

Bibliodrama

Björn Krondorfer offers workshops on *bibliodrama*, *hagiodrama*, or *sutradrama* in the United States and Europe for groups affiliated with a religious tradition or a church, and for groups independent of congregational life. Workshops can last from two hours to a weekend.

Krondorfer, professor of comparative religious studies at Northern Arizona University, has received training in modern dance and experimental drama. His workshops combine creative movements and body work with the study of biblical stories.

Bibliodrama Workshop Information
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What is Bibliodrama?



BIBLIODRAMA is the reenactment of biblical stories in small groups of (adult) participants, who are interested in understanding the biblical tradition in non-fundamentalist ways. It is a playful, spiritual, and dramatic approach to biblical stories. Participants identify with and interview biblical characters and interact with each other. In the process, biblical stories come alive.

In BIBLIODRAMATIC processes, the full range of human life experiences is addressed through readings and enactments of biblical stories: crises in families and among siblings; the joys and problems of communication between men and women, friends and foes, God and humans; ancient and contemporary dilemmas, such as justice and injustice, liberation and exile, love and betrayal, birth and death.

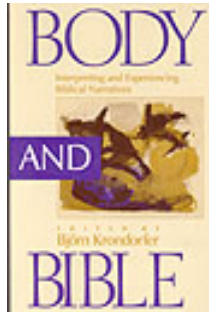
BIBLIODRAMA combines the study of texts with the sharing of personal experiences. It is a well-known method in European countries (among others, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands, Finland) and is increasingly practiced also in the United States.

Though various differences exist between bibliodrama facilitators, BIBLIODRAMA is mostly understood as a process of guided enactment in which people are active participants. It can include improvisations, meditations, active imagination, role play, conversations, dream work, movement exercises, relaxation, deep readings, and techniques borrowed from the drama therapy.

BIBLIODRAMA workshops are not conducted as a means to convince people of the "truth" of a particular faith. Rather, bibliodrama speaks to those inside and outside the tradition, inside and outside congregational life. It is for Jews, Christians, and nonaffiliated people who are in search of meaning.

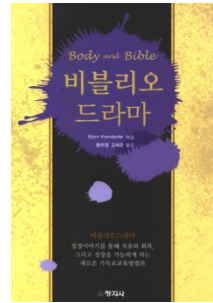
BIBLIODRAMA has also branched into new fields such as HAGIODRAMA (the enactment of sacred moments in the history of religions), SUTRADRAMA (enactment of Buddhist stories), or BIBLIOLOG (a more leader-centered, dialogical approach).

Literature



**Body and Bible:
Interpreting and Experiencing
Biblical Narratives**

Trinity Press International, 1992
Edited by Björn Krondorfer



Korean translation of *Body and Bible*
(Seoul: Chang-Ji Publisher, 2008)

For copies of the book, please contact bjorn.krondorfer@nau.edu

Body and Bible offers an introduction to the bibliodramatic process. Contributors are American and European theologians, therapists, scholars of religion, and artists. They are Christian, Jewish, and unaffiliated.

Body and Bible presents an overview of the diversity of ideas, methods and styles related to bibliodramatic approaches, and conveys the excitement people experience when entering biblical narratives through play, reenactment and embodiment. Contributors include, in addition to the editor, Tom F. Driver, Samuel Laeuchli, Walter Wink, Tim Schramm, Alix Pirani, David Rhoads, Arthur Waskow, Evelyn R. Laeuchli, and G. Marcel Martin.

Articles related to Bibliodrama by Björn Krondorfer

- 2011. "Bibliodrama Interreligiös? Ansätze und Begrifflichkeiten." *Textraum: Bibliodrama Information* 18/35 (November): 8-11
- 2008. "Mit Gott und unseren Körpern unterwegs: Gedanken zur christlichen Dramatisierung der Leiblichkeit." In *Der Text im Körper: Leibgedächtnis, Inkarnation und Bibliodrama*, eds. Marcus Friedrich, Thomas Fuchs, Julia Koll, Björn Krondorfer, and Gerhard Marcel Martin. Hamburg: EB-Verlag, pp. 104-128
- 2008. "Bibliodrama in Korea." *Textraum: Bibliodrama Information* 15/28 (April): 40-47.
- 2008. "Serious Play: Bibliodrama in the Context of Creative Incarnation." Proceedings of Annual Conference of KAPS (Korean Association of Psychodrama and Sociodrama), Seoul (January): 109-120. In same volume: Korean translation by Y. M. Choi (January): 121-130.
- 2008. "Bibliodrama: Embodying Biblical Stories." Proceedings of Annual Conference of KAPS (Korean Association of Psychodrama and Sociodrama), Seoul (January): 133-140. In same volume: Korean translation by Sung Hee Cho (January): 141-146.

