

# La MaMa Umbria International

June 13 - August 27, 2011



**12th Annual**  
Symposium for Directors

**5th Annual**  
Playwright Retreat

**1st Annual**  
Master Acting Workshops

**Special Event**  
Cricot-2 Theatre Workshop



**CRICOT-2 Workshop**

## **CRICOT-2 THEATRE WORKSHOP**

**June 13 - June 26**

**Teaching Artists: Teresa & Andrzej Welminski**

Workshops will be led by Teresa & Andrzej Welminski – actors of Cricot-2 Theatre and closest cooperators of Tadeusz Kantor for many years.

The collaborators will examine in theory and practice the basic ideologies of Cricot-2 Theatre. Theory will be conveyed during conversations with participants, lectures and presentations of DVD movies, presenting a short history of the development of the Cricot-2 Theatre's concepts. Some key ideas include 'reality of the lowest degree' 'memory cliché', 'manikins' or idea of journey.

In practice we will trace the selected methods of artistic actions and the process of a forming performance. We will attempt to create scenes adopting methods mastered by Cricot. We will contemplate various theatrical spaces and their consequences for the actor; the use of an object by an actor, the meaning of a costume, the function of text, etc.

Andrzej Welmioski was born in Krakow in 1952 and studied in the Graphics Faculty of the Krakow Academy of Fine Arts, graduating in 1977. Teresa Welminski was born in Krakow in 1954 and studied at Collegium Medicum, Krakow. In 1973 Andrzej joined the Cricot Theatre and in 1975 Teresa. Since then they participated in all the subsequent activities and spectacles of experimental theatre company until the death of its founder, Tadeusz Kantor, in 1990. They have been instrumental in developing the work of the company since Kantor's death, and in 1991 they participated in the "Homage" that marked the first anniversary of his passing.

The workshop will conclude with a public presentation within the SPOLETO FRINGE program of Spoleto festival.

Special thanks to AMIA (Anna Mahler International Association) for their collaboration and support in making possible the workshop of Teresa & Andrzej Welminski

A close-up, black and white portrait of Erik Ehn, looking slightly to the left with a serious expression. The image is cropped to focus on his face and upper torso.

Erik Ehn

## **5th Annual PLAYWRIGHT RETREAT**

**July 3 - July 13**

**Teaching Artist: Erik Ehn**

Erik Ehn will engage writers in a process called Spatial Writing - writing as physical and mathematical patterning; writing as staging imagery. Through a series of regular exercises, we will generate new material and each fashion an original script, exploring options in terms of narrative, rhythm and meaning.

Erik Ehn is Director of Playwriting, Brown University. Work includes *The Saint Plays*, *No Time Like the Present*, *Wolf at the Door*, *Tailings*, *Beginner*, *Ideas of Good and Evil*, and an adaptation of Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury*. He is currently working on completing a series of 15 plays – *Soulographie* - on the history of the US in the 20th Century from the point of view of its genocides, intended for production in NY in April 2012 (scripts include *Maria Kizito*, *Heavenly Shades of Night are Falling*, *Yermedea*, *Drunk Still Drinking*). His works have been produced in San Francisco (Intersection, Thick Description, Yugen), Seattle (Annex, Empty Space), Austin (Frontera), New York (BACA, Whitney Museum), San Diego (Sledgehammer), Chicago (Red Moon), Atlanta (7 Stages), Los Angeles (Cal Rep, Museum of Jurassic Technology), Belgrade (Dah); elsewhere.

He has taught at the University of Iowa, Naropa, UC San Diego, UT Dallas, and Cal Arts (graduate); University of San Francisco, SF State, Santa Clara, and Skidmore (undergrad). He just completed a writing workshop with the Belarus Free Theater in Minsk. He conducts annual trips to Rwanda/Uganda, taking students and professionals in the field to study the history of these countries, and to explore the ways art is participating in recovery from violence. He produces the Arts in the One World conference yearly, which engages themes of art and social change. Artistic Associate, Theatre of Yugen. Graduate of New Dramatists. Former Dean of the CalArts School of Theater.

