

TRACING ROADS ACROSS

a project by

WORKCENTER OF JERZY GROTOWSKI AND THOMAS RICHARDS

Thomas Richards, Artistic Director

Mario Biagini, Associate Director

Tracing Roads Across outlines a vision that houses the ongoing creative development of the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards throughout a three year period. The project — whose duration spans from April 2003 to April 2006 — is supported by the Culture 2000 Programme of the European Union, and is made possible by a network of cultural operators from six different countries. Standing out among them is **Fondazione Pontedera Teatro**, its director Roberto Bacci and co-director Carla Pollastrelli, whose invitation to Jerzy Grotowski in 1986 led to the founding of the Workcenter. **Fondazione Pontedera Teatro**, which has supported and hosted the Workcenter since its very beginnings, spearheads the group of co-organizers by hosting the Main Work of **Tracing Roads Across**.

Intervention in Fondazione Pontedera Teatro Program Pontedera, Italy

October 5 — October 11, 2003

Intervention in Fondazione Pontedera Teatro Program is one of the Intervention activities of **Tracing Roads Across**. Interventions will take place throughout the three years of **Tracing Roads Across** in the form of punctual events for the most part held by Thomas Richards and Mario Biagini. They will usually consist of conferences and short seminars of a theoretical nature. Occasionally, however, the Intervention will consist of performances and demonstrations of the Workcenter team, as during the **Intervention** in Fondazione Pontedera Teatro Program.

During **Intervention** in Fondazione Pontedera Teatro Program, the **Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards** will be present in Pontedera with all branches of its ongoing research:

Art as vehicle: *at work on an alternative potentiality of performing arts*

We can see the performing arts as a chain with numerous links, where at one extremity one finds art as presentation (theatre in the strict sense), and at the other extremity, art as vehicle. It is something very ancient, rather forgotten. For the persons doing, the doers, the performative opus is a kind of vehicle for the work on oneself, in the sense that, as in certain old traditions, the attention for art goes together with the approach of the interiority of the human being.

Action

October 7, 8 and 10

During **Intervention** in Fondazione Pontedera Teatro Program, professionals, specialists of theatre and theatre lovers will be invited to witness **Action**, a creative opus in the domain of art as vehicle. From 1994, Thomas Richards directs **Action**, an opus which he created and on which he carries on a continuous work. **Action** structures, in a material linked to performing arts, the work on oneself of the doers. The opus is composed of lines of actions elaborated in detail, constructed with and around ancient vibratory songs.

The Workcenter team doing **Action** is: Thomas Richards, Mario Biagini, Marie De Clerck, Souphi ne Amiar, Jürgen Riegels Wimpel, Francesc Torrent Gironella.

Project The Bridge: Developing Theatre Arts

Dies Ir

October 5, 7, 10 and 11

Since May 1998, the Workcenter is developing a new branch in its research, a branch that is evolving and maturing next to the research on art as vehicle, Project *The Bridge: Developing Theatre Arts*. Therein, a bridge is being sculpted in the material of performing arts, which stretches from the world of the theatre to the investigations on art as vehicle. What is appearing in Project *The Bridge* is neither theatre in the strict sense, nor art as vehicle. The first piece created inside Project *The Bridge* was *One Breath Left*. Now, a new performance/non-performance is emerging, **Dies Ir**, directed by Mario Biagini and Thomas Richards. During **Intervention** in Fondazione Pontedera Teatro Program interested individuals will be invited to see open rehearsals of **Dies Ir**, which will have its premier in February 2004 in Pontedera, Italy.

The Workcenter team in **Dies Ir** is: Gev Pin Anq, Mario Biagini, Pei Hwee Tan, Souphi ne Amiar, C cile

During **Intervention** in Fondazione Pontedera Teatro Program, places are limited for both works: all those interested to attend should contact Elisa Poggelli by e-mail as soon as possible at: workcenter@pontederateatro.it.

For more information about **Tracing Roads Across** consult the project's web-site at: www.tracingroadsacross.net

or contact G Isen G rses - Project Organizer at:

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Tracing Roads Across, as well as directly concerning the Workcenter's practical research, periodically focuses the artistic team's attention towards a vast number of young theatre groups, performance artists and students, and also gives the team the opportunity to address topics related to creative analysis with theatre experts and scholars. The project creates the circumstances in which the works and creative processes of young artists and scholars can be analyzed from the point of view of performance craft. A three-year traveling cultural dialogue is being fostered between chosen theatre groups, organizations and cultural operators from eleven nations. The participating individual artists, theatre groups and intellectuals delve at different levels and in different stages into the practical aspects of the overall project. **Tracing Roads Across**, as well, creates the opportunity for non-professionals and theatre-lovers to come in contact with the artistic research and performative opuses of the **Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards**.

Tracing Roads Across is supported by the Culture 2000 Programme of the European Union



Project Organizer and co-ideation:

Theater des Augenblicks — Vienna, Austria

Co-organizers:

Fondazione Pontedera Teatro — Pontedera, Italy

Centre Dramatique National de Normandie — Com die de Caen — Caen, France

Public Agency for Culture, Tourism and Development of Heraklion City (Municipality of Heraklion) — Crete, Greece

University of Cyprus — Nicosia, Cyprus

For a New Bulgarian University Foundation — Sophia, Bulgaria

Main Partners:

Associazione Grotowski — Pontedera, Italy

The Moscow Theater School of Dramatic Art of Anatoli Vasiliev — Russia

Turkish National Theatre — Istanbul-Ankara, Turkey

Th tre National Tunisien— Tunis, Tunisia

Kent University — Canterbury, Great Britain

IMEC — Institut m moires de l dition contemporaine — Paris-Caen, France

A.C.C.A.A.N. — L Atelier Cin ma de Normandie — Caen, France

The Centre for Studies on Jerzy Grotowski's Work and of the Cultural and Theatrical Research — Wroclaw, Poland

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