

THE GROTOWSKI INSTITUTE

Wroclaw, Poland

ATELIER

SOURCE TECHNIQUES – SOURCES OF TECHNIQUES

20 June – 20 July 2007

Directed by: Jaroslaw Fret and Dr. Grzegorz Ziolkowski

Atelier consists of a series of practical and theoretical work sessions, which are part of an enterprise created for actors, musicians, singers, dancers, and theatre people. The aim of the Atelier is to work on the craft in the primary meaning of the word. The craft is a study of tools, a study of discovering creative motivation in oneself, a study of keeping the working spaces (whether them being actual spaces or the spaces of the body and/or the voice) in order. These elements build a *skeleton* of performer's creative preparation for work, the core of which is *re-cognition – dedication*.

PROGRAMME

The programme of the Atelier consists of: ***Openings***, ***Midsummer Night's Dream*** and ***Courses***.

- ***Openings*** are presentations of performances, concerts and demonstrations of work open for wider audiences. Presentations will be made by artists whose projects are realised within the framework of the promotional activities of the Grotowski Institute.
- ***Midsummer Night's Dream*** is a time during which we hope to make impossible possible.
- ***Courses*** will be realised within 4 five-day units of work which embrace three independent artistic lines (on a whole **200 hours** of work). Apart from them, the programme includes theoretical classes (**14 hours**) and **7 film presentations** with introductions.
- The work at the Atelier will be summarized during the last two days dedicated to individual meetings, presentations of the participants' works, evaluation and summary.

SPACES

The sessions will take place in the site of the Grotowski Institute in Wroclaw – in the historical space of the Laboratory Theatre (Rynek-Ratusz 27), as well as in the forest base of the Institute in Brzezinka – the place of realisation of paratheatrical projects of Jerzy Grotowski.

SESSIONS' LEADERS

- Zygmunt Molik (long-term member of the Laboratory Theatre),
- Ang Gey Pin (Singapore),
- Piotr Borowski from Studium Teatralne (Warsaw),
- Natalka Polovynka and Sergey Kovalevich from Maisternia Pisni (Lviv, Ukraine),
- Jaroslaw Fret (Director of the Grotowski Institute),
- actors of the ZAR Theatre (Wroclaw),
- Dr. Grzegorz Ziolkowski (Programme Director of the Grotowski Institute), as well as
- Monika Blige, Adela Karsznia-Karpowicz and Magdalena Madra (members of the Research Team of the Grotowski Institute).

Zygmunt Molik was for 25 years an actor of Jerzy Grotowski's Teatr Laboratorium (Laboratory Theatre). He played the main role in forming the voice training method initiated by Jerzy Grotowski. Releasing of the creative energy and the search of the unity and connection between the body and the voice became for him the basis of an actor's process. The workshop focuses on releasing blocked voice, body and energy. The workshop is addressed to the students of acting schools, young actors and people working with the voice.

Ang Gey Pin – creator, actress, theatre instructor. Singapore actress Ang Gey Pin's professional trajectory is very unique. Paradoxically, her choice to live and work outside of her home country is strongly based on her interest in recovering her Chinese heritage.

Ang's theatre apprenticeship began in her native Singapore in 1986. She graduated from the Theatre Department at the University of Hawaii in 1992. She has researched into ancient Chinese texts, traditional songs, drumming, taichi when she co-founded and was the artistic director of Theatre OX (1995-2006).

A former member of the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards (Italy), Ang was the lead actress in the group's Project *The Bridge: developing theatre arts, One breath left* (1998-2002) and *Dies Irae: My Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show* (2003-2006). She has performed and taught internationally.

Piotr Borowski and Studium Teatralne

Piotr Borowski – actor and Theatre director. Since 1975 he was engaged in the activity of the Laboratory Theatre of Jerzy Grotowski. In the years 1977-1983 he was an actor and musician in the theatre company „Gardzienice” led by Włodzimierz Staniewski. In 1980, together with other members of the company, he created his own performance *Już odchodzimy* (*We are now leaving*). Having left to Italy, in the years 1985-1993, Borowski worked at the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski in Pontedera. In 1996 he founded an independent Theatre group **Studium Teatralne**, which aspires to an integration and self-education, and also considers self-perfecting and gaining knowledge of the art of the theatre as its calling. Studium Teatralne aims at deepening and spreading the feeling of an artistic truth by the art of the theatre, through reaching the broadest layers of the society - the young generation in particular.