**With Guest Artists:**  
David Gothard  
Vincenzo Cerami



Ruth Maleczek in a Mabou Mines Production

## 12th Annual INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM FOR DIRECTORS

### **Session One: July 15 - July 29**

Teaching Artists: Ping Chong, Hjalmar-Jorge Joffe Eichorn, Ruth Maleczek, Luca Ronconi, Marco Martinelli & Ermania Montanari

### **Session Two: August 1 - August 15**

Teaching Artists: Dijana Milošević, Baba Israel, JoAnne Akalaitis, Dorcy Rugamba

The International Symposium for Directors, sponsored by La MaMa Umbria is a 2-week training program for professional directors, choreographers and actors. Internationally renowned theatre artists will conduct workshops and lecture/demonstrations.

Students will be exposed to a variety of theatrical perspectives during the Symposium from instructors who will expand their sense of what is possible in the theatre. Directors attending the Symposium will see how prominent artists on the international scene create their unique productions.

During the Symposium, the students will travel to Umbrian towns such as Orvieto, Perugia and Assisi to get a taste of Umbrian art and culture. Performances at local arts festivals and community fairs are also included. In addition, participating directors may conduct their own workshops to share insights and techniques with their colleagues.

With Guest Artists:  
Maurizio Scaparro  
Armando Punzo



Dorcy Rugamba Production

## **Session One: July 15 - July 29**

### **Teaching Artists: Ping Chong & Hjalmar Jorge Joffre-Eichhorn**

#### **Creating Works in Time and Space - Ping Chong**

This workshop will explore the intersection of movement, text, sound, space, and image. Students are expected to generate short works focusing on each of these elements and then culminating in a work which synthesizes these elements. Students should bring in potential thematic text material to explore and recorded sounds or objects that may create sound (if possible). This course is about creating works in time and space.

Ping Chong is an internationally acclaimed theatre director, playwright, video and installation artist. Mr. Chong's work has been presented at major festivals and theatres around the world including: The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Lincoln Center Festival, Brooklyn Academy of Music, La MaMa E.T.C, Spoleto USA Festival, Vienna Festival, RomaEuropa Festival, Lille European Capital of Culture, Tokyo International Arts Festival, Singapore Festival of the Arts, and many others.

#### **Playback/Theatre of the Oppressed Workshop - Hjalmar Jorge Joffre-Eichhorn**

The workshop will focus on a variety of methodologies, most of them participatory and interactive such as Playback Theatre and Theatre of the Oppressed. We will also look at interactive techniques as innovative approaches to the rehearsal of scripted plays.

Hjalmar holds a MA in Peace and Development Studies and has been working with different community-based theatre techniques in a variety of countries, including Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Colombia, Germany, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan, USA and Ukraine. He is one of the founders of the Afghanistan Human Rights and Democracy Organization (AHRDO; [www.ahrdo.org](http://www.ahrdo.org)), an all-Afghan community-based theatre platform based in Kabul, Afghanistan.



Tina Landau Production

## **Session One: July 15 - July 29**

### **Teaching Artists: Ruth Maleczek, Luca Ronconi, Marco Martinelli & Ermanna Montanari**

#### **New Concepts For American Classics - Ruth Maleczek**

We will work on new concepts applied to American classical texts – how these concepts might affect design, performance, language and direction.

A fearless actor, Maleczek has collaborated on nearly every piece Mabou Mines has produced since 1970 and is possessed of “a theatrical vision...antithetical to almost everything contemporary American theater is about...inspiration as an artist, a feminist and a creative spirit” (Women in Theatre). She has won 3 Obies, NEA Distinguished Artist Award, Foundation of Contemporary Arts Fellow, Otto Rene Castillo Award, U.S. Artists Gracie Fellow for 2010.

