

UC San Diego

UC San Diego Electronic Theses and Dissertations

Title

Finding the Flow: Management Style in In the Red and Brown Water

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/0f831220>

Author

Zingle, Laura

Publication Date

2013

Supplemental Material

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/0f831220#supplemental>

Peer reviewed|Thesis/dissertation

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Finding the Flow: Management Style in
In the Red and Brown Water

A thesis submitted in partial satisfaction of the
Requirements for the degree Master of Fine Arts
in
Theatre and Dance (Stage Management)

by
Laura Maria Zingle

Committee in charge:

Lisa Porter, Chair
John Benjamin Doller
Charles Means
Gregory Wallace

2013

Copyright
Laura Maria Zingle, 2013
All rights reserved.

The thesis of Laura Maria Zingle is approved and it is acceptable in quality and form for publication on microfilm and electronically:

Chair

University of California, San Diego

2013

DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate this work to my parents, Robert and Marion Zingle, and my husband, Brian Donald, in recognition of their unconditional encouragement and support.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SIGNATURE PAGE	iii
DEDICATION.....	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	v
LIST OF SUPPLEMENTAL FILES.....	vi
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....	vii
ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS.....	viii

LIST OF SUPPLEMENTAL FILES

File 1. *In the Red and Brown Water* Calling Pages 3-5

File 2. *In the Red and Brown Water* Calling Pages 11-13

File 3. *In the Red and Brown Water* Calling Pages 94-96

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am extremely grateful to the following individuals for their support and generosity throughout my time at UC San Diego:

My advisor, Lisa Porter, who helped me recognize the person and stage manager I wanted to be, and guided me throughout my time here.

Charles Means, who in only seven months has been a tremendous influence in my work and my management approach.

My classmates, Zach Kennedy and Miso Wei – I greatly appreciate their companionship through this journey. We have laughed, cried, grown and learned together, and they have been instrumental and influential to my work here.

The class of 2013, and the graduate stage managers who have come before me – their passion, work, and ideas inspire me.

ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS

Finding the Flow: Management Style in *In the Red and Brown Water*
by

Laura Maria Zingle

Master of Fine Arts in Theatre and Dance (Stage Management)

University of California, San Diego, 2013

Professor Lisa Porter, Chair

The prevailing metaphors in *In the Red and Brown Water* are wind and water, and I likened my work on the production to a river. Water can be strong, and also gentle. It can adapt to terrain or transform landscape. During this collaboration I focused on flowing with the production process, as ideas emerged and evolved and decisions were fluid. It has been a huge breakthrough to trust my instincts in a new way to serve the production, and discover that I cannot default to my impulses to impose rigidity and structure. A production, like a river, is going to keep flowing and a group of artists cannot be controlled. I guided and adapted to the process, but I could not change it, because it was bigger and stronger than me.

During my graduate studies, I have learned that there is no “right way,” there is only the way I am working right now, and my approach can be different for each project. As someone who enjoys structure and routine, the open-ended possibilities are challenging to accept. But as an experiential learner, flexibility has been my journey, and through many theatre and dance productions I have developed my personal stage

management style to be open to the needs of each project. With the culmination of my formal training, my style is to be more like water: finding the flow and guiding others through the production.