



**European Association for Theatre Culture /
AKT-ZENT International Theatre Centre**

Artistic Director : Prof. Dr. Jurij Alschitz

The Art of Dialogue

An Intercultural Theatre Research Project 2008-2010

Programme Director: Christine Schmalor

Starting in the year of intercultural dialogue 2008, this theatre research project used a diverse programme of masterclasses and laboratories, in a bid to analyse **“The Art of Dialogue”** in more critical detail. It once more confirmed that the research, teaching, production and publication of methodological works forms one inseparable unity.

The results were shown on stage at the end of each work session, with major events also taking place in the Alexanderkirche as part of the „Schillerjahr 2009“ and the „Festival of Dialogue“ 2010 in Tuscani.

The European Association for Theatre Culture (EATC) collaborated with organisations from ten European countries as co-organisers and partners:

ITI Centre Cyprus
DAMU Academy of Performing Arts - Czech Republic
KOINE (EATC) - France
AKT-ZENT (EATC) - Germany
Schiller Festival Marbach - Germany
Schloss Bröllin - Germany
Hellenic ITI Centre - Greece
PROTEI (EATC) - Italy
Accademia Civica „Nico Pepe“ - Italy
Corte Ospitale - Italy
Danza Immobile - Italy
Compagnia DARDARO - Italy
The Amsterdam School of the Arts - Netherlands
Bergen Byspill - Norway
Academy of Music and Dramatic Art - Slovakia
SCUT (EATC) - Sweden.

It received further support by ARTERIE - Centro Interculturale per la Ricerca Teatrale, Fondazione Pontedera Teatro and the Commune di San Miniato (Italy), as well as from the Theatre Education and Training Committee of the International Theatre Institute.

The primary research followed five essential lines of enquiry:

1. Education

Ten seminars, mostly lasting two-three weeks that focussed on various aspects about 'dialogue', led by the artistic director and the team of teachers.

2. Research

During an intensive month-long "School of Dialogue", a selected group of artists explored differing training and rehearsal techniques and, for the first time, the methodological approach known as "The Sphere of Dialogue" was proposed.

The results of the "School of Dialogue" and its subsequent laboratories (Schiller, Plato, Dialogues of World Literature and The Sphere of Dialogue) culminated in the "Festival of Dialogue", in May 2010, which was held in Pontedera and San Miniato. Over the three week period, the public were also able to watch a diverse programme featuring performances, presentations and open training sessions led by the actors, as well as a selection of dialogues developed and directed in the seminars by young directors.

Giampaolo Gotti directed the ensemble performance of "Devils" by Dostoevsky, Plato's "Eutyphron".



3. Train the Trainers

Three International Masterclasses for young directors and trainers were held in Slovakia, Czech Republic and Italy (in cooperation with Theatre Academies), following initial preparation conducted in open seminars in Berlin.

4. Scientific Discourse

Colloquia were held in Prague at the Zlomvaz festival, helping to open up the discussion about 'dialogue' to the field of academic research and, in Modena, the international festival 'Methodika' also included contributions and dialogues with leading Masters about the theme of 'Cronos', which considers time on stage as one aspect of dialogical creation.

5. Publication

Artistic Director Dr. Jurij Alschitz published the research findings in the first methodological work about 'dialogue' on stage entitled "The Art of Dialogue" / "Die Kunst des Dialogs".