

Dear all

We hope this finds everyone very well. We just wanted to update you briefly but more importantly wish you all a very Happy Christmas and productive New Year, wherever you are.

CONFERENCE 2009

Our main focus this term has been on writing, publications and preparation. We have now nearly finalised our overseas invitations for the June conference and early in the New Year will consolidate and finalise invitations to UK-based artists and academics. So the conference is taking shape and we are delighted to have such a range of people attending and contributing. We are discussing with Virginie Magnat a practical extension of her project *Meetings with Remarkable Women* to take place after the conference. Watch this space for further details.

EXHIBITION

Paul will be in Wroclaw and Warsaw this weekend, seeing performances and discussing further our 2009 plans, including meeting with a curator from the Pompidou Centre about the exhibition traveling to France after it has been in the UK. He is also meeting with Dorota from the Institute of Adam Mickiewicz, regarding their Polish UK season. This will launch in Canterbury in early May in the Cathedral, with a concert by Penderecki. The IAM have given fantastic additional support towards our activities (especially regarding translation and the exhibition) for which we are very grateful. Our conference will be part of this season and the exhibition is being largely sponsored by them. We have secured the National Theatre to show it for 6 weeks in the summer, as well as a space in Aberystwyth in close collaboration with the Centre for Performance Research. It will of course also be shown in Canterbury just before and during the conference.

PUBLICATIONS

Pablo is making great strides with his PhD, digging around in various archives and people's memories, investigating the development of Grotowski's influence in UK groups in the 1970s, interviewing several key artists/academics as he goes.

Just before he went to Moscow for a week to teach and observe at the MoscowArts Theatre School, Giuliano sent off to a publisher the manuscript of his dialogue with Zygmunt Molik with accompanying DVD, so we are hoping that will generate some interest.

Paul has submitted his edited collection *Grotowski's Empty Room* to Seagull Press, which (he has been promised) will be available for the June conference. A chapter on Piotr Borowski and Studium Teatralne has also gone to press with Routledge in a collection on European theatre directors.

And the translation of Ludwik Flaszen's collected texts is nearly complete, with Paul waiting to work on a last long new piece by Flaszen that will introduce and frame this book. The collection will provide some fascinating new material ranging across the whole period of the Laboratory Theatre's activities. Editorial work on Grotowski's collaborators' texts for the second issue of the new journal in English *Polish Theatre Perspectives* will then begin in the New Year.

WROCLAW INAUGURAL CONFERENCE

Giuliano, Pablo and Paul will be heading out to Wroclaw for the inaugural conference in January where Paul will be on a panel examining what is still to be done regarding Grotowski's oeuvre and legacy. We are delighted that the book in English *With Grotowski. Theatre is Just a Form*, by Peter Brook, which Paul has been working on, will be launched there.

There is some information about a publication of *Theatre in Poland* (in French and English) devoted to the 2008 Year of Grotowski on our website. Paul has a brief piece in it about our project.

So have a good break, and definitely hope to see you all in 2009.

Best wishes

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