

# Table of Contents

Introduction	7
1. The New in Social Sciences	15
1.1 The New as Unknown: the Notion of Innovation	15
1.2 The Production of Innovation and its Temporal Dimension	18
1.2.1 The Purpose of Innovation and its Critique	21
1.2.2 Critical Innovation Studies	24
1.3 Perspectives from Sociology of Art	26
2. The New in the Humanities	37
2.1 Difference and Obscurity: The Notion of the New	37
2.2 The Production of Difference and the New	41
2.2.1 The Time of the New	51
2.2.2 The Spaces of the New	57
2.3 Duration and Value	59
2.3.1 The Problem of Value	61
3. The Present Time and the New	66
3.1 Some Notes on the Avant-Garde	66
3.2 Postmodernism and the Future	73
3.3 The Affirmation of Creativity	79
3.3.1 The Critique to Creativity and its Limits	82
4. On the Traces of the New at the Theatre	87
4.1 Theatre across Reality and Fiction	87
4.2 The Institutional Critique yet to Come	92
4.3 Open Conclusion on Theory and Practice: Where to Start	97
5. Empirical Research on the New: Methodology	100
5.1 Balancing Theory and Empirical Research	100
5.2 Objectives and Research Questions	102

5.3 Sampling and Data Collection	105
5.4 Data Analysis	109
6. The Concept of the New in the Theatre of the Present	116
6.1 The Concept of the New in Practice	116
6.1.1 The Difference of the New	118
6.1.2 The New as Incomplete	121
6.1.3 Eternity and Ephemerality	123
6.2 From the Concept of the New to its Production	125
6.2.1 A Coexistence of Differences	127
6.2.2 Suspension and Self-Betrayal	129
6.3 The Theatre System and its Value(s)	134
6.3.1 System Reproduction and Disorganisation	141
6.4 Art and Politics: Values and Roles	146
7. The Production of the New in the Theatre of the Present	151
7.1 Art Institutions as Frames	151
7.2 The Collective Cultivation of Difference	155
7.3 Curating Obscurity	157
7.4 Roles and Rules: Impossible Possibilia	159
7.5 Works in Progress and Failure	162
7.6 Theatre Production in the Meantime	165
Conclusions	170
Further Research	177
Reference List	183
Appendix I	187
Appendix II	190
Appendix III	192
Acknowledgements	193
Index	195