#### **A Director's Approach To The Play - Luca Ronconi**

Ronconi will receive the group in his Artist Residency in Santa Cristina, near Gubbio, involving the participants in his own process of study and research of a play.

Ronconi is considered one of Europe's most influential theatrical directors. He has directed a large number of theatre productions as well as operas, working for many prestigious companies, theaters and festivals in Italy and abroad. He served as artistic director for Venice Biennale, the Teatro Stabile di Torino, Teatro di Roma and the Piccolo Teatro di Milan, from 1998 to 2004. Ronconi has received many awards, among which the European Prize for the Theatre of Taormina Arte and several Premio UBU for best theatrical performances of the season.

#### **Alchemy At Work - Teatro Delle Albe**

This workshop will deal with the art of combining and interweaving - foundational elements of theatre. The dramaturgy and the work of the actor are considered as two poles that influence and strengthen each other.

Marco Martinelli and Ermanna Montanari founded Teatro dell Albe in 1983. The company interweaves the search for the “new” with the teachings of traditional theatre, inventing a contemporary theatrical language.



## **Session Two: August 1 - August 15**

### **Teaching Artists: Dijana Milošević & Baba Israel**

#### **Place and Personal History - Dijana Milošević**

The central theme to be explored in the workshop is the history of the place where the workshop takes place in relation to the personal histories of the participants. An approach in which both directors and actors will indulge in a creative process of physical and vocal training. We will examine how performance is created through the gathering and creating of materials and through the process of montage.

Dijana co-founded DAH Theater in 1991, which expanded into DAH Theater Research Center in 1993. She was the programmer of Infant (International Festival Of New And Alternative Theatre) festival in 1999 and 2000 and a member of BITEF (Belgrade International Theatre Festival) Festival Jury and President of the BITEF Board. She continues to direct theatre performances, write about theatre and society, lead workshops and give lectures world wide. She has won many awards and fellowships including the Fullbright.

#### **Director as Deviser, Generator, and Collaborator - Baba Israel**

We will look at how to create an environment where performers and writers can take a shared journey to generate material as the director helps to capture and shape what has been generated. We will also explore what it means to introduce interdisciplinary and contemporary elements such as spoken word, Hip Hop, and digital media.

Baba Israel is a New Yorker with a Brooklyn pops and an Australian Mum. He was raised in the Living Theatre, a world traveled political and avant-garde group. He has performed in Hip Hop Commedia's *What you say white boy?* Full Circle's *Soular Powered* at the New Victory Theater on Broadway. He has collaborated as a musician for theatre projects with Rha Goddess and Renita Martin. Baba conducts workshops at schools through Open Thought Arts and bringing theater to underrepresented communities through Playback NYC Theater Company, of which he is a founding member.



Luca Ronconi Production

## **Session Two: August 1 - August 15**

### **Teaching Artists: JoAnne Akalaitis & Dorcy Rugamba**

#### **The Body in Space - JoAnne Akalaitis**

The most thrilling event in theater is the moment when the performance begins, a moment of pure potential. This workshop will consist of a series of movement, vocal and acting exercises that create a vocabulary for use in any play of any period. We will work on composition in slow motion and real time. We will work on Roberto Calasso's *The Marriage of Cadmus and Harmony*, an examination of Greek myths.

Theatre director and writer JoAnne Akalaitis has won five Obie Awards for direction (and sustained achievement) and founded the critically acclaimed Mabou Mines in New York. She is former artistic director of the New York Shakespeare Festival and was artist in residence at the Court Theatre. She was the Andrew Mellon Co-chair of the Directing Program at Juilliard School and is currently the Wallace Benjamin Flint and L. May Hawver Flint Professor of Theater at Bard College.

#### **Presence on Stage - Dorcy Rugamba**

The first part of the workshop will be about presence on stage. The goal is to learn to help the actor develop a clear conscience of his body. We will then go to the town of Spoleto to do an exercise of observation. The goal of this workshop is to put each participant in a position to write, interpret and direct a short scene of a theatrical moment to present to the rest of the group.

