a stress-free experience administratively, as well. The production was low-impact in terms of costumes and scenic elements, and your flexibility regarding casting, the number of performances, and performance locations, made hosting a breeze. The residency was high-impact pedagogically with few practical demands on the department—a rare combination in my experience.

Our audiences also responded very well to the production. For many, the untraditional structure and location of the work was a new and exciting experience. To my surprise, several members of the greater Truckee Meadows community were aware of the Living Theatre's legacy and expressed gratitude to the department for bringing you here.

Thank you for bringing a part of history to our students. Best wishes for many future residencies.

Kindest regards,

Robert Gander

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