



GAWP'09 GLOBAL ARTIST WORKSHOP PROGRAM '09 THE COMPANY THEATRE WORKSPACE, INDIA

INFORMATION SHEET

THE COMPANY THEATRE WORKSPACE

Based in Mumbai, **The Company Theatre (TCT)** is a theatre organization with over 15 years of experience in the creation, sustenance and dissemination of theatrical work. Its ensemble of activities includes performances, theatre workshops and seminars, performance-related studies, theatre festivals and international collaborative ventures.

Over the last five years, its efforts have been directed towards the fruition of its most ambitious project: **The Company Theatre WORKSPACE** - an international residency for theatre research & performance. This dream rests on 5 acres of land, surrounded by the inspiring environs of a lake, mountains and open fields in the Indian countryside. It is located three hours away from the bustling city of Mumbai, near the hill-station of Lonavala in Maharashtra. Led by its founder, theatre director and performer, Atul Kumar, this is a facility that aims to provide performance artists with uninterrupted time and space to further research and creative work.

Alongside an emphasis on steady training and *RIAZ* (a term mostly used in the field of Indian classical music referring to dedicated & laborious study, devotion and practice), TCT Workspace is also conceived as a laboratory that focuses on inter-cultural and inter-disciplinary exchange. It is The Company Theatre's constant endeavor to bring together artists from different backgrounds and disciplines in order to connect and create with each other by sharing skills and experiences.

All future projects of The Company Theatre will be undertaken at TCT Workspace. TCT is presently working on the facility's architectural plans & layouts for different required structures such as the theatre studio, living spaces, dining spaces etc. as well as developing the artistic programme for the coming few years.

For more information on the company theatre workspace please visit www.thecompanytheatre.net

GLOBAL ARTIST WORKSHOP PROGRAM 2009

GLOBAL ARTIST WORKSHOP PROGRAM '09 (GAWP '09) is an effort to put into practice and initiate the work and life-style that TCT Workspace encourages for performing artists. Devised as a 3-month long residential workshop open to performance artists/students from around the world who wish to familiarize themselves with, experience and engage with some Indian approaches to performance culture, this will be a tailor-made platform to begin creative dialogue & open up possibilities for long-term collaborations at a global level.

The 3 months of residency will be spent in training, craft work and research in the domain of performance. The Company Theatre will invite experts and teachers from various performance disciplines that are valuable to and can be directed to fortify the performer's process. Amongst others, these disciplines include Yoga, Kalerippayattu and Voice Training based in Hindustani Classical Vocal Tradition. 1-2 days discussion forums will also be facilitated with some renowned practitioners of Modern Indian theatre. These will be focused on a deeper understanding and employment of the workshop learning when working in contemporary forms of theatre.

ANNEXURE-1 STRATEGIC DETAILS

The Company Theatre will provide all participants with:

- Accommodation on twin sharing basis with attached baths for the duration of the workshop
- 3 meals per day including breakfast, lunch and dinner

- Free internet access
- Reimbursement for local travel from Bangalore to Vijayanagar, the venue of the workshop & back at the end of the workshop
- Any domestic travel involved during & related to the workshop
- All material & equipment required for the workshop

All participants must arrange for the following:

- International return airfares
- Visa to India
- Participation Fees
- Personal Insurance

GAWP '09 will be held from December 15th 2009 to March 15th 2010 at Vijayanagar, close to the world heritage centre- Hampi, in the state of Karnataka. The site is well connected by public transport from Bangalore, a major city in South India.

WHO CAN APPLY & HOW

To ensure extremely focused and concentrated sessions, the workshop will admit up to a maximum of 16 participants. Participants will be invited after a thorough selection process including detailed review of past work/training and involvement in other cultural exchange programs, contact with given references and e-mail interview.

Artists of any age involved in performance activity or with a background of performance training are invited to apply. Performers from the following disciplines may apply: Theatre, Mime, Clown, Puppetry, Contemporary Dance and Music. All artists applying must be open to physically fulfilling the rigorous training and skill exchange that will be practiced during the workshop.

Applications must be made both on e-mail as well as in hard copy (details in the application form). The application material will not be returned to the participants. The decision of The Company Theatre in selection of the participants will be final and binding.

The language required for this project is English.

The participation fee for GAWP '09 (duration: 3 months) is € 4000. The selection process starts from August 30th '09 on first come first served basis. Admittance will be on first come, first serve basis after selection. Last date for receiving applications is 30th September '09.

