FORBIDDEN ZONES: THE GREAT WAR

In recognition of the 100th anniversary of the United States’ entry into World War I, the Department of Theatre premiered the devised work *Forbidden Zones: The Great War*. Leading up to its performance in spring 2017, students and faculty traveled to London and France the preceding summer to conduct research into the roles that Britain and France played specifically in the Somme. Following this the project team spent two semesters devising the piece which included a number of women who played significant roles during the conflict. The department joined with the Department of History and the Mershon Center for International Security Studies in co-sponsoring lectures and post-performance discussion about the war. In addition, History, the Mershon Center, the Division of Arts and Humanities in the College of the Arts, University Libraries and the Wexner Center for the Arts joined the department in creating a companion live-art event, *The Silent Soldiers Memorial*, held at various locations around the Oval to commemorate the U.S. centennial entry into the war.
INTERNATIONAL SCOPE

- Performance and Culture in Cuba Program: students spend a week in Havana interacting with working artists in the visual and performing arts who shape and reflect the complex nature of Cuban life.

- Czech Theatre Culture: students spend two weeks in Prague, focused on Eastern European theatrical design

- London Theatre Program: students spend four weeks in London, seeing 25 or more plays and studying contemporary production

FACILITIES AND INSTITUTES

- Thurber Theatre
  proscenium style stage seating 600

- Roy Bowen Theatre
  thrust style stage seating 250

- New Works Laboratory
  space for new and experimental works

- The Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute
  one of the top three theatre collections in the country. An archive for performers, playwrights, choreographers, designers, producing organizations and theatre and dance companies

GUEST ARTIST RESIDENCIES

- Wexner Center for the Arts including:
  - Nature Theatre of Oklahoma
  - Rude Mechanicals
  - SITI Company
  - Young Jean Lee
  - Miranda July

- The Builders Association

- Director Melissa Maxwell

- Playwrights C Denby Swanson and Caridad Svich

- Czech Designers Jan Stepanek, Petr Matásek, Simona Rybáková

FACULTY

More than 20 full-time faculty members offer a strong program in devising, playwriting, acting, film-making, theatre history, performance studies and design. The faculty is active nationally and internationally, and is enriched regularly by visiting artists and scholars.