

The **ACCADEMIA TEATRALE DI FIRENZE** is a school of dramatic arts founded in 1992 and directed by Pietro Bartolini under the patronage of the Municipality of Florence. It offers courses in the performing arts for children and adults; the four-year programme includes seminars for the study of diction, classic texts, theatre in English, directing, dance, and singing as well as film-making laboratories. End-of-course performances are staged annually; these include plays and musicals. The work often fuses historic and contemporary cultural values while making use of extant and cutting-edge technologies. Subjects and performances make use of the exceptional historic and cultural backdrops that Firenze provides. The character of the city integrates with dynamic learning opportunities for student actors. In recent years, the school has achieved excellent results, preparing young professionals for careers in films, advertising, and theatre.

#### PIETRO BARTOLINI

studied at Vittorio Gassman's Bottega and under Orazio Costa. As an actor, he has worked in European tours with Gabriele Lavia, Mariangela Melato, Peter Stein, Giancarlo Sepe among others. He has directed a numerous productions, many of which have played at Teatro della Pergola in Florence. As author and dramatist Pietro has created numerous documentaries and plays. Currently Pietro teaches acting and directing at the Accademia Teatrale di Firenze, which he founded in 1992. In 2015 he was the first to apply Immersive Virtual Reality and new technologies to actor training, initiating innovative projects together with the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna of Pisa and later with other universities and research institutes including Laboratorio Geco Univerisità degli Studi di Firenze, directed by Prof. Grazia Tucci. These collaborations have informed many productions using new systems and virtual settings.

TO ATTEND THE MEETING  
IT IS NECESSARY TO BE REGISTERED

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under the patronage and contribution of



**TIZIANA ACOMANNI** embraces many forms of artistic expression: she is a stage designer, make-up artist and painter. Graduating from the Accademia delle Belle Arti in Florence in 1994 she has been teaching drawing and painting for courses organized by the Municipality of Florence for many years. She has collaborated with the Accademia Teatrale di Firenze as a stage designer for video and theatre productions and teaches make-up for actors. She has participated in numerous exhibitions in Italy and abroad, and her works are included in both public and private collections. She specialized in special effects for the theatre and cinema at the Teatro della Scala in Milan.

**EMANUELE DE LUCA** is an Associate Professor of Theatre Studies at Côte d'Azur University: PhD in History of Visual and Performing Arts from Pisa University and PhD in Italian Studies from Sorbonne Université. He is a Member of CTEL, Université Côte d'Azur, Associate Scholar of ELCI, Sorbonne Université and of CMBV, Centre de Musique Baroque de Versailles. His research and teaching interests focus on exchanges among Italian, French and European Theatre in the early modern period, and on the theory of acting from the ancient world to the contemporary. He works as a director and dramaturge and organizes events that bring together academic research and artistic work.

**MIRELLA BORDONI** is an actress, director and acting teacher. She graduated from the Accademia d'Arte Drammatica Silvio D'Amico and studied under Orazio Costa, with whom she collaborated for almost twenty years. She has taught in various theatre and cinema schools in Italy, and, since 1990, has been teaching acting at the **Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia** (Experimental Centre for Cinematography), where she has developed an approach to Costa's mimesis method applying it to the formation of actors for the screen, thus influencing numerous prominent Italian actors. She has directed Shakespearean plays and staged poetic texts, both contemporary and classical. As an actress, she has worked with numerous directors, such as Orazio Costa, Andrea Camilleri, Franco Enriquez, Lorenzo Salvetti, and Giuliano Vassilicò. In 2017 she published "The roots of expressivity (acting lesson following the Costa method)".

The **ROYAL CONSERVATOIRE DE BRUXELLES** Founded in 1932, the Royal Conservatory of Brussels, Graduate School of Arts of the French Community, is one of the oldest arts education institutions in Belgium. Bringing together the fields of music (early, classical and jazz) and the field of speech the Royal Conservatory of Brussels is a pool of talent drawing its forces through a prestigious musical and theatrical past looking boldly to the future. Through study, and a dynamic training process, theater and spoken art centre around two major axes: tradition and creation. The courses of interpretation, focussed through dramatic and non-dramatic works, as well as free form, require technical knowledge and skill directly related to the practice of theatrical art making. The Conservatory, currently led by Frédéric de Roos also offers courses in general and humanistic education.

