

**Speaking of Lacan Psychoanalytic Association  
Presents  
In Conversation**

**Historical Reality and Subjective Truth  
in Michel Tremblay's *The Real World?***

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**Presenters:** **Richard Rose**, artistic director, Tarragon Theatre  
**Mavis Himes**, psychoanalyst, Speaking of Lacan Psychoanalytic Association

**Presentation:**

Michel Tremblay's play, *The Real World?* explores the question of art and autobiography. In this one act play, we encounter the intimate dynamics of a family in two moments of time. Through the play's movement, we are confronted with questions of remembering and forgetting, with the painful experiences and recollections of family life and ultimately, with the nature of truth and reality.

While Michel Tremblay attempts to capture the compelling question of writing from one's place and personal position, he necessarily poses the question: 'whose play or whose story is it?' Through whose lens are we, the audience, being exposed? And whose truth is being witnessed? However, from the perspective of the analyst, this play can be said to demonstrate the opposition between truth and reality, or more specifically, between historical reality and psychic truth or reality.

In this dialogue, using *The Real World?*, we will try to appreciate the similarities and differences between the discourse of the artist and the discourse of the analyst. From what place does the playwright write? does the analyst speak? In what way are they similar and different? When we speak about autobiography in art, to what are we actually referring? Can we say that all artistic writing carries an autobiographical component, whether explicit or implicit?

**Date:** Saturday, June 2, 2012  
**Time:** 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
**Place:** Women's Art Association,  
23 Prince Arthur Ave.  
Toronto, ON  
**Fee:** \$25.00 (students - \$10.00)  
**Contact:** [mhimes@interlog.com](mailto:mhimes@interlog.com)  
416-969-8706

**PLEASE NOTE:** The performance run of Michel Tremblay's play, *The Real World?* will be playing at Tarragon Theatre from April 24 until June 2, 2012. While it is not essential to see the play in order to register for this event, it will undoubtedly help in order to engage more fully in the discussion. For more information, visit: [www.tarragontheatre.com](http://www.tarragontheatre.com)

### Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E- mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone no.: \_\_\_\_\_

Please R.S.V.P. by phone or e-mail. Mavis Himes: 416-969-8706 or [mhimes@interlog.com](mailto:mhimes@interlog.com)  
For more information: [www.speakingoflacan.com](http://www.speakingoflacan.com)  
Receipts will be available at the time of the presentation.