

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 adults and children; 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. Every year end of course performances are staged. Productions include plays and musicals fusing artistic and classical cultural elements inspired by the distinct and rich local, regional and national history. Dance, music and the visual arts along with video and advanced digital performance technologies are added to the mix to enhance audience experience and inform directions for 21st Century actor training. In recent years the Academy has achieved excellent results preparing young actors for professional careers with graduates participating in theatre, advertising and films.

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 numerous productions, many of which 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 DICEA Università 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

info

segreteria.accademiateatrale@gmail.com
+39 335.5204807

Event Manager

Ludovica Sanalidro
CENTRO CULTURALE DI TEATRO
www.academia-teatrale.it

under the patronage and contribution of



TIZIANA ACOMANNI embraces many forms of artistic expression: she is a stage designer, make-up artist and painter. After graduating from the Accademia delle Belle Arti in Florence, since 1994 she has been teaching drawing and painting for courses organized by the Municipality of Florence. She has collaborated with the Accademia Teatrale di Firenze as a stage designer for video and theatre productions and also 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 CTCLA, 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.

CONSERVATOIRE ROYAL DE BRUXELLES, founded in 1932, the Royal Conservatoire of Brussels, Graduate School of Arts of the French Community, is one of the oldest art education institutions in Belgium. Bringing together the fields of music (early music, classical music and jazz sections) and the field of speech the Conservatoire is a pool of talent drawing its forces in a prestigious musical and theatrical past but looking to the future. The fields of theatre and spoken arts distinguish themselves in an approach promoting diversity of processes and perspectives around two major axes: tradition and creation. The courses of interpretation, centred around dramatic and non-dramatic works and free form, are focused on technical knowledge directly related to the practice of theatrical art. Moreover, the conservatory offers courses in general and humanistic education. The Conservatoire is currently led by Frédéric de Roos.

JEAN-FRANÇOIS BRION is an actor and director and today mainly a teacher. A defender of popular theatre but also of a theatre that gives its rightful place to the beauty of language, he alternates working around boulevard or tragedy authors with the same appetite. A lover of music, he leaves a strong place for it in his theatrical approach. Strongly interested in pedagogy and vocal work, he is a professor of methodology and vocal training for actors at the Royal Conservatoire of Brussels. A lover of travel, he also leads

master classes abroad, linking theatrical acting and voice.

ISABELLE BEIRENS is Professor of Body Training at the Conservatoire of Brussels and Mons. Trained as an acrobat and also practicing dance and martial arts (aikido and Viet-vo-dao). She is also a lecturer in Stage Movement at the Royal Conservatoire of Brussels. She also studied yoga and trained in its teaching. The body is the actor's tool, on stage, a place par excellence where we try to find "the right body expression". Where the body continues to tell a story, before that of the text.

RIDER UNIVERSITY is a private university founded in 1865. The school is conveniently located in Lawrence Township, New Jersey, which is only 1.5 hours away from New York City. The acclaimed Department of Performing Arts offers a dynamic mix of programs to train actors, musical theatre actors, dancers, designers, directors, producers, and managers. Many of Rider graduates find their paths to Broadway, TV & films, and many other creative venues.

C. RYANNE DOMINGUES is an Assistant Professor in the BFA Acting Program at Rider University. Prior to her time at Rider, she spent seven years as the Artistic Director of Passage Theatre. She has worked with a variety of companies on both coasts, including Simpatico Theatre (which she co-founded in 2004) and the Wilma Theater in Philadelphia. She received her MFA in Directing from the University of California, Irvine, and was a participant in the 2008 Lincoln Center Directors Lab.

DR. SEAN MCCARTHER serves as Professor of Musical Theater Voice at Rider University in the United States. In addition to his work as a voice teacher and pedagogue, he is an advanced actor combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors and the Academy of Fight Directors Canada and has trained with both Intimacy Directors and Coordinators and Theatrical Intimacy Education. Dr. McCarther's research interests span the fields of performance psychology, the acquisition of expertise, motor learning, theatrical emotion, and consent-based rehearsal processes. His research appears in several peer-reviewed publications, and he is a frequent lecturer and workshop presenter nationally and internationally.

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 has designed sets and costumes across the United States and assisted a renowned American set designer John Lee Beatty on many Broadway shows.