**JEAN-FRANCOIS BRION** trained as an actor at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels and coming from a family of musicians, Jean François Brion moves quite naturally towards multidisciplinary shows.

He has worked on authors such as Dario Fo, Layla Nabulsi, Norge, Pirandello, Musset, Feydeau, Jon Marans and many others. He currently teaches at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels as a voice teacher for actors and as a theatre teacher for opera singers, and also holds workshops and master classes in France, Italy, Greece and India.

**THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ART (RADA)** is a world-leading centre of training for performance and technical stagecraft. Through exceptional teaching its graduates have an enviable employment record in theatre, film, and television and are regularly in receipt of international awards and accolades. It is undoubtedly one of the jewels in both British Higher Education and its cultural life, as well as a significant contributor to the thriving British creative economy. RADA provides the most talented students with very best training and facilities regardless of their circumstances. They are proud to select the students on talent alone, and to have been the first drama school to commit to a 50-50 balance of male to female on their BA (Hons) in Acting. Distinguished alumni include David Harewood, Sir Kenneth Branagh, Fiona Shaw, Ralph Fiennes, Sir Antony Hopkins, Oona Chaplin, Clive Owen to name just a few. The principal is Niamh Dowling.

**LIZZIE BALLINGER** is Lead Movement Tutor at RADA, London, UK. She has taught extensively at various drama schools including LAMDA, GMSD, Mountview, Drama Centre and MMU School of Theatre. She has worked for the Vienna Kindertheater and run several workshops at art festivals in Southern Austria. Lizzie runs her own private practice, leading workshops, mentoring the next generation of movement practitioners, and offering one-to-one teaching for professionals from a range of backgrounds inside and outside the arts. As a Movement Director she has worked with Cheek By Jowl, The Royal Court, National Theatre Studio, Watford Palace, Barons Court Theatre and Soho Theatre, among others. Her first book *Trish Arnold; The Legacy of Her Movement Training for Actors* is available January 2024 through Bloomsbury.

**JOE WINDLEY** graduated from Bristol Old Vic Theatre School in 1980. Professional theatre, radio and TV credits preceded post-graduate voice teacher training at The RCSSD London, graduating with a distinction in 1994. After serving as Head of Voice a GSA (UniS) Joe returned to Central to lead the MA Voice Studies programme. Following a period at CMU School of Drama, Pittsburgh Joe became Head of Voice at Manchester School of Theatre (MMU). He has also contributed to training courses in Norway and WAAPA, WA. In 2013 Joe was appointed Lead Voice Tutor at RADA London, a post

held for over nine years. Since the inaugural META event Joe has returned annually and is fully committed to the creation of international opportunities for students in professional training programmes. "In a divided and perilous world we must propagate and practice creative cooperation with the vigour, integrity and purpose worthy of future generations". Joe is now honorary Ambassador for META a role that he proudly embraces. In addition to actor training Joe has maintained professional voice coaching activities in theatre, radio and film with credits including Manchester Royal Exchange, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Salisbury Playhouse, the BBC, West End productions and Irontale Theatre Co Brooklyn NYC.

#### RIDER UNIVERSITY

is a private university founded in 1865. The university consists of four academic colleges: the Norm Brodsky College of Business, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the College of Education and Human Services, and Westminster College of the Arts, which houses the School of Fine and Performing Arts and Westminster Choir College. The acclaimed Department of Performing Arts offers a dynamic mix of programs to train actors, musical theatre actors, designers, directors, producers, and managers. Many of Rider graduates find their paths to Broadway, TV & films, and many other creative venues.

**YOSHINORI TANOKURA** teaches scenography at Rider University. He is originally from Japan and holds an M.F.A. in Scenic Design from the University of Connecticut, USA and an M.A. in Scenography from Central Saint Martins School of Arts & Design in London, UK, where he was trained by Pamela Howard. He designed sets and costumes across the United States and assisted a renowned American set designer John Lee Beatty on many Broadway shows.

**CHERYL WHITNEY** is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Dance at Rider University and a ballet teacher and rehearsal director at American Repertory Ballet's Princeton Ballet School. She is the recipient of the Audrey Estée Award for Excellence in Dance Education from ARB, and has been awarded a number of National Endowment for the Arts grants. She also worked as a lead instructor and teacher trainer for Music Together, the international, research-based early childhood music program.

