

# URBAN RESEARCH THEATER

November 10, 2013

Dear friends,

I am writing to let you know about some big upcoming changes in my life and work. I will be moving to England next month to take up the position of **Lecturer in Drama, Theatre, and Performance** at the **University of Huddersfield** in **West Yorkshire, UK**. This move marks a new phase in which I will be primarily based in academia, continuing my artistic and embodied research and teaching within that context.

On a more personal note, my wife Michelle Goldsmith and I are expecting to deliver a new human being into the world this coming March. We are both looking forward to this life-changing adventure!

The move to England marks at least a temporary end to Urban Research Theater's **decade-long residency in New York City**—but not the end of its mission and vision. I hope to use academia as a platform from which to develop a more globally oriented perspective on embodied research. As a scholar-practitioner, I will be in a position to design and carry out **critical and practice-based research projects**, including the supervision of **MA and PhD degrees**. A number of publications are also in the works. My most recent article, "Citing Musicality: Performance Knowledge in the Gardzienice Archive," was just published in the journal *Studies in Musical Theatre*.

For those of you in the New York area, I hope you will join me for a **farewell gathering of artists, scholars, and friends** at **LEIMAY/CAVE** next **Monday, November 18th, at 7:30**. I will share excerpts from my book manuscript in progress, songs from Jewish and other traditions, and imagine the role of embodied practice in a more just and sustainable world. Space is limited, so please RSVP via **Facebook** or **Conectom**.

For those of you in other parts of the United States or in the UK, in Poland or Spain, Italy or Germany, India or Japan, South Africa or Brazil or Iran or somewhere else... I hope to see you and work with you soon.

Ben Spatz  
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New York City