ANNEXURE 2 COURSE INFORMATION

KALERIPPAYATTU

Originally a martial art form from the south of India, Kalerippayattu offers various exercises and routines to performers which help them to control and apply breath and energy to their body movements at will. Basic training in this art form prepares performing artists for the stage at a very fundamental level, in terms of their awareness of body and mind, concentration and flexibility. The outcome of this training can be experienced by all performers in the areas of removing natural blocks in the movements of the body and empowering body expression by synchronizing physical and mental energies.

Total Duration: 3 months

UZHICHIL

Kalari Uzhichil is a body massage given by a master to the student with hand and foot. Generally, this relieves physical tiredness, promotes blood circulation, relaxes muscles and invigorates body systems. It tones the musculoskeletal system and alleviates general body weakness. By using a very unique technique and special oils, vital body points are stimulated leading to a completely relaxed body and mind.

Total duration: 15 days

YOGA

Yoga has many forms but basically is a series of fluid body postures and exercises done under the supervision of a master. It is essential for every performer to learn to control and play with the highly potent & complex 'living instrument'. It is impossible to separate the elements of that instrument - mind, body, breath, and energy. Regular yoga practise helps a performer to build flexibility, focus, stamina, coordination, balance, and a healthy sense of self.

Total duration: 3 months

VOICE ENGINEERING (BASED IN HINDUSTANI CLASSICAL VOCAL MUSIC)

An age old classical art form that needs no introduction, Hindustani Classical Music, is based on knowledges in voice culture. These are knowledges acquired over many years that address the musical qualities of voice, its anatomical behaviour and health, breathing apparatus and finally resonance systems in the abdomen, chest, throat and head. There has always been an understanding that a voice has to sound and behave in a certain manner to be able to do justice to the demands of the performer. Basic training in this art form will help our participants in the areas of greater vocal power and energy, improved vocal quality, texture and tone as well as voice focus and projection.

Total duration: 3 months

EYE WORK (BASED IN KATHAKALI)

Kathakali is a well-known dance-theatre form from South India. The eyes being an important medium of communication for all performers, Kathakali eye exercises will enable the participants to develop focus and energy in the eyes. This will also include work towards the basic emotions expressed by the eyes; Netrabhinaya (The play/ act of the eyes) based on the Navarasa theories of the ancient treatise of Indian Dance and Drama- Natyashastra.

Total duration: 1 month

BREATH & EMOTION (BASED IN KOODIYATTAM)

Koodiyattam is also a classical dance-theatre form from South India which is a few thousands of years old, now considered a part of humanity's intangible heritage (UNESCO). Laying stress on breath control and its realization, Koodiyattam can open doors for all performers to stimulate their emotional and psychological expression. This study will rely deeply on breath patterns of everyday life and life around us. The participants will work with

primordial rhythms of breath patterns in and around them and explore breath patterns of the basic emotions as prescribed by Natyashastra.

Total duration: 1 month

RHYTHM & MOVEMENT (BASED IN INDIAN PERCUSSION TRADITIONS / CLASSICAL DANCE)

Performers must enhance their work by developing an appropriate inner rhythm of their being. Speed, Intensity, Tempo and Energy are all an outcome of an inner rhythm, its realisation and control. All of this helps the performer to develop a powerful connect between inner feeling and outer expression. Participants will begin work on rhythm in the conventional terms of sounds and silences, slowly moving towards the exploration of rhythm in postures and gestures, in characters and situations, in stillness and movement. Rhythm work will draw from particular chosen percussion traditions and/or classical dance forms of India. It will also include the exploration of the same in the contemporary performer's process.

Total duration: 1 month (This session may be conducted in two separate modules of 15 days each)

APPLICATION SESSIONS / CONTEMPORARY BODY WORK

These sessions will involve applying the learning from the various traditional and classical disciplines to the contemporary performer's process. Participants will explore how the training can be employed in their own practice and ways in which it can enhance and accompany their own approaches to theatre work. Working with a contemporary perspective and adapted exercises will facilitate extending the teachings into the different forms of theatre they might practice in a fuller, deeper and well-informed way.

Total duration: 1 month

THEORETICAL COMPONENT

The Company Theatre will also invite, for 1-2 days, a specialist to talk to participants about different aspects and fields of acquired knowledge that have a bearing on the process of a performer. While some of these will be informal sessions, some will also take the form of lecture demonstrations. These have been envisioned as sessions of sharing, discussing, opening up to understand each artist better and also helping a deeper understanding of Indian performance traditions and practices. Almost all of these will further the theoretical understanding of all the practical work that the participants will undertake at the residency.