**MERLI V. GUERRA** MFA in Dance, is an award-winning choreographer and interdisciplinary artist with a focus on dance and technology. She is an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Rider University and is co-founder and artistic director of Luminarium Dance Company. Her artistic works have been presented across the U.S., and internationally in Europe, North America, Asia, and South America, with

interactive public art installations permanently on view in the U.S. and Portugal.

#### QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (QUT) BFA ACTING (BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA)

is an intensive and challenging three-year leading Australian fine arts degree offering comprehensive training in screen and stage acting in a supportive and inclusive environment. QUT Acting boasts a long list of successful graduates who work in Australia and internationally. All QUT Acting teachers are experienced industry professionals who continue to work in theatre, screen and as voice actors.

**ANDREA MOOR** is Associate Professor in Acting at Queensland University, an active screen and theatre actor and director. Andrea's acting credits in theatre are extensive and include working with Sydney Theatre Company, Queensland Theatre, Griffin Theatre Company, Belvoir, NIDA company, The Ensemble, Marian St, Playbox, Melbourne theatre Company and La Boite.

Andrea's film credits include *Elvis*, *Misteltoe Ranch*, a *Royal in Paradise*, *Subdivision*, *Travelling North*, *Round the Bend*, *Oscar and Lucinda*, *Strange Planet*, *The Man Who Sued God*, *Bitter* and *Twisted* and many award-winning shorts. Her television credits are extensive and include *Darby* and *Joan*, *True Colours*, *Harrow*, *The End*, *Passion*, *All Saints*, *Flying Doctors*, *GP*, *Country Practice*, *H2O*, *Mortified* and her on-going role as the School Principal in *Heartbreak High*. Andrea holds a doctorate in Creative Industries (QUT), is a NIDA acting graduate and has studied at East 15 in London and with The Atlantic Theatre Co in New York. Andrea is a Churchill Fellow, HEA fellow and HEA Indigenous Fellow. Andrea won the London Monthly review Best Actress at the 1991 Edinburgh Festival and has performed in London. Andrea is an Intimacy Coordinator (Intimacy on Set UK).

#### KIT LESSNER Visiting Professor Lead Voice Tutor SHARJAH PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY

Kit is SPAA's Lead voice tutor with several academic qualifications, including a Master's degree in Voice Studies (Teaching and Coaching) from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, London, UK; BA (Hons) Acting from Arts Educational Schools, London.

# META

## MEETING OF EUROPEAN THEATRE ACADEMIES

directed by Pietro Bartolini

7<sup>th</sup> Edition



8/13 July 2023

## TEATRO DELLA PERGOLA

Florence | Italy

Accademia Teatrale di Firenze  
Florence

Conservatoire royal de Bruxelles  
Brussels

Royal Academy of Dramatic Art RADA  
London

Rider University Department of Performing Arts  
Lawrenceville NJ - U.S.

Queensland University of Technology  
BFA ACTING  
Brisbane - Australia

in collaboration with

FONDAZIONE  
TEATRO  
IDELLA  
TOSCANA  
TEATRO NAZIONALE

# MEETING ON METHODS FOR TEACHING DRAMA

## Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> July

10.00 a.m. - 10.30 a.m. *Saloncino*  
**Seminar** - Presentation of the shows and the Academies participating in META

10.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.  
**\*Acting Workshop** held by Joe Windley *Honourary Ambassador META*

1.00 - 2.00 p.m. *Lunch break*

2.00 - 5.00 p.m. *Saloncino*  
*Images and communication: exploring through emotions,*  
**Workshop** held by Tiziana Acomanni

## Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> July

8.45 p.m. *Sala Grande*  
**Opening ceremony and welcome by representatives of the Municipality of Florence and the Mayor Dario Nardella.**

### LE STREGHE DI SALEM

**directed by** Antonietta Paulozza and Pietro Bartolini  
**voice coach** Joe Windley  
**stage designer** Tiziana Acomanni  
**cast** Rebecca Rossini, Veronica Scerra, Viola Jonvalli, Anita Altilio, Damiano Falsini, Pietro Diversi, Matteo Campostrini, Emma Montagnani, Matteo Vannacci, Serena Di Gloria, Francesca Giglio, Morgane Keruzec

*The play is inspired by Miller's masterpiece which leads us to wonder about the values of truth, dignity and responsibility in a society dominated by fear and manipulation. A play that explores the present through the past, reminding us how history can repeat itself if we aren't careful.*