SHARJAH PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY (SPAA) is a world-class facility galvanising communities, showcasing local and international creative talent, and leading the way in higher education for performing and production arts in the MENA region. SPAA offers the opportunity for candidates to study full-time Bachelor degrees in Acting, Production Arts and Musical Theatre, in addition to the Trinity Level 6 Diploma in Professional Dance, and this year now offers postgraduate studies, Master of Fine Arts in Theatre and Live Performance Creation. Their programmes are led by highly qualified professionals and educators using intensive, practice-based training. Opened in 2019 and born from the vision of His Highness Sheikh Dr Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, Ruler of Sharjah, SPAA is the only Academy of its kind in the Middle East and through the generosity of HH, Ruler of Sharjah, fully funded scholarships are available for eligible students each academic year for all programmes.

MATT BALL is a Theatre Maker and director from the UK, with a specialism in devised and collaboratively made performance, and is Associate Programme Leader at SPAA where he leads the first year of all undergraduate programmes. As well as being a freelance director, Matt has previously been Artistic Director of Camden People's Theatre, Creative Associate at National Theatre Wales, and co-director of We Made This. He holds a MA in Advance Theatre Practice from the Royal Central School of Speech & Drama, a BA(Hons) in Drama & Theatre Arts from Goldsmiths College, and is a Fellow of Advance HE & the Royal Society for the Arts. He is co-author of The Art of Collaboration, due to be published by Routledge next year.

KIT LESSNER 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, BA (Hons) Acting from Arts Educational Schools, London.

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 their 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.

DADIOW LIN is a freelance theatre director. As the Genesis Future Directors Award recipient in 2019, she directed in a word by Lauren Yee at the Young Vic. In 2020, she became a trustee at Storyhouse, Chester where she directed Amy Ng's adaptation of Miss Julie. The show went on a national tour in 2021. In the same year, Dadiow directed Monster by Duncan Macmillan at RADA and was the associate director on Peggy For You by Alan Slater at Hampstead Theatre. After her time as the Resident Assistant Director at the Donmar Warehouse (2021-2022), she directed the Donmar's 2023 Henry V School's Tour.

ELIZABETH BALLINGER is Lead Movement Tutor at RADA, London, UK. She has taught extensively at various drama schools including LAMDA, GSMD, 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 trained at The Bristol Old Vic Theatre School and Royal Central School of Speech And Drama. Graduating from RCSSD with a distinction he later returned to run the prestigious Voice Studies course and has held head of voice positions at GSA and MMU School of Theatre. He spent a period on faculty at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh and served as guest lecturer at WAAPA, Perth, Australia. After nine years in post Joe stepped down as Lead Voice Tutor at RADA, London. He continues to contribute to the work of the Academy as well as teaching at Rose Bruford College and the British American Drama Academy, London. Voice coach credits include West End and regional theatre projects in the UK and off-Broadway NY along with film and radio productions. After contributing to the inaugural meeting of META in 2015 as part of RADA faculty Joe has returned every year and makes a regular contribution to the work of L'Accademia Teatrale di Firenze. In 2022 Joe proudly accepted an invitation to become Honorary Ambassador for META.

META

MEETING OF EUROPEAN THEATRE ACADEMIES

directed by Pietro Bartolini

8th Edition



6/11 July 2024

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.

Sharjah Performing Arts Academy (SPAA)
Sharjah- United Arab Emirates

in collaboration with

FONDAZIONE
TEATRO
IDEELLA
TOSCANA
TEATRO NAZIONALE

MEETING ON METHODS FOR TEACHING DRAMA

Saturday, 6th July

10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m. *Saloncino*
Presentation of the shows and the Academies participating in META

11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.
***Acting Workshop** held by Joe Windley

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, 8th July

8.45 p.m. *Sala Grande*
Opening ceremony and greetings of the representatives of the Municipality of Florence and the Mayor

PENTHESILEA by Heinrich Von Kleist
directed by Pietro Bartolini and Antonietta Paulozza
voice tutor Joe Windley
make up artist Tiziana Acomanni
cast Martina Polonelli, Viola Jonvalli, Francesca Cioni, Francesca Giglio, Sara Calugi, Sofia Manara, Matteo Campostrini, Damiano Falsini, Matteo Vannacci, Zeno Giannoni, Giovanni Gelsumini, Matteo De Domenico

Penthesilea, Queen of the Amazons splendidly represents passionate love that leads to madness, between Achilles and Penthesilea. Their fight is the fight between Eros and Thanatos, an unstoppable explosion of instincts, to which the Amazons are condemned because of their obligation to join only with warriors they have defeated on the battlefield, for the continuity of their lineage. This masterpiece of German Romanticism represents the clash between reason and instinct.



