

## THE LANGUAGE OF PUPPETS AND SHADOWS

Teacher: Rosa Fraj i Pla

### INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, puppets are still used in Asia to stage legends and religious traditions. In the Western world, they are a part of performing arts and offer a wide range of possibilities, and at the same time they represent the old art of street theatre, which is direct and spontaneous.

Exploring their possibilities for teaching is therefore a must; after all, puppets are the door to our inner world.

Puppets possess a rare combination of simplicity and a power to activate emotions and imagination.

Puppet work is closely related to text, movement, rhythm and voice. As beautiful as a puppet can be, it is only when an actor controls it that it comes to life. It is the actors' skills, emotions, will and actions that transform a doll into a puppet.

### AIMED AT:

Everyone. The language of puppets is not only for children. It is in fact a universal language that we can all speak, regardless of our age, gender or ethnicity.

### OBJECTIVES

The aim of this course is to untangle the language of puppets and learn how to set up a show, from the moment you choose and build up your story until the moment you choose your puppets, start controlling them and set up the stage.

We will explore all the options for communication that puppets have to offer, not only for children, but also for youngsters and adults.

### PROGRAMME AND CONTENTS

#### THE MYSTERIES OF PUPPETS

Puppets' role in drama shows. Archetypes. Puppets' general features. Actors' preparation: voice, movement and technique.

#### HOW TO MAKE THEATRE WITH PUPPETS

The story we want to tell. How to set up the stage. How to choose the technique.

**PUPPET HANDLING:** Silhouettes, glove puppets, sock puppets, marionettes, table puppets, Bunraku and objects.

- Exploring puppet movement and expression.
- Movement, text and words.

#### THE LANGUAGE OF SHADOWS

- Shadows as a narrative resource.
- Expression and movement in shadow play.

### METHODS

Practical sessions and improvisation. Voice exercises. Movement analysis. Movement and space & object exploration.

Vocal expression and body language games. Handling different types of puppets, marionettes and objects. How to set up a puppet and shadows show.

### ASSESSMENT

Students must attend at least 80% of total course hours. Students will design a Puppets and Shadows show and perform before an audience.

### HOURLY BREAKDOWN:



- From 5 to 13 March 2016
- Saturday 5 March and Saturday 12 March: from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and from 4 to 8 p.m.
- Sunday 6 March and Sunday 13 March: from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- 6 sessions
- 24 hours – 2.4 CECLEC-ECTS credits
- 24 ICE hours

VENUE: Salvador Allende Room (MUA's cultural information point)

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PLEASE NOTE.

IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE COURSE CERTIFICATE, STUDENTS MUST:

\*ATTEND AT LEAST 80% OF TOTAL COURSE HOURS

\*HAVE PAID FOR COURSE FEES

PASS TEACHER'S ASSESSMENT TEST

\*COMPLETE COURSE SATISFACTION SURVEY

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