Dorcy Rugamba survived the Rwandan genocide. His father, mother and six of his siblings were killed on the first day of the massacre. The 24-year-old Rugamba escaped into neighboring Burundi. He created *Rwanda 94*, a six-hour piece about the genocide with a cast of 40, premiered at the Avignon Festival in France and toured for the next four years. Rugamba founded Urwintore, a space for creation and research in the performing arts. In 2004, he played Amkoulel in the world tour of *Tierno Bokar* directed by Peter Brook. In 2005, Dat'imbeti Press published Rugamba's book, *Maremba*, which recalls his family's last days in Rwanda.





André De Shields as King Lear

## **1st Annual MASTER ACTING WORKSHOP**

### **August 17-27, 2011**

### **Teaching Artists: Tina Landau & André De Shields**

Two world-renowned teaching artists will lead an intensive 10 day workshop for professional actors.

#### **Master Acting Workshop: Tina Landau**

The workshop will focus on expanding the actor's awareness, spontaneity, and openness, using the method of Viewpoints as a primary, but not exclusive, tool. With a combined stress on an intuitive, physical approach along with a more analytic or textual approach, the class will lead to the performance of both scenes from plays and short originally devised pieces.

Tina Landau is a writer, director and teacher, she is an ensemble member of Steppenwolf and has directed numerous productions. Tina has won the prestigious United States Artist Fellowship, along with awards from the Princess Grace Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, Pew Charitable Trust, NEA, as well as the Richard Rodgers Award, the Obie, and the Lucille Lortel. She is co-author with Anne Bogart of *The Viewpoints Book: A Practical Guide to Viewpoints and Composition* published by TCG.

#### **Master Acting Workshop: André De Shields**

The Actor's art is one with a mythic theme: discover the Golden Triangle—that place in the psyche where mind, body and spirit exist as individual smoldering embers. Once converged, they burst into a fire in the soul that burns through all illusions. The Actor that succeeds in this adventure is transformed into the Hero, possessing the tool for unlocking the power of life buried in the unconscious. The adventure awaits!

In a career spanning more than forty years, André De Shields has distinguished himself as an unparalleled actor, director, choreographer and educator. He is the recipient of the 2009 National Black Theatre Festival Living Legend Award, and the 2007 Village Voice OBIE Award for Sustained Excellence of Performance. He consistently earns critical acclaim for his show stopping performances, and his fiercely unique and physically idiosyncratic approach to theatre as a way to life. Namaste!

With Guest Artists: Ferdinando Ceriani & Carla Ferraro



**Outdoor Stage**

Throughout the Programs, participants will meet visiting guest artists for short talks/discussions. Among this year's guests, will be: **DAVID GOTHARD** (playwrights) **VINCENZO CERAMI** (playwrights), **MAURIZIO SCAPARRO** (directors), **ARMANDO PUNZO** (directors), and **FERDINANDO CERIANI** (actors). See website for more info.

Each year La MaMa invites renowned theatre artists to participate as teaching artists during the Symposium. These artists have included: Patrick Acogny, Min Soo Ahn, JoAnne Akalaitis, Ayla Algan, Daniel Banks, Seth Barrish, Nilo Berrocal, Anne Bogart, Malick Bowens, Ivica Buljan, Romeo Castellucci, Ping Chong, Richard Connors, Liz Diamond, Leigh Fondakowski, Kama Ginkas, Françoise Gründ, John Jesurun, Meng Jinghui, Rhodessa Jones, Marc Bamuthi Joseph, Anton Juan, Jonas Jurasas, Takeshi Kawamura, Maxine Klien, Jan Klug, Arben Kumburo, Tina Landau, Jean Guy Lecat, Yuri Lyubimov, Ola Mafalaani, Michael Marmarinos, Meredith Monk, Gian Carlo Nanni, Alida Neslo, Yoshi Oida, Mary Overlie, Andrea Paciutto, Kavalam Narayana Panikkar, Annie-B Parson, Enrique Pardo, Bernardo Rey, Federico Restrepo, Richard Schechner, Ong Keng Sen, Andrei Serban, Peggy Shaw, Theodora Skipitares, Vladia Smocek, Włodzimierz Staniewski, Ellen Stewart, Denise Stoklos, Jun Tanaka, Vito Taufer, Petar Todorov, Liangtee Tue, Jean-Claude van Itallie, Lois Weaver, Putu Wijaya, Rina Yerushalmi and Joel Zwick.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT SYMPOSIUM COORDINATORS:**