Natalka Polovynka and Sergey Kovalevich, Maisternia Pisni

Natalka Polovynka – singer, actress, teacher. Born in the area of Winnica, into a family of teachers. She studied at the Lysenko State Conservatory in Lviv (under Prof. Tarnavecka) and was trained at the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski in Pontedera, Italy. From 1988 she collaborated with the Les Kurbas Theatre in L'viv. Laureate of international music and theatre festivals. Performer of ancient religious music, folk songs, romances, contemporary music and contemporary improvisation music. From 1996 she collaborates with Serhij Kovalevich from Moscow.

Sergey Kovalevich – director and dramaturg of musical-drama theatre, pedagogue, student of the distinguished theatre maker Volodimir Klimenko (Klim). In the years 1988-2002 director of traditional culture at the drama school WORD AND VOICE in Electrostat (Russia). He has fourteen years experience of work: from classical theatre, to laboratory and experimental activities, as well as culture projects based on the orthodox church tradition. Director of a few anthropological documentary films dedicated to N. G. Alexeiovich, one of the founders of the Russian school of methodology.

Jaroslav Fret – director of the Grotowski Institute and a founder and a leader of Theatre ZAR. Starting from 1999 he organized several expeditions to Caucasus and the Near and Middle East

to explore the old Christian churches (Georgian, Armenian, Syrian) and the Mandaeas – the last living, ancient Gnostic group surviving in Iran. One part of this project is Theatre ZAR's performance, *The Gospels of Childhood*, which has been presented in Czech Republic, Egypt, Italy, Slovakia and Hungary. He was a co-editor of two special issues of *Pamiętnik Teatralny* dedicated to Jerzy Grotowski (Warsaw 2000–2001).

Theatre ZAR – in the years 1999–2002 the members of the company Theatre ZAR realised four expeditions to Georgia. The fruit of these journeys were practical contacts with people and groups working with traditional music. It was in Tbilisi where their first experiences with learning reconstructed religious songs, including liturgical songs (from Sioni Church) took place. A crucial point was the work and comparison of notations of songs made at the turn of the 19th century, and using them as a bridge in reading some of the oldest songs which are only to be found in neumatic notation form. The participants of the expeditions accompanied the work of the singing teachers, also outside of Tbilisi, where the teachings of the sources of Georgian music are conducted.

Throughout their journeys, the most important experience was their stay in Svaneti, in the Higher Caucasus, where they met a tradition of polyphonic songs whose origins date back to the beginning of our era. These two thousand year old songs are performed in a language which is no longer understood by Svans themselves and are the oldest form of polyphonic singing in Georgia and perhaps in the whole world. Work with songs from the Higher Caucasus will be the main theme for the workshop.

Monika Blige – graduate in Polish philology at the Adam Mickiewicz University (AMU) in Poznan with the dissertation titled „*Wiecej niż teatr. Teatr Wiejski Wegajty – fenomen kulturowy i artystyczny*” (*More Than Theatre. Village Theatre Wegajty – cultural and artistic phenomenon*) supervised by Prof. Dobrochna Ratajczakowa. In the years 2001-2005 she collaborated with the Field Project of the Wegajty Theatre. Since 2004 she has been a Ph. D. student of the Drama and Theatre Department at AMU, where, under the supervision of Prof. Ewa Guderian-Czaplinska, she is writing her thesis dedicated to Ludwik Flaszen. She runs the Publishing House at the Grotowski Institute.

Adela Karsznia-Karpowicz – graduate in Polish philology at the Wroclaw University with the dissertation dedicated to the activities of Jerzy Grotowski. Under the direction of Prof. Janusz Degler, she is preparing her Ph. D. on the subject of the activity of the Laboratory Theatre in the years 1959-1965. She works at the Grotowski Institute as an archivist.

