FALL 23
CPLT BC3630 THEATRE & DEMOCRACY
Comparative Literature & Translation Studies/Theatre

Instructor:     Hana Worthen
hw2283@columbia.edu
hworthen@barnard.edu

Time:            Tuesday, 4:10-6:00 PM
Place:            306 Milbank Hall (Barnard)

What links concepts of theatre and concepts of democracy? How does theatre promote democracy, spectators’ civic participation, and vice versa, how do concepts and modes of theatre prevent the spectators from assuming civic positions both within and outside a theatrical performance?

Arranged in three sections—“Tragedies and Democracies,” “Theatrical Propriety and Liberal Democracy,” and “Rhapsody for Theatre”—this course explores both the promotion and the denial of democratic discourse in the practices of Western and postcolonial dramatic writing and theatrical performance.

*Mental Finland
Directed by Kristian Smads
Royal Flemish Theatre, Brussels, 2009

Photo by Bart Grietens

*counts as an elective toward the CPL major and fulfills one (of two) required courses in dramatic literature/theatre studies/performance studies for Theatre/Drama and Theatre Arts major