



Amor

Teacher

RESOURCE PACK



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About D.I.V.E. Theatre Collective

D.I.V.E. Theatre Collective is a multicultural contemporary theatre company based on the Sunshine Coast, Qld. We provide performing arts experiences of the highest calibre for audience members who come to see our shows, artists in search of purposeful development opportunities, school students and the community who participate in our training program and engagement activities.

Our aim is to strengthen connections, promote individual and social wellbeing, stimulate reflection and effect meaningful transformation in the lives of people and their communities through diverse, investigative, visceral and enlightening theatre experiences.

We create stories that empower artists and inspire individuals and groups to rethink their social context and produce positive change.

Our work is about telling timeless and universal stories that enable physical awareness, individual and social wellbeing, creative empowerment, training and development, community building, provocative reflection, theatrical poetry and investigation, immersion and participation.



DIVERSE
INVESTIGATIVE
VISCERAL
ENLIGHTENING

Amor

Synopsis

Amor explores love's subtle nuances. Within a mesmerising visual and sound landscape, our multicultural ensemble takes its place at the crossroads of love and its polar opposites. Love meets anger, compassion faces indifference, and courage dances with fear—these extremes converge in a captivating display that's as thought-provoking as it is emotionally stirring.

Every person holds a love story, and *Amor* leads the audience on a journey into their own narrative. It incites reflection on what separates one from others and what binds us all together in the collective story of humanity.

This production shatters traditional boundaries with D.I.V.E's unique blend of movement, visual poetry, and compelling narratives. In a non-conventional theatre setting without stages or seats, the spectators are invited to stand alongside the performers, embarking on a truly visceral and emotional experience.



Duration
60 minutes

Suitability
16+

Links to Australian Curriculum

- Drama – Unit 1 (Share), Unit 2 (Reflect), Unit 3 (Challenge), Unit 4 (Transform)
- Literature – Units 1, 2 and 3
- English – Units 1 and 2

Performance styles and conventions

Storytelling, collage drama, contemporary political theatre, contemporary performance, physical theatre, fragmentation, non-linear form, immersive theatre and site-specific performance.

Themes

Love, choice, peer pressure, family, childhood, self-esteem, diversity, culture, identity, acceptance.

Aesthetic features

Allegory, metaphor, symbolism

Meet the Director



Director's Notes

In *Amor*, we delve into the very essence of what it means to exist within the spectrum of love. From our first breath to our most profound emotions, we are shaped by the invisible hand of love. Yet, what is love? Is it what we are told or what we truly feel?

Through this poetic journey, we strip away the layers of societal constructs to reveal the raw nature of love. We are born into this world with nothing but our breath, our hearts, and our senses. As we grow, we learn to name our feelings, but do we truly understand them?

With *Amor*, D.I.V.E. Theatre Collective invites you to confront the questions that lie at the heart of our existence. What do you love? How do you love? Do you really love? These questions reverberate through every movement, every sound, every heartbeat of our performance.

As we challenge you to explore the invisible depths of love, we also challenge ourselves. What is hidden behind the facade of love? Do any of us truly know what love is?

Join us as we embark on this journey of discovery, where love transcends language and culture to unite us all. For, in the end, we live for love, and it is through love that we find our truest selves.



Cesar Genaro
Director

INTERVIEW WITH THE DIRECTOR Questions for discussion

- ✦ Do you agree with the Director when he says that our society has “lost the ability to love”? Why or why not?
- ✦ What does Cesar mean when he says that “theatre is a tool for reflection and social action”? Do you agree with his point of view?
- ✦ Did you feel you were part of the show, by standing so close to it?
- ✦ Did the show “provoke” you in any way?
- ✦ What aspects of love are expressed in *Amor*?



Watch an interview with the director [here](#).

English Studies

Themes

Amor tells the story of a person's journey from birth to adulthood in their quest to understand the true meaning of love. The show's main theme is love, which is explored from various angles and perspectives.



Read this excerpt of the script and watch a recording of the scene [here](#).

Discussion Questions

- How does Ara's comparison of love to an arrow show that love is unavoidable? What does this say about its impact on people?
- What does Alegra mean when she says the real question is "how" instead of "why"? How does this change the way we think about love?
- When Ara talks about stories and history being sung in different voices, what is she saying about love and its connection to our past and future?
- Based on the dialogue, how do the characters show that love is a powerful and lasting experience? Give examples from their conversation to explain your answer.

Densa: *I love you.*

Alegra: *I love you.*

(repeat sequence a few times)

Angel: *Why do I need love?*

Ara: *When the arrow hits you, not even self-scourge can save you.*

Alegra: *The question is not why. The question is how.*

Ara: *In a language other than yours, your stories and your history will always be sung in the voices of those who once came from you.*

Densa: *I love you.*

Alegra: *I love you.*

Ara: *I love you.*



Metaphors



In *Amor*, love is expressed through different metaphors.

In the following sequence, we see the metaphors of "love as a song" and "love as a game".