Total duration: Twice in 3 months for 1-2 days.

ANNEXURE 3

DAY'S SCHEDULE

7.30 to 8.00 am – Eye work
8.00 to 9.00 am – Kalerippayattu/Uzhichil
9.00 to 9:30 am – Breakfast
9:30 to 10:00 am – Break
10.00 to 11:00 am – Yoga
11.00 am to 1.30 pm - Voice Engineering/Theoretical Component
1.30 to 4.30 pm – Lunch and Break
4.30 to 7.30 pm– Breath & Emotion/Rhythm & Movement/Application Sessions
8:00 pm - Dinner
Sundays Off

CONDUCTING FACULTY

Our faculty (to be included from the list given below) is composed of some very experienced, respected and well-known practitioners and teachers from their particular fields of expertise. They bring with them many years of active training, performing and pedagogical work. The Company Theatre may include new members in faculty (not yet listed below) of equivalent background, experience and pedagogical authority at its own discretion. Structural elements of course may also undergo slight changes in consultation with conductors.

Kalerippayattu & Uzhichil- Ranjan Mullaratt, Maneesh Mohanan, D. Padmakumar, G. Sathyanarayanan, Dil Sagar Nair, M. Palani, Ramesh Laxman, Javahar Ramachandran, Roby Jose

Yoga- C. Annamalai, Radhika Mittal, Ratna Kaji, Navtej Johar

Voice Engineering, Anjana Puri, Neela Bhagwat, Manoj Saraf, Samir and Prachi Dublay, Sanjeev Jha, Rajasree Warriar

Eye & Breath Work, Sadanam Balakrishnan, Evoor Rajendran Pillai, Painkulam Narayana Chakyar, Kalamandalam Kanakakumar, Pothiyil Renjith Chakyar, Kapila Nagavallikkunnel, Renjith Ramachandran

Rhythm & Movement- Suresh Kaliyath, K. Rajkumar, Kalamandalam Hari Krishnan, Sukhad Munde, Manoj Singh Boraliya

Application Sessions- Yuki Elias, Prabhat Bhaskaran, Abhishek Majumdar, Sankar Venkateswaran

THE COMPANY THEATRE, G-8, SILVER ANKLET, YARI ROAD, VERSOVA, ANDHERI WEST, MUMBAI- 400 061, INDIA

Ph: 91 9820192778, gawp09@gmail.com, www.thecompanytheatre.net



**THE COMPANY THEATRE WORKSPACE
GLOBAL ARTIST WORKSHOP PROGRAM 2009
APPLICATION FORM**

FORM NUMBER:

RECENT PASSPORT SIZE PHOTOGRAPH



Please fill in block letters with black or blue ink

- First Name: _____
- Last Name: _____
- Permanent Address (where you can be reached): _____

- Telephone: _____
- Fax: _____
- Email: _____
- Male/Female: _____
- Discipline – Theatre/Contemporary Dance/Music: _____
- Date/Place of Birth: _____
- Nationality: _____
- Marital Status – Single/ Married/ Separated
 - Number of Children _____
- Do you have health insurance?
 - Insurer _____
 - Insurance Policy Number _____
- Knowledge of any foreign languages (apart from English): _____
- Contacts in India, if any: _____

- Two Names and Contacts of reference from within your field of work: _____

- Have you previously attended any residency programs or been part of cultural exchanges? When, Where & Duration:

- Any previous Fellowships or Grants that have been awarded to you:

- Any previous visits to India – Nature of Visit/Nature of Visa/Duration of visit:

- Artistic and Professional Bio-Data/Curriculum Vitae (PLEASE ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET)
- Previous Artistic Works dated by year (PLEASE ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET)
- Why you wish to participate in this residency program? What you hope to achieve for yourself through this program? (PLEASE ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET)
- Enlist any Work Samples attached (by way of video/audio recordings or pictures) Please do not send originals as we cannot return materials:

DECLARATION:

I AGREE, IF SELECTED FOR GAWP '09 FACILITATED BY THE COMPANY THEATRE – INDIA, TO BE PRESENT AND PARTICIPATE FULLY IN THE RESIDENCY FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION.

PLACE _____

DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

NOTE:

- Please use separate sheets wherever necessary
- Feel free to send us any printed material, press coverage, promotional or any other support material of your past work
- Please send a completed application form by e-mail to: gawp09@gmail.com
- The last date for submission of application is 30th September 2009
- Along with the e-mail application, please send a hard copy of the completed application form with support material to the following address:

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