This show is in Italian

## Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> July

10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. *Saloncino*  
**\*Acting workshop** held by Andrea Moor  
 Queensland University – Brisbane Australia

1.00 - 2.00 p.m. *Lunch break*

2.00 - 2.45 p.m.  
 Visit to the citadel of the Pergola Theatre  
 (for the members of the foreign Academies only)

3.00 - 6.00 p.m.  
**Movement workshop** held by Elizabeth Ballinger  
 Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London

8.45 p.m. *Sala Grande*

### DESIDERIUM: REMNANTS OF LONGING

**directed by** Merli V. Guerra and Yoshinori Tanokura  
**music by** Madeleine Shapiro & Andreas Bergsland  
**cast** Alexa Barreiros, Annie Challice, Kate Harbison, Haley Hartline, Jossie Hunter, McKenzie Jones, Kaedon Knight, Jamie Peña, Jennifer Profera, Aniky Salima, Marissa Stellato, Maddie "Sully" Sullivan

*Desiderium is an interdisciplinary performance that integrates interactive technology. For centuries, stories have been used to explain the creation of lakes, mountains, and the Milky Way. Inspired by the tales from the Azores, Italy, Estonia, China, and Japan, the performance illustrates the path of thwarted lovers whose longing for one another left behind these glorious natural landmarks.*



This show is in English

## Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> July

10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. *Saloncino*  
**\*Acting Workshop** "Giving form to words" held by Mirella Bordoni  
 Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia - Roma

1.00 - 2.00 p.m. *Lunch break*

2.00 - 5.00 p.m. *Saloncino*  
**\*Acting Workshop** *Motion Tracking with Isadora*  
 held by Yoshinori Tanokura - Rider University

8.15 p.m. *Saloncino*

### ART OF COURAGE

**directed by** Andrea Moor  
**cast** Milena Barraclough Nestic, Patrick Galen-Mules, Sophia Ivanna Hodych, Kobey Flynn Hudec, Felix Jarvis, Tia Stewart, Molly Walker, Rebecca Zanetti, Lauren Harvey, George Oates, Kelly Hodge

*A segment of a larger work in progress, this short play explores the perseverance of the Ukrainian spirit in the face of a long historical battle for freedom. The piece has been devised and written by QUT BFA students.*



This show is in English

9.30 p.m. *Sala Grande*

### LA GUERRE/ FRAGMENTS

**Création collective**  
**Cast** Sacha Huysmans, Nicolas Jouant, Remy Thiébaud, Linus Planchet, Romane Gaudriaux, Sacha Huysmans, Nicolas Jouant, Charlotte Lecomte, Estelle Marra, Lucas Monton, Linus Planchet, Estelle Renaud, Rémy Thiébaud, Daphné Thiry, Marion Verselle

*What if we stop this war within us? If we stop this war between us, between our sexes? To slow down I want to dance. You tell me not to be afraid, that the war will not extend to you, that people are tired of war. Where does this curse of wanting to love each other yet always tearing us apart come from? I want to dance, dance to live, dance to forget.*



This show is in French

## Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> July

10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. *Saloncino*  
**\*Acting Workshop** held by Pietro Bartolini and Emanuele De Luca  
 Accademia Teatrale di Firenze - Université Côte d'Azur

1.00 - 2.00 p.m. *Lunch break*

2.00 - 5.00 p.m.  
**\*Acting Workshop** held by Jean Francois Brion, Conservatoire Royal de Bruxelles

5.00 - 5.15 p.m. *Coffee break*

5.15 - 6.15 p.m. *Round Table*  
 Methods for teaching theatre: final considerations

8.45 p.m. *Sala Grande*

### ROMEO AND JULIET

**by** W. Shakespeare  
**directed by** Darren Raymond  
**cast** Lydia May-Cooney, Joanie Diamond, Chengxi Fu, Jonathan Gordon, Shakeel Haakim, Caitlin McEwan, Ayesha Milner-Glover, Sophia Razvi, Emma Symmonds

*We set this Romeo and Juliet in present day London and examine how our young people are governed, from the state through to parenting and everything in-between. We have lost all sense of community, police are no longer a deterrent, parents are younger and more invested in self. There is an absence of love that we constantly try to find but at what cost?*



This show is in English

An interpreter (English – Italian) will be present