

DRAMA AUSTRALIA RESEARCH SNAPSHOT

Title: HEAVIER THAN AIR



(performed by) Anne Harris, Rachel Forgasz; (dir) Stacy Holman Jones;
(dramaturg) Christine Sinclair

'Heavier than Air' was presented in staged readings in Singapore (IDIERI) in July 2015, Melbourne Graduate School of Education in May 2016, and had its world premiere at FEAST Festival in November 2015 in Adelaide, Australia. The show is based on interviews with queer and trans* Australian teachers, and has been devised from those transcripts into a contemporary performance piece that explores queer and trans* teachers' experiences of being hypervisible yet unseen in education contexts. Throughout its two-year development process, we have welcomed workshops, panel discussions, and professional development opportunities with education professionals in order to expand the conversation about how it may be getting better for queer students, but queer and trans* teachers are still largely underserved by the education system. The play charts the journeys of six composite characters including lesbian, gay, queer, m2f and f2m trans* teachers, who confront in diverse ways the challenges, joys, and triumphs of being queer teachers in 21st-century Australian schools.

The entire script in 2 versions through development is used as an exemplar in the following text:

<https://www.amazon.com/Writing-Performance-Teaching-5/dp/9463005927>

Writing for Performance (Sense 2016) by Anne Harris & Stacy Holman Jones

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