



ADAM MICKIEWICZ UNIVERSITY IN POZNAŃ  
Faculty of Polish and Classical Studies  
Drama, Theatre and Performance Department

## ATIS ACTING TECHNIQUES INTENSIVE SEMINAR

### ATIS 2015 SPARK

28–30 September 2015

Brzezinka, the Grotowski Institute forest location

In the framework of STUDIO || ROSA's exploratory theatre undertaking  
FEELING THE PULSE (2015–16)

Directed by Prof Grzegorz Ziółkowski  
Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań and STUDIO || ROSA

Consultant Prof Paul Allain  
School of Arts, University of Kent, Canterbury, UK

Assistance by Maria Bohdziewicz and Maciej Zakrzewski STUDIO || ROSA





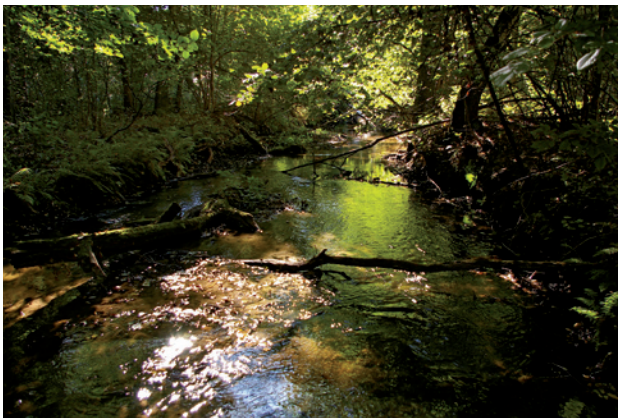
# BRZEZINKA

ATIS 2015 seminars (STARS, NICHE and SPARK) took place in Brzezinka, the Grotowski Institute's forest location.



Photo of Brzezinka by Grzegorz Ziółkowski

Brzezinka, the forest base of the Grotowski Institute, is an isolated building surrounded by 10 hectares of forest, located near the village of Brzezinka, next to Oleśnica, 46 km from Wrocław. It was one of several farm buildings, the remainder of which were destroyed at the end of world war II. Next to the building, by the stream, there is a wooden water mill. The stream supplies water to the nearby pool.





In November 1971, the Laboratory Theatre bought the buildings from the Jezierscy family and began renovation and conversion works, which were undertaken mainly by the younger members of the theatre. Working spaces and modest accommodation were created. Jerzy Grotowski chose to keep Brzezinka an isolated place, without running water and electricity. It was a home to paratheatre and Theatre of Sources until the declaration of martial law in Poland, in December 1981. In August 1982, Jerzy Grotowski left the country and was never to return to Brzezinka.

After the dissolution of the Laboratory Theatre in 1984, the Second Wrocław Studio inherited Brzezinka, along with the premises in Wrocław. Zbigniew Cynkutis, the director of the Second Studio, conducted a detailed inventory of the building, but unfortunately, he was not able to secure funding for further renovation works. In 1990 Brzezinka gained a new protector. From the start, the newly-formed Grotowski Centre attempted to raise funds to save the building. In 2001, thanks to the Wrocław authorities, the first stage of renovation – the installation of a new roof – was finally accomplished. The following year the renovation work was completed. The inauguration of the 'new' Brzezinka took place during the international conference 'Jerzy Grotowski: the Past and the Present of Research – paratheatre and Theatre of Sources,' organised by the Grotowski Centre from September 27–29, 2002.

Currently, Brzezinka is a place for practical activities and long-term projects. Brzezinka has hosted several groups and undertakings, amongst which are Theatre ZAR (Wrocław), Maisternia Pisni (Lviv, Ukraine), Teatro La Madrugada (Milan, Italy), and Song In-Between (Poznań). At present, Regula contra Regulam (Milan, Italy) and Studio Matejka (Wrocław) regularly work here.

In the building there are three main working spaces: Matecznik, the Room of the Tree and the Room of Light, but during ATIS seminars other spaces both inside and outside the building also host the etude work and training sessions.