This show is in Italian

Tuesday, 9th July

9.30 a.m. - 12.30 a.m. *Saloncino*
***Acting Workshop** held by Joe Windley
Honorary Ambassador META

12.30 - 1.30 p.m. *Lunch break*

1.30 - 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. *Saloncino*
***Acting Workshop** held by Matt Ball and Kit Lessner
Sharjah Performing Arts Academy

8.45 p.m. *Sala Grande*

THE FIRE
directed by C. Ryanne Domingues
fight choreography by Sean McCarther
costume design by Emily Porter Siegel
lighting design by Olivia Dostal
cast Henry Breit, Bianca D'Anton, Sarah DeFrates, Olivia Dostal, Bella Frost, Haley Hartline, Ava Hojnowski, Sean McDonald, Avery Nurzia, Sophia Porter, Jennifer Profera, Catherine Quirico, Brandon Semmel, Emily Porter Siegel, Cassidy Sweetland.

In 2023, a fire engulfed an abandoned school in Trenton, New Jersey. This devised work will explore the themes of "perspective" and "deteriorating systems" through the fateful event. As we take a closer look at the education system in the United States, a cast of characters from a small town will try to solve a mystery surrounding the burning down of the school. Who did it? And why...?



This show is in English

Wednesday, 10th July

10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. *Saloncino*
***Acting Workshop** held by Elizabeth Ballinger
Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London

1.00 - 2.00 p.m. *Lunch break*

2.00 - 5.00 p.m. *Saloncino*
***Acting Workshop** *Foundations of Choreographed Violence*
held by Sean McCarther - Rider University

8.15 p.m. *Saloncino*

INTIMACY
directed by Jean François Brion
cast Facundo De Guchteneer, Tristan Schacht, Luca Cruz, Magda Skoupra

*Can I touch your shoulder?
- Yes
- Can I touch the back of your neck?
- Yes
- Kiss you?
- Yes. But you know we're playing?
That it's a story that we're interpreting?
- I think.
How to approach intimacy in theatre today. How do we manage our relationship with the other's body? How to make it seem like we love each other. Are we sometimes confused? Isn't that a dangerous game we're playing on stage? What do we deliver of ourselves? To our bodies?*



This show is in French

9.30 p.m. *Sala Grande*

ACCIDENTALLY ALIVE
directed by Mohammed Froukh
written by Mohammed Masharqa
stage manager Noor Al Saihati
assistant stage manager Ibrahim Al Awaj
Cast Mohammed Masharqa, Haneen Jameel Zawahreh, Rabee Al-Shrouf

Amidst the complexities of daily life in Palestine, death is never far away. And yet, in the face of this ongoing terror there is a persistence of resilience. Set against the backdrop of an enduring struggle, Accidentally Alive captures moments of hope, love, and solidarity, told through the eyes of ordinary Palestinians determined to preserve their dignity and their dreams.



This show is in Arabic with English subtitles

Thursday, 11th 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. *Saloncino*
***Acting Workshop** held by Jean François 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*

THE WINTER'S TALE
by W. Shakespeare
directed by Dadiow Lin
cast Benjamin Akintuyosi, Mariasha Altynbay, Joshua Bailey, Harriet Beynon, Esme Graham, Charlotte Keith, Joseph Richards, Oliver Ridgeway, Natalie Vaughan

The jealous King Leontes falsely accuses his wife Hermione of infidelity with his best friend Polixenes, and she dies. In his rage, Leontes exiles his newborn daughter Perdita to a desert island where she is raised by shepherds for sixteen years. Disguised as a shepherd called Doricles, Polixenes's son Prince Florizel courts Perdita and is condemned for courting a low-born shepherdess.



This show is in English

An interpreter (English - Italian) will be present