Read the excerpt of the script below and watch a recording of the scene [here](#).

Angel: Is love a song?

Alegra: It's the most important game you'll play.

Ara/Densa/Alegra: I love you.

(ALEGRA sits on the swing and DENSA pushes her into gentle swinging movements.)

Angel: 'The most important game'. Is this the most important game I'll play?

Alegra: Not too important to play, but necessary to do.

Densa: Maybe better when you remember it's a game.

Angel: So, what's the game?

Alegra: No player is more important than the other.

Angel: Play with me.

Densa: Depends.

Angel: Play the game with me.

Alegra: Depends.

Angel: Depends on what?

Densa: Depends if we're playing the same game.

Angel: Which game do you want to play?

Alegra: The game has to be negotiated together.

Angel: Let's negotiate it together. What are the rules?

Densa: No pushing.

Angel: No pushing.

Densa: No biting.

Angel: No biting. No licking?

Densa: No licking.

Angel: How many players?

Densa: Just us.

Angel: What is the prize?

Densa: The prize is the game.

Angel: And... if... someone loses?

Densa: You can't lose if you negotiate it together.

Angel: How long does the game last?

Densa: Until you get tired.



Metaphors: Discussion Questions



- ✦ What do you think Alegra means when she says love is "the most important game you'll play"? How does this metaphor help us understand her perspective on love?
- ✦ When Densa says "Maybe better when you remember it's a game," what does this suggest about the approach to love and relationships? How does this metaphor influence your understanding of their advice?
- ✦ The characters discuss negotiating the rules of the game together. How does this metaphor of negotiation relate to real-life relationships and the way love should be approached?
- ✦ Densa mentions that "the prize is the game" and that you can't lose if you negotiate together. How do these metaphors convey the idea of mutual effort and cooperation in love?



Essay Question

In this scene, the characters use various metaphors to describe love, such as comparing it to a game that requires negotiation and cooperation. Write an essay exploring the different perspectives on love presented in the dialogue. How do the metaphors of love as a game, the importance of negotiation, and the idea that "the prize is the game" contribute to our understanding of love and relationships? Use specific examples from the text to support your analysis.



Drama Studies

Styles and Conventions

Amor mixes different performance styles and conventions to tell a story.



Read the scene below and watch a recording of the highlighted excerpt [here](#).

(ANGEL and DENSA meet again. They face each other and look into each other's eyes, as if entranced. A movement sequence ensues.)

Densa: I'm sorry for my empty gloves of distance.

Angel: If only your heart... your ordered ripples of belonging.

Densa: If only your love...

Angel: Is love... here? (points at Densa's heart)

Densa: Familiar pavement, rhythmic sunbeams of music in a pocket.

Angel: What is your music like?

Densa: It's like fuzzy chains... of forgetting.

Angel: How do I touch your horizon?

Densa: With impenetrable vowels.

Angel: I only have tender curtains. All I can reach is your shadow.

Densa: The dried leaves on the grass.

Angel: What does a shadow feel like?

Densa: Like familiar screws of endlessness.

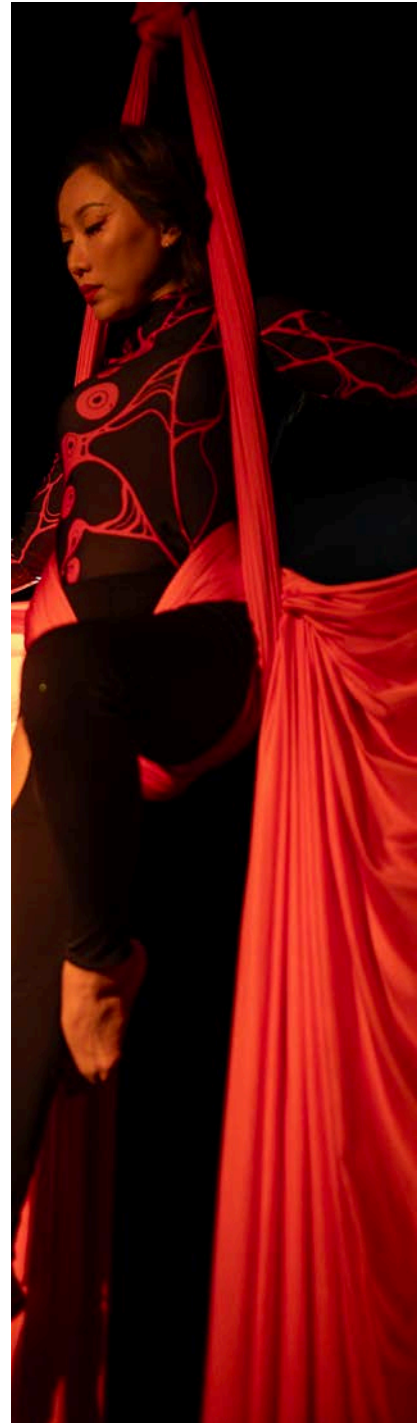
Angel: Will I ever find your pavements of wonder?