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**REGISTRATION FORM AND INFORMATION**

Space is limited. Registrants must fill out the registration/application form and return it by May 15 at the latest. Programs could fill up prior to this deadline. Space will be secured with a deposit of \$1,000 due by May 15. \$100 of the deposit is a non-refundable processing fee. Full payment is required by June 1.

\*For full biographies and workshop descriptions please visit our website:

[www.lamama.org/programs/la-mama-umbria-international/](http://www.lamama.org/programs/la-mama-umbria-international/)

\*Teaching artists schedule subject to change, check our website for updates

\*The registration/application forms are online:

[www.lamama.org/programs/la-mama-umbria-international/](http://www.lamama.org/programs/la-mama-umbria-international/)

\*All fees should be paid in US dollars in the form of checks/money orders payable to La MaMa ETC or you may pay in Euro for payment details contact [info@offucina.com](mailto:info@offucina.com)

## **LA MAMA UMBRIA INTERNATIONAL**

Students and teachers will reside at La MaMa Umbria, a 700 year-old villa that has been transformed into a work center and residence for artists. It is located in the Umbrian hillside just outside the town of Spoleto, less than 2 hours from Rome.

La MaMa Umbria is a nonprofit cultural center founded by La MaMa ETC Founder Ellen Stewart in 1990. The area includes rehearsal and performance spaces alongside the living quarters. Bedrooms are doubles and triples with shared bathrooms. Attendees will eat meals prepared on site or at nearby restaurants.



## **EXCURSIONS**

While most of the time will be spent in workshops at La MaMa Umbria, a few days have been set aside for excursions to nearby cities. We will attend at least one performance event at a local arts festival, which may include Umbria Jazz, Spoleto Estate Festival and Todiarte Festival in Todi. We will visit such towns as Perugia, Umbria's capital, Deruta, where world-famous ceramics are still painted by hand, and Assisi to see the Cathedral of St. Francis.

We will share an old fashioned Italian tradition, a sagra, or community celebration dedicated to locally prepared specialty foods where we enjoy local wines, entertainment, and dancing.

## **FEE for DIRECTORS SYMPOSIUM**

Admission fee for the Directors' Symposium is \$2,700 for 2 weeks or \$5,000 for 4 weeks.

## **FEE for PLAYWRIGHT RETREAT**

Admission fee for the Playwrights Workshop is \$2,300 for 10 days.

## **FEE for MASTER ACTING WORKSHOP**

Admission fee for the Master Acting Workshop is \$2,300 for 10 days.

Fee includes all workshops, housing and meals, ground transportation from the Rome airport roundtrip, as well as excursions. Airfare is not included.

## **FEE for CRICOT-2 WORKSHOP**

Admission fee for the Cricot-2 Workshop is \$1,500. Fee includes all workshops, housing and meals, roundtrip transportation to and from the Spoleto train station. Airfare is not included.

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**La MaMa**

**Umbria International**  
Associazione Culturale



*Absolutely one of the best times of my life. Great overall experience. Very well planned." T.C.*

*"I can tell you that the experience at La MaMa in Italy has been for me one of those life enhancing adventures." S.B.*

**La MaMa Umbria International**

Località Santa Maria Reggiana

Bazzano Superiore - Spoleto (PG)