

ACTING AS LISTENING: IN SEARCH OF TRUTH ON STAGE

Workshop for professional actors

directed by Yuri Kordonsky

18th - 26th July 2018, Teatro Era, Pontedera

Notice of participation

As part of a project that provides opportunities **for meetings with experts of the contemporary international scene between 2018 and 2020, the Centre for Theatrical Experimentation and Research - Pontedera** of the Fondazione Teatro della Toscana, has organized an 8-day advanced training workshop aimed at professional actors, from 18 to 26 July 2018, held by the director and pedagogue Yuri Kordonsky at the Teatro Era in Pontedera, which will be carried out in synergy with the sector The Other Theater and with local cultural and economic realities.

Yuri Kordonsky is a director, performer, writer and direction teacher at Yale School of Drama, with a consolidated pedagogical experience, as well as being a director and winner of many international prizes and awards, as explained in the attached biography. The Workshop "**ACTING AS LISTENING: IN SEARCH OF TRUTH ON STAGE**", whose short description can be found as an addendum to this notice, will deepen this work, starting from two theatrical texts: *Uncle Vanjaby* Anton Čechov and *Love and Information* by Caryl Churchill.

The workshop is aimed at **a maximum of 12 actors**, who will be selected on the basis of their CV and motivation letter. It is possible to accept a maximum of 5 people as listeners. **The actors will act in Italian, while debates and feedback will be in English;** anyway, an interpreter will be present. The Workshop will take place at Teatro Era in Pontedera from 11.00 am to 6.00 pm, except on Sunday 22nd July, which will be a day off.

Requirements and conditions:

- Being professional actors, which means having completed a certifiable basic training cycle or having at least two years of professional experience;
- being able to speak, understand and read in English;
- being available for the entire period of the Workshop.

The **application**, accompanied by CV, photo and motivation letter, must be written as a motivation letter and include address (e-mail and domicile) and telephone number. The application must be received **no later than June 30, 2018, via e-mail to the** address workshop@teatrodellatoscana.it, indicating in the object Workshop "**ACTING AS LISTENING: IN SEARCH OF TRUTH ON STAGE**" or by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt to Fondazione Teatro della Toscana - Teatro Era, Via Indipendenza snc, 56025 Pontedera (PI), indicating on the envelope the object "Workshop **ACTING AS LISTENING: IN SEARCH OF TRUTH ON STAGE**: applications sent by registered letter with acknowledgement of receipt must be received no later than June 30.

After evaluating the applications and the CVs received, the candidates will be selected on the basis of their qualifications and after verifying the documents presented. The selection will be carried out by a specific internal commission of the Fondazione Teatro della Toscana, chaired by Roberto Bacci, artistic director of CSRT Pontedera, on the basis of the CV and the motivation letter, and candidates will be admitted at the discretion of the commission itself.

The list of admitted candidates will be published on the web [site](http://www.teatrodellatoscana.it) www.teatrodellatoscana.it and direct communication will be given via e-mail to **the admitted candidates by 6 July 2018.**

The laboratory requires a **registration fee of 100 € per** person, that will cover the insurance costs and must be paid to the following bank account, **no later than 12 July 2018**, under penalty of exclusion:

payable to the Fondazione Teatro della Toscana

BANCA DI PISA E FORNACETTE

C/C 12316931

IBAN IT 70 0 08562 71130 000012316931

SWIFT CODE BCCFIT.33

For further information, please contact the administrative office of Teatro Era: write to [mailto: workshop@teatrodellatoscana.it](mailto:workshop@teatrodellatoscana.it) workshop@teatrodellatoscana.it or call Daria Castellacci, Fondazione Teatro della Toscana, from Monday to Friday, from 3 to 6 pm, phone number +39 0587 55720/57034.

ACTING AS LISTENING: IN SEARCH OF TRUTH ON STAGE

How do we read a play? How do we create a character? How do we build life on stage in response to the partner and the physical space?

Through a series of guided acting games, etudes, and detailed practical work on scenes from two dramatic texts - Anton Chekhov's Uncle Vanya and Caryl Churchill's Love and Information - the participants will look at acting as an art of "active listening" - to the text and subtext, to the stage partner, and to the physical world of the play. We will examine acting tools that help us activate the central struggle of a scene, incite our imagination, experience the character, and translate the spirit of the text into the physical world. Based on the fundamentals of Stanislavsky's approach to acting, we will focus on the characters' given circumstances, objectives, and the dramatic conflict in creation of an "actor's path" that leads to truthful, authentic, and multi-layered life on stage.

Participants will perform scenes in Italian, while discussions and feedback will be conducted in English.

Yuri Kordonsky

Yuri (Yura) Kordonsky is a director, performer, writer, and a Professor of Directing at the Yale School of Drama. He studied acting and directing at the St. Petersburg State Academy of Theatre Arts, Russia, under the direction of Lev Dodin and has taught, performed, and directed internationally since 1989. In the period of 1989-2001, he was a resident actor and director at the renowned Maly Drama Theatre-Theatre of Europe in St. Petersburg. His directing credits include his original play "Disappearance" and "House of Bernarda Alba" by Lorca (Maly Drama Theatre, St. Petersburg); "Uncle Vanya" by Chekhov, "The Marriage" by Gogol, "Crime and Punishment" by Dostoevsky, "Marble" by Brodsky, and "Bury Me Under the Baseboard" by Pavel Sanaev (Bulandra Theatre, Bucharest); "The Encounter" (UNESCO ITI congress, Manila), "Last Day of Youth" by Tadeusz Konwicki (National Theatre "Radu Stanca", Sibiu), "The Seagull" by Chekhov and "The Incredible and Sad Tale of Innocent Erendira and her Heartless Grandmother" by Marquez (German National Theatre, Timisoara); "Peer Gynt" by Ibsen, "Oedipus Rex" by Sophocles, and "The Bald Soprano" by Ionesco (Wesleyan University, USA), "A Diary of a Madman" by Gogol (West End Theatre, Gloucester, MA), "The Lower Depths" by Gorky (Hungarian State Theatre, Cluj), and "Canterbury Tales" by Chaucer (Riverside Theater, New York), among others. His productions won numerous international awards including Golden Light (St.-Petersburg), Best Production (Union of European Theatres, Palermo), UNITER Awards for Best

*Production and Best Director, and Special Prize of Romanian Ministry of Culture
(Bucharest, Romania).*