- 2006
"Mit Gott und unseren Körpern unterwegs: Die christliche Dramatisierung der Körperlichkeit." *Textraum: Bibliodrama Information* 12/25 (November): 12-18.
- 2005. "Bibliodrama als kritisches Gegenüber." *Textraum: Bibliodrama Information* 13/22 (März): 5-6.
- 1998. "Sommerobst und Leichen (Amos 8)." *Textraum: Dokumentation: The Power of Atmosphere* (Sonderheft).
- 1997. "Abraham, Isaac and Co: Bibliodrama as a Participatory Process." In *Living Text: Journal of Contemporary Midrash* 2 (Winter).
- 1994 (with Robin Bates). "Ritually Enacting the Reading Experience: A Dramatic Way to Teach Literature." *English Education* 26/4 (December): 236-248.

Previous Workshops (Selected List)

2009

- "Hagar: Wo kommst du her?" Workshop at Evangelischer Kirchentag, Bremen.

2008

- "Perpetua's Dream: A Woman's Martyrdom": Hagiodrama Workshop. Akademie Boldern, Männedorf/Zürich, Switzerland.
- "Of Christian and Buddhist Mustard Seeds: Parable of Jesus & Story of Kisa Gautami" (Lk 13: 18-19/Sutta Pitaka): Sutradrama and Bibliodrama. Korean Association of Psycho- and Sociodrama (KAPS), Seoul, Korea.
- "The Liminality of Moses" (Ex. 2): Bibliodrama. Korean Association of Psycho- and Sociodrama (KAPS), Seoul, Korea.

2005

- "Leibhaftige Spiritualität: The Backside of God" (Ex. 33: 12-23): Bibliodrama Workshop, Evangelische Akademie Hofgeismar, Germany.
- "Putting on the Word: A Bibliodrama Workshop" (Ex 2, 1-10): 2-day Bibliodrama Workshop, Continuing Education Program at Moravian Theological Seminary, Bethlehem, PA.

2004

- "The Serpent" (Gen 2-3): Bibliodrama/Performance Workshop for Department of Dramatic Arts, in preparation for the performance of Van Itallie's *The Serpent*, St. Mary's College, MD.

2003

- "The Birth of Moses" (Ex. 2): Weekend Workshop with Youth Ministers and Educators of the Episcopal Diocese, Richmond, VA

2002

- "The Road to Emmaus" (Lk 24): Parish Education Day, Episcopal Dioceses of Virginia and Washington, Virginia Theological Seminary, Alexandria, VA
- "I praise you, for I am wonderfully made" (Ps 139): Two-day workshop for pastoral counselors and social workers. Evangelische Akademie Iserlohn, Germany

2001

- "I am the Alpha and the Omega" (Rev. 22, 12-15): Two-day seminar for lay ministers. Co-facilitated with Hildrun Kessler. Konsistorium, Berlin.

2000

- "The friendship between Jonathan and David" (1. Sam 18): Bibliodrama Retreat for Men, Evangelische Akademie Iserlohn, Germany.

- "The Backside of God" (Ex. 33:12-23): Weekend Retreat for Parishoners, Turku, Finland.
- "Jacob and the Angel" (Gen 32): Workshop for Annual Clergy Conference of Episcopal Diocese of Washington, St. Mary's City, MD.
- "Miriam, Moses, and Pharaoh's Daughter" (Ex 2): Workshop for Dance Midrash Group, Temple Beth Zion, Boston, MA.

