We use **improvised performance** with **live music** to bring stories from the audience to life onstage.

During a show audience members become participants and tell true stories from their lives. These stories may be everyday or life-defining, short, simple or profound. This is facilitated by an experienced conductor, who supports the storyteller to relate things that both reflects their truth and contributes to the theme of the session.

Professional actors and musicians then ‘play the stories back’ using improvisation and a range of theatrical techniques. The dynamic visual experience has a powerful effect on the audience, developing understanding and mutual respect, and is usually incredibly cathartic. The playback allows you to see and celebrate your experience and your communities’ stories with fresh eyes. Future possibilities are made tangible right in front of you, and personal and social narratives can start to transform. The interactive, improvised show is usually an hour long.

**Our aims are to:**

- Offer a platform and act as a catalyst for dialogue in a variety of contexts.
- Create a space that supports community building through the sharing of a common resource: our stories.
- Create a space for the honouring of memories through sharing them with one’s community.
-Celebrate the storyteller in each of us.

"Improvisers have developed capabilities and skills that are sought after in business nowadays. They are adept at dealing with changing and unpredictable circumstances. They know how to cope with uncertainty, be flexible, adaptive and creative under pressure. Moreover, since improvisational theatre is based on a number of practices, not on innate talent, it can be studied, learned and applied to situations beyond the stage.”
- Professor Kurt April (UCT Graduate School of Business)

"Thank you for the magnificent way in which you played back the stories of our Business Change team. The feedback has been wonderful. Conversations are starting to happen and we can see sparks of the environment we want to create."
- Sandy Scott (Sanlam)

We have performed at the National Arts Festival, Cape Town Fringe Festival, the Voorkamerfees, Bushfire Festival and Artscape Schools Festival.

Our past and current partners include the UCT Graduate School of Business, DG Murray Trust, Aephoria, ENGEN, Nivea, Sanlam, Allan Gray, Desmond Tutu HIV/ Aids Foundation and many other NGOs and organisations.

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Are you ready to see your story? Contact us:

E: groundspringtheatre@gmail.com T: 082 828 5917
F: GroundSpring Playback Theatre Co. Tw: @groundspringtheatreco
Investment

A GroundSpring intervention yields long-lasting effects and acts as a template for change and consolidation.

Communities have used us for many purposes - as part of our service to you, we will spend time with you and your team to ascertain the most suitable intervention for your needs.

For example, we can “bookend” a process:

This means launching a project or process where participants are introduced to each other and swiftly orientate themselves personally to the theme, and some time later in the process perform a reflection show, where experiences of the project are explored, collated and shared. This can fulfil qualitative M&E requirements.

We also offer discounts for volume. We can perform a series of show series for a team over the course of a year on a given theme, working with your organisational development specialists.

We work thoroughly to prepare each unique performance, which is the culmination of process. Costs include:

- 60 min onsite consultation and continuing telephonic support
- Casting and contracting performers
- 2 x 2 hour rehearsals
- 75-90 min show (with a professionally trained conductor, musician and 3-4 actors)
- Summary report or debrief session
- Props and costume
- Transport and staff stay & travel allowance

Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Show Type</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NPO/School show</td>
<td>R 12,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate/Government show</td>
<td>R 20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPO/School show + workshop</td>
<td>R 15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate/Government show + workshop</td>
<td>R 24,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Workshops use our whole bag of tricks, and serve to playfully connect people and develop skills in team work. Improvisation techniques teach participants to be present, think on their feet, surrender control, listen better and say yes! These skills will add value to any team.