



Devising Theatre

a
practical

and
theoretical
handbook



Alison Oddey

HOW AND WHERE TO START

and indeed be the very reason why a group has congregated around a particular issue, interest, or kind of theatre. Even experienced professional companies may need to re-address their function and purpose in devising theatre at regular intervals. As a general theory, I want to conclude this chapter by highlighting the questions that can be asked by any group or company starting work together:

- 1 What is it you want to devise, and why? What kind of theatre do you want to create?
- 2 Who are you devising for, and why?
- 3 What are your initial aims and objectives as a company for this project?
- 4 Is your content or subject matter the starting point for the work? What are the source materials?
- 5 Is the form or structure an important preliminary area for exploration?

2 Joanna Neary, Paul Finlay, Cindy Oswin, and Trevor Stuart in 'Fifty Five Years of the Swallow and the Butterfly'. Lumiere & Son, 1990. (Photo: Hilary Westlake.)

