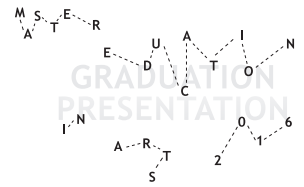
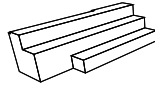


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Theatre as dialogue for exploring student agency

Inspired by the redefinition of agency within the field of narrative based digital games, I conducted research within the context of the second year students’ pedagogical and social work at a vocational college. Where do students of pedagogical and social work – who are expected in the future to be able to restore, stimulate and maintain the agentic behaviour of their clients – experience and locate their own agency as meaningful?

Through the use of Augusto Boal’s Forum Theatre, which is geared towards restoring proactive behaviour of both audience and players, I created a play for which students wrote their own texts questioning oppressive discourses and structures.

Inspired by Forum Theatre and improvisational theatre, in which dialogue becomes the structuring force, an interactive dynamic and reflexive structure, operating at the intersection between the teacher’s and students’ own interests, experiences, thought, emotions, opinions, engagement and agentic behaviour emerged.

External critic: Thera Jonker (Head of the Expertise Centrum for Education at Utrecht School for the Arts)

Four registrations by Rick create a scenographic documentation within the space of the Graduation Presentation. Representing various phases in the process of producing a theatre piece, the visitor is invited to observe the modes and methods of Rick’s research developing over time.

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