

PRIMA DEL TEATRO

European Theatre School- 34th edition

**“An audacious hope: the fierce urgency of Now”
(M.L. King)**

**San Miniato - Pisa
14 – 30 July 2018**

Organized by
Fondazione Teatro di Pisa

in collaboration with
Municipality of San Miniato

Partner Schools

Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London
Institut del Teatre, Barcelona
Universität der Künste, Berlin
Danske Scenekunstscole, Copenhagen
Accademia dei Filodrammatici, Milan
Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts et Techniques du Théâtre, Lyons
Centro Internazionale “La Cometa”, Rome
Institut Nationale Superieur des Arts du Spectacle, Brussels
Ecole du Theatre National de Strasbourg
Hochschule für Theater und Musik – Hamburg

International workshops

A. “Civilized and Uncivilized”

Workshop Leaders: Eliot Shrimpton (Guildhall School) – Nuria Legarda (ITB – Barcelona)
Period: 14 – 30 July

The workshop explores how we embody the civilised and the uncivilised. We will investigate:

Play and the naive; taboo and the grotesque; playing with authority; etiquette, manners and pollution; the physical and theatrical body; being present; search and experimentation; commitment to the rules of a proposal; physical awareness and acting risk; a receptive and relaxed body; working with the components of the group; autonomy and commitment; good taste and bad taste

The workshop will involve physical training, clown, realism, a variety of mask forms and improvisation. This will lead onto devising short compositions.

The following qualities will be important to bring to the work: curiosity, a good sense of humour and a light spirit.

B. “Audacious hope: Improvising Shakespeare”

Workshop Leaders: Scott Handy; Ayse Tashkiran

Period: 14 - 30 July

The work will be focused on how actors can keep true to the music of Shakespeare's text but still invent the words in the moment

C. “A Study on *The body politic*”

Workshop leaders: Marta Cuscunà (actor; playwright) – Chiara Bersani (performer) – Francesco Villano (actor; trainer)

Period: 14 - 30 July

The joint narration of personal stories lays at the heart of several popular movements that have been changing the political discourse in the last few years. A chorus of voices that have transformed the hashtags #neveragain #metoo #quellavoltache #cuentalo into a collective tale made by thousands of witnesses that have broken the silence in order to give voice also those who did not have it anymore.

How can theatre relate with all this? Theatre that is the elected place of narration of stories. Through dramaturgical exercises, analysis of texts and training, we will try to understand the way theatre can tell someone else's stories and can ask the actors' bodies to convey them. We will investigate the possibilities that the actors' bodies have to become a body politic on stage, a collective tool of freedom and social change.

D. “The Destiny of Women: a study on Chekhov's “*The Three Sisters*” and “*The Bear*”

Workshop leader: Maria Shmaevich;

Period: 14 - 30 July

The work will deal with two main questions:

- 1- on the body. The necessary training to prepare the body for theatre work (elements of acrobatics, work with objects, space, partner, tempo-music). Gradually the principles of theatre biomechanics start to be digested by the participants)
- 2- on text: text analysis; research for that expressive action that allows actors to work on the situations proposed by Chekhov.

The principles of stage movement, learnt during the training sessions, will be furtherly explored and broadened while their translation into scene work.

The aim of the workshop will be to investigate the meaning of naturalism and naturalistic

E. The flower of the actor. Workshop for young student-actors and pedagogues.

Workshop leaders: Valeria Benedetti Michelangeli (CSC and Academy “La Cometa” – Rome), Annalisa Cima (Teatro “G. Verdi” – Pisa; Borgobonò Theatre Company); Mauro

Pasqualini (Teatro “Goldoni” – Livorno; Borgobonò Theatre Company)

Period: 14 – 30 July

The workshop is addressed to all that young people that are wondering if they want to apply to a Drama School and ask for an intensive pedagogical experience. The primary dynamics of theatre communication – group work, audience and partner relationships - will be investigated.

New Writing for the Stage: Miracles, Invention and Cosmos.

F. Workshop “Urban miracles”

Workshop Leader: Gabriele Di Luca (Carrozzeria Orfeo)

Period:16-20 July

When we deal with “miracles” it is as if the whole world breaks into three spheres: the believers who have no whatsoever doubt; the atheists, the cynical, the skeptical, that think them to be the outcome of stupidity and fraud; the scientists who look for rational explanations. Our research will start from news, scientific researches, urban myths, personal contributions, tales, anecdotes. We will start a tragicomical journey where will deal with faith, religion, solidarity, pain, personal and social redemption, hope.

We will experiment practically on “meaningful times”, on absolutely extra-ordinary moments. Our great challenge will be to turn them into something credible, palpable, human and into stories that can honestly talk to us and to the heart of our present time, to our hopes and to our lives.

G. Workshop “The waltz of inventors”

Workshop Leader: Federico Guerri

Period: 21 – 25 July

The great and small inventions in the last century and the extraordinary stories of their inventors will be the starting point of new playwriting inventions. We will investigate the moment when the spark is lit, when we playwrights start to create out of nothing, and the mechanisms that drive us to write stories, between inspiration and very practical work. Every invention is pure theatre: an empty space out of which something audaciously appears and changes the world. From the airship to the Ipod; from the paper towels to foosball; from Television to Super Mario.

- H. **“Theatre and Science. How science changes the form of theatre. How theatre invents the transmission of science. How science and theatre can exalt in the light of the great Wonder.”**

Open to pedagogues, school teachers, actors, playwrights, scientists.

Workshop Leader: Franco Farina (Teatro di Pisa);

Scientific advice: Andrea Ferrara (Professor of Cosmology – Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa)

Period: 26 – 30 July

A meeting between contemporary scientific research and practical playwriting in order to investigate new options for contaminations.

Theatre “Gifts” to Prima del Teatro.

Location: anywhere in San Miniato

From July 20 an evening space will be available for very short theatre events as gifts from the participants to Prima del Teatro with the only aim to share evenings together and celebrate the creativity of the students.