

Phillip Zarrilli 1947 - 2020

One of the things that makes someone a master is that they embody what they teach. In this sense a master is the embodiment of knowledge. Phillip Zarrilli was a Kalarippayattu master, holding the lineage of his teachers and passing those teachings to students spread all over the globe. He was also a theatre master, directing and performing in many productions that reflected his deep knowledge and sensitivity in working at the intersection between cultures. And he was a master practitioner/scholar; through his books, workshops, and productions, Phillip made an extensive contribution to the study and practice of theatre in many of its aspects: training, intercultural practice, phenomenology. Although he did not align his work with the contested term 'mindfulness', his theatre practice was a 'practice' in the deepest sense - a form of embodied cultivation - that provides us with an exemplary model of mindfulness in performance.

Phillip was a bridge builder: between tradition and contemporaneity; between Europe, the Americas and Asia; and, most of all, between people. The generosity and support he showed to this journal (and to the work of the Mindfulness and Performance Project, and, before that, the Centre for Psychophysical Performance Research) was characteristic of his generosity to all.

Despite our sorrow at the sad news of Phillip's passing, and in keeping with the spirit in which he conducted his last, loving communications with his many friends, students and colleagues around the world, we celebrate the life of Phillip Zarrilli.

They say that a master does not die. Instead, he merges with the vast ocean of wisdom that he embodied in life. Phillip's was a life full of meaning, strength and smiles, radiant of the compassionate presence of the master. His presence lives on for us - in his students, in his writings that inspire so many people in different countries and languages, and in the memories of those whose paths he crossed and whom he inspired with his embodied knowledge and deep kindness.

Thank you, Phillip. We continue to celebrate your life!

A tribute to the life of Phillip Zarrilli by his partner and collaborator, Kaite O'Reilly, is published in *Wales Arts Review*. <https://www.walesartsreview.org/philip-zarrilli-1947-2020-a-tribute/>