

In my honest, un-biased opinion: Everyone needs to go on this trip. I should say, before this trip I did not consider myself a performer. I was self-conscious - especially when thinking about being “on stage”, in front of others eyes. And perhaps I thought I was in over my head. But I survived!

Not only survived, but grew into my own. My view of expression expanded beyond my borders - **Way** beyond my borders.

Since then, I’ve gained a community of peers who are actually invested in my work (and I in theirs). We have had monthly salons starting in August that have been going strong ever since. We get to hear work, discuss strategies, and define methods of practice - all of which have been immensely rewarding.

But it took a lot of work. I will not sugar coat Abandoned Practices, simply because to do so is a serious disservice to any of my colleagues’ tenacity, creativity, and down and dirty *work*. You will be exhausted - everyday. You will want to fall into your bed at 4pm as you walk back to Jerome House and let dreamland come to you. But you wont. Your head will be swimming with ideas, inspirations, impressions. You simply will not be able to - you will be beckoned by the city (and your peers) to explore, create, collaborate - and you will get up and you will “Do”.

I know you will.

I know all this because the trip has hands-down the best faculty you will have the opportunity to work with - and this is the **ONLY TIME** you get them all at once. Matthew, Mark and Lin are the most receptive and brilliant people, and combined become a Super Hero.

No. Im not kidding.

If you want to take a trip that really matters, it’s this one. Period. I am hard pressed trying to think of a single program on par with it.

If you put in the honest effort, you will reap the rewards one hundred fold.

Thank you.

-JD