The Daniel Gerould Issue

Edmund B. Lingan

This is the final issue of *Performance and Spirituality*, the online journal of the Institute for the Study of Performance and Spirituality. It is fitting, as this journal publishes its final words, that the ultimate recognition go to the late Daniel Gerould, who I had the pleasure of studying under while working toward my Ph.D. in the Theatre Program at the Graduate Center and City University of New York between 1998 and 2006. It was under Daniel’s pedagogical guidance that I moved toward research into the permeable boundaries that only flimsily exist between religion and theatre, performance and spirituality. Inspired by Daniel’s tireless dedication to the underrated and misunderstood artist, I gained from him the drive and freedom to explore similar figures in my own field of research. And I am only one of many, many people whose interests and careers have been so profoundly changed by the influence and generosity of this multi-layered human being whose life exuded intellectual brilliance, charm, and fascinating viewpoints.

This final issue is short. Nevertheless, it contains a depth that is owed in no small part to the impact of Daniel Gerould. All three contributors benefitted from the time that they worked and learned from Daniel.

As the pages that follow demonstrate, those who have been touched by Daniel often move in surprising and unpredictable directions.