Diana Taylor: “Saving the ‘Live’: Re-Performance and UNESCO’s Intangible Cultural Heritage”  
  
March 11, 2013, 4:30pm  
Durham Studio Theater  
  
“It’s a widespread fantasy— one shared by individual artists such as Marina Abramović and world organizations such as UNESCO—that specific performances (or ICH, ‘intangible cultural heritage’) can be kept alive, separated from their moment of knowing and being, and safeguarded, protected, for other audiences at another moment. What does safeguarding performance entail? Is re-performance different from performance, always “twice behaved behavior” according to Richard Schechner, “never for the first time”? How does the now of one particular performance extend beyond its own initial temporality and context? Why attempt it? For whom? Who selects? Who decides? This talk looks at what it might entail to consciously ‘preserve’ performance and keep specific acts ‘alive’ by looking at two projects— UNESCO’s Intangible Culture Heritage convention of 2003 and Marina Abramović’s blockbuster show at MoMA in 2010, The Artist is Present.”  
  
Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Lecturer Dr. Diana Taylor is Professor of Performance Studies and Spanish at New York University. Her visit is made possible by Phi Beta Kappa and the Department of Spanish & Portuguese.

Performance and intangible cultural heritage

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[Diana Taylor](http://universitypublishingonline.org/cambridge/companions/author.jsf?name=Diana+Taylor), The Cambridge Companion to Performance Studies