1999

- "Judas and Jesus:" Parish Education Day by the Episcopal Dioceses of Virginia and Washinton, Virginia Theological Seminary, Alexandria, VA.
- "The cure at Bethesda" (Lk 5) and "Temptation of Jesus" (Mt 4): Bibliodrama sessions in highschool of German School of Washington, D.C.
- "Bibliodrama: A Hands-on Workshop:" Second Teacher Training for German School of Washington, D.C. (Fachkonferenz Religion & Ethik).
- "Akedah: The Binding of Isaac:" Groupwork with poets and creative writers at Literary Festival of St. Mary's College of Maryland.
- "God Search: The Prodigal Son" (Lk): Youth Retreat at St. Mary's Parish, Maryland.

1998

- "Midrash on Abraham": 13th International Bibliodrama Workshop, Ev. Akademie Nordelbien/Bad Segeberg (5 day workshop), co-facilitated with P. Pitzele.
- "Of summer fruits and corpses" (Amos 8): 3rd Central-European Bibliodrama Congress, Burckhardtthaus Gelnhausen, Germany.
- "Introduction into Theory and Practice of Bibliodrama:" Teacher Training for German School of Washington, D.C. (Fachkonferenz Religion & Ethik)
- "Prodigal Son" (Lk): Youth Retreat Weekend, St. Mary's Parish (GodSearch program, Maryland)
- "Judas & Jesus": Greenbelt Community Center, Maryland.

1997

- Participation in one-day seminar on Jewish-Christian dialogue and Bibliodrama (text: "Jacob & Esau and the Prodigal Son"), sponsored by The Institute for Jewish and Christian Studies (Baltimore) and the Institute for Contemporary Midrash (Philadelphia).
- "Magnificat" (Lk.): 12th International Bibliodrama Workshop, Ev. Akademie Nordelbien/Bad Segeberg (5 day workshop). Co-facilitated with Prof. Gerhard Marcel Martin, Germany.
- "Moses' Birth" (Ex.): Union Theological Seminary, New York.
- "Jesus and Judas: Friend or Foe (Mt.): Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC.

1996

- "Mission Impossible" (Mt. 28): 11th International BibliodramaWorkshop, Evangelische Akademie Nordelbien/Bad Segeberg (5 day workshop). Co-facilitated with Astrid Kittle, Germany.
- "Jonah:" Education for Ministry, Trinity Church, Maryland.
- "Temptation of Christ:" St. Mary's College of Maryland, Department of English Literature, Maryland.

1995

- "The Open Door" (Revelation 3): 10th International BibliodramaWorkshop, Evangelische Akademie Nordelbien/Bad Segeberg (5 day workshop). Co-facilitated with Prof. G. M. Martin, Germany.
- "Moses' Midwives" (Ex. 2): Two day workshop at Evangelical Church of Heppenheim, Germany.
- "Birth of Moses:" 3 day workshop for *Creation Around the Chesapeake* (Episcopal Church), Maryland.

1994

- "Jesus and Judas:" Workshop for Christian Educators, United Methodist Church, Chicago.

- "Movement and Bibliodrama:" a method workshop for Bibliodrama and Psychodrama facilitators, Helsinki, Finland.
- "Betrayal" (Mt. 26): 2 day workshop at Institute for Christian Pedagogy, Jarvenpaa, Finland.
- "The Song of Time" (Ecclesiastes 3): 9th International BibliodramaWorkshop, Evangelische Akademie Nordelbien/Bad Segeberg (5 day workshop). Co-facilitated with Ellen Kubitza, Germany.
- "The Syrophenician Woman" (Mark 7): Synthesis Center, Maryland.
- "Noah" (Gen. 69): 3 day workshop for *Creation Around the Chesapeake* (Episcopal Church), Maryland.
- "Jesus and Judas:" Education for Ministry, Trinity Church, Maryland.

1993

- "The Inability to Forgive" (Mt. 18): 8th International BibliodramaWorkshop, Evangelische Akademie Nordelbien/Bad Segeberg (5 day workshop), Germany.
- "Abraham and Isaac" (Gen. 22): one day workshop at Evangelical Church of Heppenheim, Germany.
- "Jesus and Judas." Evangelical Church of Mainz, Germany.
- "Philip and the Eunuch" (Acts 8): Education for Ministry, Trinity Church, Maryland.