

TRACING ROADS ACROSS

a project by

WORKCENTER OF JERZY GROTOWSKI AND THOMAS RICHARDS

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. The Centre for Study of Jerzy Grotowski’s Work and for Cultural and Theatrical Research (Wroclaw, Poland) is Special Partner of Tracing Roads Across.

Intervention in Poland

Wroclaw

May 25 – June 7, 2005

Intervention in Poland is one of the “Intervention” activities of **Tracing Roads Across**. “Interventions” take place throughout the three years of **Tracing Roads Across** in the form of punctual events, usually consisting of conferences and short seminars of a theoretical nature. Occasionally, however, the “Interventions” consist of presentations of performative opuses of the Workcenter team, as during **Intervention in Poland**.

Intervention in Poland is realized with the collaboration of The Centre for Study of Jerzy Grotowski’s Work and for Cultural and Theatrical Research (Director, Jaroslaw Fret), Special Partner of Tracing Roads Across.

During **Intervention in Poland**, the **Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards** will be present in Wroclaw with one branch of its ongoing research:

Project *The Bridge: Developing Theatre Arts*

Dies Irae: My Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show

June 1, 2, 3, 4, 20 hrs, Swiebodzki Stage

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, a bridge stretching 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 piece is emerging, *Dies Irae: My Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show*, directed by Mario Biagini and Thomas Richards.

A man bowed his head into the darkness. His eyelids open onto the stage of his inner world – and see! Out of the black velvet void seemingly concrete figures come to red life, answering his bidding to action. Strolling players in an absurd comedy, waking up into a reality with hazy borders; fleshy shadows crawling between his joys and sorrows, in the vaudeville of desires and fears. They beg an answer from the depths of the unconscious about human nature, hunting to accomplish the task destiny seems to demand of them. Well, his adventure may also be a cruel inquiry into the dubious essence of theatre art. And surely, his intimate phantasms would make up a theatre company with a very peculiar conception of art.

Life’s splendor forever lies in wait about each one of us in all its fullness, but veiled from view, deep down, invisible, far off. It is there, though, not hostile, not reluctant, not deaf. If you invite it by the right word, by its right name, it will come. This is the essence of theatre, which does not create, but invites.

with: Mario Biagini, the man; Gey Pin Ang, the soul; Pei Hwee Tan, the soul’s mocking bird; Johanna Porkola, the severe judgment; Elisa Poggelli, the impotent nostalgia; Jørn Riegels Wimpel, the stubborn enthusiasm; Francesc Torrent Gironella, the cheated innocence; Cécile Berthe, the lost desire; Souphiène Amiar, the unsatisfied doubt

Dies Irae: My Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show is open to an audience, for reservation contact The Centre for Study of Jerzy Grotowski’s Work and for Cultural and Theatrical Research: tel: +48 713445320, tel/fax: +48 713434267, e-mail: office@grotcenter.art.pl.

During **Intervention In Poland** Thomas Richards will also hold a seminar with young Polish actors.

For more information about **Tracing Roads Across** consult the project's web-site at: www.tracingroadsacross.net or contact Gülsen Gürses - Project Manager at:

Theater des Augenblicks

10 Edelhofgasse, 1180 Wien, Austria

Phone:+43 1 479 68 87. Fax:+43 1 479 68 86.

Email: office@theaterdesaugenblicks.net

Tracing Roads Across, as well as directly concerning the Workcenter's practical research, periodically focuses the artistic team's attention towards selected young theatre groups, performance artists and students, and also gives the Workcenter 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** creates as well 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 – Comédie de Caen – Caen, France
Public Agency for Development (Municipality of Zaros) – Crete, Greece
"For a New Bulgarian University" Foundation – Sophia, Bulgaria

Special Partner:

The Centre for Study of Jerzy Grotowski's Work and for Cultural and Theatrical Research – Wrocław, Poland

Main Partners:

Associazione Grotowski – Pontedera, Italy
The Moscow Theater "School of Dramatic Art" of Anatoli Vasiliev – Russia
IMEC – Institut mémoires de l'édition contemporaine – Paris-Caen, France
Kent University – Canterbury, Great Britain
Interact – Limassol, Cyprus
Ministry of Education and Culture, Cultural Services – Nicosia, Cyprus
Omma Theater – Crete, Greece
L'Atelier de Travail Théâtral – Lausanne, Switzerland

The Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards opened the **New Stagiaries Program** in March 2005. The Program is supported by The Centre for Study of Jerzy Grotowski's Work and for Cultural and Theatrical Research thanks to the financial contribution of the City of Wrocław, Poland.

WORKCENTER OF JERZY GROTOWSKI AND THOMAS RICHARDS

Artistic Director, Thomas Richards

Associate Director, Mario Biagini

Via Manzoni, 22 - 56025 – Pontedera, Italia. Fax: 0587 213631. Email: workcenter@pontederateatro.it

"Regarding this communication sole responsibility lies with the author and the European Commission is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained herein."