See: [www.grotowski-institute.art.pl](http://www.grotowski-institute.art.pl)



The Room of the Tree,  
renovated by STUDIO||ROSA before,  
during and after ATIS 2015 seminars.  
Installation by Grzegorz Ziółkowski,  
1 October 2015

# STUDIO || ROSA

Research | Openness | Sharing | Acting



Photo on the left by Grzegorz Ziółkowski

STUDIO || ROSA is a space between people that serves long-term work on oneself and research into the relationship between actor training and theatre creation.

The work is focused on awareness and harmonization of breath, body and voice. At its heart there is the quality of lightness, sought for in the flow of actions and dialogues with oneself, an environment, a partner, a group. We strive to make it present in training and in improvisations, understood as a space for being playful. Improvisations help to build a bridge between training and the spheres of the imagination, composition and creation. It is in this domain where performances such as *TAZM* and *HEART* appear – created by a common effort.

‘Rosa’ is Polish for ‘dew’; the Studio is called ‘Pracownia Rzemiosła oraz Sztuki Aktorskiej ROSA’ in Polish, literally: ‘work-room for acting craft and art’.

STUDIO || ROSA works in the Theatre Studio in Collegium Maius of Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań and wishes to thank Professors Dobrochna Ratajczakowa, Elżbieta Kalemba-Kasprzak and Bogumiła Kaniewska for their ongoing support.

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Maria Bohdziewicz and Maciej Zakrzewski in *TAZM Silence of Light* and Maria Kapala, Maciej Zakrzewski and Maria Bohdziewicz in *HEART Silence of Polygon* (rehearsals 2014, 2015), photo by Jakub Wittchen



# ATIS

Since September 2012 STUDIO | ROSA has been carrying out the Acting Techniques Intensive Seminar ATIS at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, led by Prof Grzegorz Ziółkowski.

The seminar is of a highly practical and exploratory nature and aims at studying elementary and advanced skills of the performer. They include the following abilities:

- to be open to dialogue and sharing with others
- to integrate action, silence, sound, speech and song
- to react swiftly and precisely to impulses which come from partners, literary and other texts, images, music, space and nature as well as from the inner sphere of associations, imagination and memories.

The seminar aims at exploring the intersections between technical aspects of theatre work and the spheres of the imagination, composition and creation. The explorations focus on awareness, responsibility for one's actions and the harmonization of breath, body and voice. ATIS is devoted to the formation of ethical attitudes in relation to theatre art. Theatre is understood here as a space for sharing questions about humanity with others.

The seminar – rooted in an anthropological approach – is addressed to those international artists, researchers and students who wish to study acting and theatre as well as to those who would like to deepen in a practical way their understanding of human creativity and expression.

ATIS is associated with the Drama, Theatre and Performance Department in the Faculty of Polish and Classical Philology of Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań.



Impulse session led by Grzegorz Ziółkowski in Room of Light

# ATIS 2015 SPARK

Initiatory seminar

28–30 August 2015

Brzezinka, the Grotowski Institute forest location

In the framework of STUDIO | | ROSA's exploratory theatre undertaking  
FEELING THE PULSE (2015–16)  
supported by the Grotowski Institute, Wrocław

Directed by Prof Grzegorz Ziółkowski  
Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań and STUDIO | | ROSA

Consultant Prof Paul Allain  
School of Arts, University of Kent, Canterbury, UK

Assistance by Maciej Zakrzewski and Maria Bohdziewicz  
STUDIO | | ROSA

Helpers Maria Kapala, Marta Pautrzak

ATIS SPARK was a short initiatory seminar with actors who took part in training sessions in the building and outside. Since the seminar overlapped with ATIS NICHE, the SPARK team could oversee the work of their colleagues and participate in the open ATIS SHARING on 30 September. The main issue of the seminar was how two groups can help and reinforce each other. The newcomers helped by giving new impulses and motivation to the 'natives' who in turn helped by welcoming, hosting and introducing work elements and the place to the newcomers.



Maria Bohdziewicz (centre) and ATIS SPARK participants in partnership-in-action session led by Grzegorz Ziółkowski



# ATIS // SPARK

## PARTICIPANTS



Valentina Amati  
(Italy)



Edward McGurn  
(Scotland)



Lauren Hart  
(England)



Jennifer King  
(USA)



Joanna Kosierkiewicz  
(Poland)



Paulina Krzeczowska  
(Poland)



## ■ GRZEGORZ ZIÓŁKOWSKI

A teacher, director, editor, translator, author of books on Peter Brook (2000) and Jerzy Grotowski (2007). He is Professor in the Drama, Theatre and Performance Department of Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. He directs STUDIO| |ROSA and the Acting Techniques Intensive Seminar ATIS. He is currently writing a book on self-immolation in contemporary culture. Please visit: <http://grzeg.home.amu.edu.pl>.



