Avery Wong

Ta: Nilce Wicks

His8c Week 4 discussion

In the film, the theatre of the oppressed, Augusto Boal elaborates the theatric technique of informing the masses of Brazil of the political/economic/social issues of Brazil through the use of theatre. The Paolo Freire reader explains the educational methodology that was implemented in the adult literacy education program. Both Augusto and Paolo used new and revolution techniques to inform the masses of the issues and the corruption of the Brazilian government.

In the film, Augusto Boal theatric technique incorporates the spectators into their plays, and have them act out the play. Usually the plays have something to do with current events. Through the theatre of the oppressed, the spectators become actors and are able to express their opinions through acting. The passive audience who are watching are meanwhile being informed of the current events and are encouraged to act and think for themselves.

Freire talks about his education program that utilizes the concept of “dialogue” that not only encourages critical thinking, but allow the students and teacher to facilitate a better learning environment. This new type of classroom is more dynamic learning environment where both the student and teacher learn. Friere method was effective in teaching the 400 adults in the program how to read and write, but opened their minds to the social and political issues that govern Brazil. More specifically in the concept of “codifications” the students are given certain local situation and the students in groups try to decode the situation and identify the situation so they are able to critically think and understand aspects of that said situation.

The core effect of both Paolo and Freire techniques is that they encourage active, and crtical thinking of the masses and also informs of the political issues that surrounds their everyday life through active techniques that incorporates the spectators or student into an engaging learning environment.