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Museum Theatre: Communicating with Visitors Through Drama

Catherine Hughes

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#1719419 in Books 1998-09-04 1998-09-04Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x .36 x 6.00l, .40 #File Name: 0325000565160 pages | File size: 32.Mb

Catherine Hughes : Museum Theatre: Communicating with Visitors Through Drama before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Museum Theatre: Communicating with Visitors Through Drama:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy REBAs advertised!

This unique new book will open people's eyes to the power of live theatre in museum settings - its capacity to touch

the heart and mind, challenge understanding, and provoke new ways of thinking about exhibits. Catherine Hughes' aim is simple: to prove that there is no more vital a tool for making a subject, period, or people come to life than drama. This solid introduction proposes a rationale and definition for museum theatre, explores its foundations, and provides a glimpse into its future. It is supported by lots of examples of existing programs - including Boston's Museum of Science - as well as numerous frameworks for structure and style. There are helpful discussions of physical plant requirements, what to expect when using actors, and even whether one has to use actors. Most important, Hughes looks at the pros and cons of many of the issues teachers and museum workers will face: Should they use a script or improvise? Should they use real characters or fictional ones? Should they involve the audience in an interactive way or conduct a straightforward, dramatic presentation? Hughes writes, "No one is immune to learning in a museum." Armed with this book, students and practitioners of both drama and museum studies will create a museum experience that visitors are unlikely to forget.

About the Author Catherine Hughes is an actor, director, and writer, who has practiced theatre at the Museum of Science in Boston for more than ten years. Hughes coordinates that museum's Science Theatre Program and is founder and Executive Director of the International Museum Theatre Alliance, a non-profit organization for museum theatre practitioners. In addition to guest lecturing at museum studies programs at Harvard, Tufts, and the State University of New York at Cooperstown, she has spoken on museum theatre at numerous national and international conferences.