Magdalena Madra – graduate in Polish philology and culture studies at the Wroclaw University. From 2007 she will be a Ph. D. student at the Wroclaw University, preparing her thesis on the theme of the paratheatrical period of the Laboratory Theatre under the supervision of Prof. Janusz Degler. She works in the Administrative Section of the Grotowski Institute.

Dr. Grzegorz Ziolkowski – theatre scholar, editor, translator from and into English (among others of Peter Brook's *The Shifting Point*), theatre director and work sessions leader, lecturer at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, author of *Teatr Bezpośredni Petera Brook* ([*The Immediate Theatre of Peter Brook*] Gdansk 2000). In years 1991-2001 artistic director and actor of Biuro Poszukiwań Teatralnych [The Office for Theatrical Research] of Poznan. Member of the Artistic Board of the International Theatre Festival Maski [Masks] in Poznan from 1997 to 2003. The originator and organizer of numerous theatre conferences. He collaborates with Cracow theatre journal *Didaskalia* and have published in *Teatr*, *Scena*, and *Poznańskie Studia Polonistyczne*. In 2004, with Prof. Paul Allain, he co-edited a special issue of *Contemporary Theatre Review* devoted to Polish theatre after 1989. In 2005, with Prof. Janusz Degler, he co-edited *Essere un uomo totale*.

Autori polacchi su Grotowski. L'ultimo decennio (Torino, Wroclaw 2005). Since 2004 the Programme Director of the Grotowski Centre.

TYPES OF SESSIONS

The programme of the Atelier *Sources Techniques – Techniques of Sources* will be realised during:

- *silentorias* – which assume being active in perception: that is when silence is being activated,
- *performatorias* – which assume being active in action: that is when action is being activated,
- *conversatorias* – which assume being active in conversation: that is when word is being activated, and
- *repetitorias* – which assume being active in repetition: that is when memory is being activated.

SCHEDULE

20 June: arrival,
21-23 June: *Openings* (Wroclaw),
24 June: travel to Brzezinka, Midsummer Night's Dream,
25-29 June: 1st Step (Brzezinka),
30 June: lecture and film presentations,
1-5 July: 2nd Step (Brzezinka),
6 July: free time, travel to Wroclaw,
7-11 July: 3rd Step (Wroclaw),
12 July: lecture, film presentations and travel to Brzezinka,
13-17 July: 4th Step (Brzezinka),
18-19 July: individual meetings, presentations of the participants' works, evaluation, summary
20 July: departure.

LANGUAGE

All courses will be run in English.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

16. The participants will be selected upon the application forms.

COST

800 Euros. Cost for Central and Eastern European citizens: 600 Euros.

This covers: entrance fee for performances and concerts during *Openings*, fee for work, travel from Wroclaw to Brzezinka and back, accomodation in apartments with cooking facilities, accomodation and meals while in Brzezinka. The participants arrive to Wroclaw on their own expense.

APPLICATIONS

Applications should be sent by electronic mail only.

From 1st of January till 1 of March 2007 applications should be addressed to Magda Madra at: magda@grotcenter.art.pl and magda@grotowski-institute.art.pl.

From 2nd of March till 15th of April applications should be addressed to Justyna Rodzinska at: justyna@grotcenter.art.pl and justyna@grotowski-institute.art.pl.

DEADLINES

- Description of subjects as well as complete list of leaders will be provided by **31st of January 2007**.
- Detailed schedule of the Atelier, together with the programme of *Openings* will be announced by **15th of March 2007**.

- Sending of application forms: **30th of April 2007.**
- Confirmation will be sent to selected participants by **15th of May 2007.**
- The fee should be transferred, in euros only, by **1st of June 2007.**

INFORMATION

Detailed information on the Atelier is provided by Magdalena Madra: ph. (0048) 71 34 45 320 or ph./fax (0048) 71 34 34 267.

COORDINATION

Coordination of the Atelier: Justyna Rodzinska.

Collaboration: Magdalena Madra and Agnieszka Pietkiewicz.

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