Densa: I wonder.

Angel: You're so slippery!

Densa: Would you ever paddle your ways into my branches again?

Angel: Only if your empty distance is coloured by boundaries of poetry.



Lesson Plan: Analysing Drama Styles and Conventions in Amor

Objective: Students will analyse and explore the drama styles and conventions used in the given scene from *Amor*, focusing on juxtaposition, physical theatre, fragmentation, and non-linear form. They will demonstrate their understanding through written analysis and a practical workshop.

1 Introduction and Scene Reading

Begin with a brief introduction to the scene above from *Amor*. Students read the scene aloud in pairs or small groups, focusing on the flow and tone of the dialogue. (20 minutes)



2 Group Discussion

Divide students into small groups and have them discuss the following questions (20 minutes):

- *What emotions and themes are present in the scene?*
- *How do the characters' interactions and dialogue convey these emotions and themes?*

Each group shares their insights with the class.

3 Drama Styles and Conventions

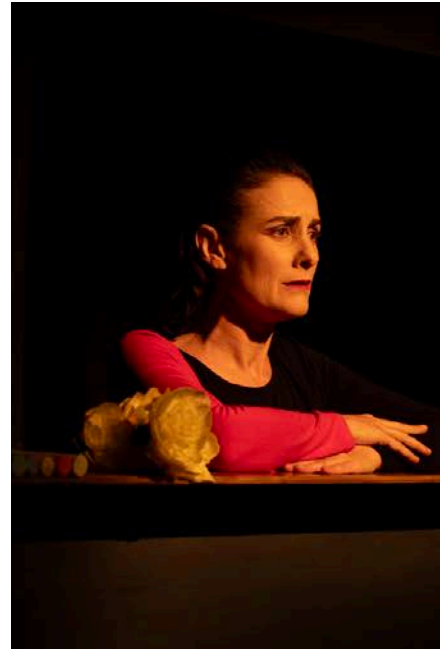
Provide a brief overview of the following drama styles and conventions (10 minutes):

- *Juxtaposition: the placement of contrasting elements side by side.*
- *Physical Theatre: use of physical movement, as opposed to dialogue, to convey meaning.*
- *Fragmentation: breaking the narrative or dialogue into pieces, often to disrupt the flow or create new meanings.*
- *Non-linear Form: a narrative that does not follow a straight, chronological path.*
- *Surrealism: use of dream-like elements and illogical sequences to evoke the unconscious.*
- *Symbolism: use of symbols to represent ideas or concepts.*

4 Drama Styles and Conventions Analysis

Have students identify examples of the conventions in the scene above. (30 minutes)

- Where do you see juxtaposition in the scene?
- How does physical theatre enhance the understanding of the scene?
- Can you identify moments of fragmentation and non-linear form?
- Are there elements of surrealism or symbolism present?



5 Practical Workshop

In groups, students choose one or two conventions to explore practically. Each group creates a short performance piece inspired by the scene, emphasising their chosen conventions. Encourage the use of physical theatre and movement to explore the abstract and symbolic language of the scene. Allow some time for planning and rehearsal. Then, each group performs their piece for the class. (60 minutes)

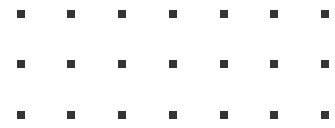
6 Reflection and Written Analysis

Students write a brief analysis of their performance, explaining how they used the chosen conventions and how it enhanced their understanding of the scene. (30 minutes)

Reflection questions:

- What did you discover about the scene through the use of physical theatre or other conventions?
- How did the use of juxtaposition or fragmentation change your perception of the characters' emotions and themes?
- What challenges did you face in interpreting and performing the scene?

D.I.V.E. Education



D.I.V.E. Theatre Collective offers a dynamic educational program designed to enhance students' learning journeys on multiple levels. Our in-school experiences align with the Australian Curriculum and aim to foster body awareness, self-confidence, self-expression, social connections, and critical thinking. Students will also develop essential skills such as leadership, communication, collaboration, problem-solving, and adaptability.

In-school Shows

D.I.V.E. Theatre Collective offers engaging in-school theatre performances that enhance students' learning through storytelling, movement, and visual poetry. Aligned with the Australian Curriculum, our shows foster critical thinking, self-expression, and social connections. Suitable for Years 9-12, these dynamic experiences inspire and empower young minds.



In-school Workshops


D.I.V.E. Theatre Collective offers dynamic in-school workshops that introduce students to contemporary performance, physical theatre, and political theatre. Our 70-90 minute sessions, led by expert teaching artists, foster creativity, critical thinking, and teamwork through hands-on experiences in devising, physical storytelling, and Theatre of the Oppressed. Suitable for groups up to 30 students.



For more information and bookings visit **D.I.V.E. Education** [here](#) or contact our Education Officer at education@divetheatre.com.

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