

Video: Dael Orlandersmith and Neel Keller *Performer/Writer, Director*

This worksheet was created as a part of Center Theatre Group's Theatre Artist Classroom Connections video series, accessible via CTGLA.org/ClassroomConnections.

Reflection Questions

- What is the one statement or piece of advice from this conversation that spoke to you the most, and why?
- Orlandersmith states "Sometimes I think politics can surpass the art." What do you think she means by this? Do you agree or disagree?
- Student participant Ariel asks Orlandersmith and Keller about their responsibility to the piece of theatre they have created. What do you think is the responsibility of the artist in the work they choose to do?
- What do you think about Keller's idea of producing *Until the Flood* with a cast of 8 actors who draw numbers to play the parts, rather than a one-woman show? How do you think it might change an audience's experience of the play?
- Orlandersmith uses theatre as a means to create conversation around issues that are important to her. What is a conversation you would like to create with your art? Has a piece of theatre ever caused you to have a difficult or meaningful conversation with someone?
- Keller and Orlandersmith have a strong collaborative relationship that has grown over many years. What are qualities that you look for in someone when you are working together?

Learning Activities

Call to Action: Learners will identify a problem in their community that they would like to address and create a collective call to action that identifies key actions that they and community members can take to affect change. Learners will periodically check-in with this document, monitoring progress and amending as needed.

Circle, Triangle, Square: Instructor will draw three large shapes on the board: a circle, a triangle, and a square. Learners will place one post-it note on each shape: one question that came up that is "circling" around in their heads (circle), one thing they agree with, that "squares" with their thinking (square), and one thing that they noticed or that stood out to them (triangle). Activity can culminate in silent gallery walk or group discussion.

"MY SAYING IS IN MY DOING." – DAEL ORLANDERSMITH