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Re-inventing Western Theatre: From Caucasian Chalk Circle to Lingkaran Kapur

Theatre reflects the culture in which it is produced and is framed by the politics and personal agenda of the playwright and the region represented in the text. In addition, for the most part, western theatre identifies issues of some significance and interest to western audiences. This panel will explore the problems with translating and adapting a western theatre icon, *Caucasian Chalk Circle* (Brecht) into Malay for a Malaysian audience in Kuala Lumpur. **Ches Skinner** will discuss the directing process and issues related to creating a production style that accommodated the Malaysian context. **Mohd Saad Omar**'s paper will address the process of reinventing the narrative and managing the shift from English to Bahasa and making it significant for the predominantly Muslim audiences. **Mohd Hafiz Askiak** will continue the 'reinvention' aspect by exploring the process of infusing the text and production with traditional Malaysian music played on traditional instruments.