

LumperLab presents:

# Lear Landscapes

A laboratory for performing artists  
on King Lear by William Shakespeare

with Heidrun Kaletsch and Grete Snelvedt

Dramaturgy and scientific evaluation: Katja von der Ropp

Föglö on Åland  
20 - 26 November 2009

*O! That way madness lies -  
King Lear, Act 3, Scene IV*

What is a myth? What is it about? Why does it touch us? Why don't we ever get tired of listening to myths? What do they tell us?

Fear and courage, love and hate, stories about the infinite fight of the human soul tell about a profound condition of human existence: the journey through life from initial darkness towards the light of wisdom and maturity – a journey full of obstacles and errors, danger and salvation – with the set aim to overcome one's own limits. And always in search of the truth that shall give us a new perception of oneself.

With King Lear Shakespeare tells us such a myth, inviting us to follow the protagonists' journey through blindness, folly, abandonment and darkness, eventually leading to their finally gaining insight into their own nature.

King Lear as a collective journey through a wayward landscape is the subject of this laboratory.

Through analysis based on the ideas of Vassiliev and Alschitz and training that connects Russian traditions with Viewpoints (Anne Bogart), we will search for openings in the play, at the table and on the floor. The active analysis takes different theatrical expressions into consideration; dualism of body and voice, movement and language, space and time. The main focus of this laboratory is the encounter between individual and ensemble.

## SHAKESPEARE REVISITED

This practical enquiry on King Lear is the first on a series of six that will culminate in a Nordic King Lear production. The second laboratory will take place in Berlin, Germany in April 2010 and the third in Stockholm in August 2010.

The laboratories are a part of a wider project called **Shakespeare Revisited: An enquiry into theory and praxis**, a cross-genre venture investigating Shakespeare in contemporary performing arts (theatre, dance, performance) within an international network of artists, theatres and research centres.

## **PROGRAMME**

The programme includes intensive training, work on scenes, analysis and discussions. Every day's training is setting advanced creative tasks, developing the preceding steps.

## **DAILY SCHEDULE**

08.30 – 09.30	Breakfast
10.00 – 11.30	Training
11.45 – 13.15	Work on scenes
13.30	Lunch
14.30 – 16.00	Analysis
16.30 – 18.00	Individual work/Preparation
18.30 – 20.00	Presentations and Feedback
20.30	Dinner

## **PARTICIPANTS**

Maximum 12 professional performing artists and students of dramatic, dance and musical theatre. The laboratory explicitly addresses to performing artists in the Nordic countries.

## **WORKING LANGUAGE**

The working language will be English. On stage every artist may speak in his mother tongue.

## **VENUE**

Föglö (Åland Islands)

We live in a village on a small island. Our lodging is in a friendly pension with bedrooms for two persons. Full pension is provided. Our working space is in walking distance from the pension – a large hall with a wooden floor and a stage.

How to arrive on Föglö coming from Stockholm Central Station - first with Viking Line and then with local bus and boat:

Bus Sthlm – Kapellskär

Boat Kapellskär – Mariehamn

Bus Mariehamn – Svinö

Boat Svinö – Degerby - and from Degerby we walk to the place where we live.

## **CHARGE**

The price of 650 Euro will cover the seminar, lodging and full pension. Actors must pay their own travelling expenses.

For further information about the seminar and the costs and possible support through funds, please contact LumparLab:

Grete Sneltvedt, tel: +358 18 358 27 or +358457 3427 188

e-mail: [tekhne@aland.net](mailto:tekhne@aland.net)

Heidrun Kaletsch e-mail: [heidrun.kaletsch@web.de](mailto:heidrun.kaletsch@web.de)

## **LUMPARLAB**

LumparLab is a theatre association situated in on the Åland Islands. Its aim is to further our knowledge and skills about current theatre developments in the Nordic countries and, at the same time, establish a cross-scientific approach to practical theatre work. LumparLab cooperates with artistic and scientific centres on a Nordic and international level. Shakespeare Revisited is an autonomous project within the association.

[www.lumparlab.ax](http://www.lumparlab.ax)

**Grete Sneltvedt**, assistant professor, drama/ theatre major. Received her actor's training in Oslo, Stockholm and London. Several theatre productions for children and adults. Theatre teacher certified by the European Association for Theatre Culture. (Artistic leader Dr. Jurij Alschitz). Head of SCUT (Scandinavian Centre for Theatre Research 1997–2003). Festival director of Methodika 2001/2003 (International Festival of methods in theatre training). Theatre teacher on further education projects for professional actors and directors in Europe. Lecturer and theatre pedagogue in several Nordic Universities and theatre institutions.

**Heidrun Kaletsch**, theatre director. Actor's diploma 1989. Actress in several theatres 1989-1996. Theatre teacher certified by the European Association for Theatre Culture. (Artistic leader Dr. Jurij Alschitz). From 1997 until 2004 artistic director of the Rosslau Summer Festival. Awards for literature by the Federal State of Sachsen-Anhalt and by the Berlin Senate. Numerous theatre productions in Germany and Italy. Festival participations: Weimar - Cultural Capital of Europe, Germany 99, Fiera della Parola, Italy 2005, Benevento, Italy 2006, Cosmonauti Roma, Italy 2006, Armunia Castiglioncello, Italy 2007, Maria Kiew, Ukraine 2007. Director in international workshops for actors.

Kaletsch (German) and Sneltvedt (Norwegian) are both certified as theatre teachers by Jurij Alschitz (European Association for Theatre Culture/GITIS Moscow). In the many years they collaborated with Alschitz, they worked all over Europe, and since 2003 they have taught as a team in Italy, Sweden and Åland, continuously developing their training. They have both felt a need for carry out more in-depth research into the art of directing and acting and a necessity to develop the artistic approach to teaching methods.

In 2007 they founded LumparLab as a nordic theatre centre focusing on collaboration between performing arts and science. LumparLab's target is to encourage the international exchange of contemporary theatre tendencies, teaching methods in actor's education and other arts and sciences that connect with theatre research.

**Katja von der Ropp** (German/Finnish), who assisted in several EATC projects, graduated with a Master of Arts degree in Theatre Studies in Berlin and Helsinki. The main focus of her master thesis had been forms of political theatre, especially in regard to contemporary theatre forms, and her own directing works were in the field of physical theatre/dance theatre. Von der Ropp will accompany the workshop as a dramaturg and will be in charge of the scientific evaluation.