## ■ MARIA BOHDZIEWICZ

An AMU theatre studies graduate who works as an actress in STUDIO| |ROSA. She has directed educational and artistic projects in local communities and with disabled people. She writes poems and raps. Please visit: <https://www.facebook.com/MariaHZdaniaDoCzytania?fref=ts>.

## ■ MACIEJ ZAKRZEWSKI

Actor and musician with STUDIO| |ROSA. He is a PhD student in drama at AMU in Poznań and teaches in the Poznań Academy of Performing Arts (PAPA). He graduated from ethnology and cultural anthropology at AMU. He works as theatre photographer. Please visit: <https://www.facebook.com/fototeatr.zakrzewski>.



Maria Bohdziewicz and Maciej Zakrzewski in *HEART Silence of Polygon* (rehearsal in the Laboratory Theatre Space, Wrocław, 10 September 2015), photo Marcin Oliva Soto



■ MARIA KAPAŁA graduated from Classical Studies at the University of Wrocław. She participated in the Academy for Theatre Studies Gardzienice, the Regula contra Regulam project and ATIS SITE OF THE FIRE (August 2014). She has been an actress with STUDIO | | ROSA since January 2015.



Maria Kapala in *HEART Silence of Polygon* (rehearsal in the Laboratory Theatre Space, Wrocław, 10 September 2015), photo Marcin Oliva Soto



Marta Pautrzak during ATIS 2015 SPARK

#### ■ MARTA PAUTRZAK

studies theatre at Adam Mickiewicz University (UAM). She attended "Theatre Etudes" class led by Grzegorz Ziółkowski and took part in the ATIS PANDORA'S BOX (February 2014) and ATIS SPARK (December 2014) seminars. She has been a trainee at STUDIO | | ROSA since 2015. She collaborates with Poznań based actors: Barbara Prądyńska and Janusz Stolarski.

Work on breath, impulses, partnership-in-action, rhythms, singing, and spatial awareness; more on work elements: [http://grzeg-atlas.home.amu.edu.pl/?page\\_id=253](http://grzeg-atlas.home.amu.edu.pl/?page_id=253).

In the actor training the main focus was: Partnership-in-action and Rhythms

## PARTNERSHIP-IN-ACTION

a number of partnership actions which help to open up to the other person and to seek harmony in interaction – by listening to the partner. The work refocuses the performer from her/himself to the person with whom s/he interacts. Thanks to mutual listening, leading and coordination, the actions may take the form of a 'danced dialogue' which embraces different dimensions of the interpersonal encounter.





# ATIS // SPARK

## ■ RHYTHMS

the study of various rhythmical patterns and structures, performed within a group.



Rhythms session led by Maciej Zakrzewski (centre), photo Grzegorz Ziółkowski



Two teams meet: Andrea (NICHE), Csongor (NICHE), Maria (ROSA / ATIS), Paulina (NICHE helper / ROSA trainee / SPARK), Valentina (SPARK); Jennifer (SPARK), Lauren (SPARK), Joanna (NICHE observer / SPARK), Maciej (ROSA / ATIS), Edward (SPARK), photo Grzegorz Ziółkowski





# ATIS SHARING

THE ATIS SPARK team took part in SHARING on 30 September 2015 – an open encounter with guests when elements of individual, partner and group work of ATIS NICHE were shared, or presented (in the sense of giving someone a present, a gift of your full presence).



Brzezinka 2008, photo Grzegorz Ziółkowski

Apart from the Composition From STARS to SILENCE and individual etudes, three partnership scenes and a Kurdish song sung by Maria Kapala were shared with guests who came from Wrocław.



ATIS NICHE: Csongor Köllő (Romania), Andrea Madrid Mora (Catalunya), Mohammad Reza Aliakbari (Iran), and Samaneh Zandinejad (Iran)





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