2009
THE GROTOWSKI YEAR
50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING
of the Laboratory Theatre
The year 2009 marks the 10th anniversary of Jerzy Grotowski's death, 50 years since Ludwik Flaszen and Jerzy Grotowski took over the Theatre of the 13 Rows in Opole (later the Laboratory Theatre) and the 25th anniversary of the dissolution of the Laboratory Theatre.

In November 2007, in recognition of these events, the General Conference of UNESCO added the founding of the Laboratory Theatre to the list of anniversaries to be celebrated within its 2008–2009 programme.

The Grotowski Institute is the initiator and the principal co-ordinator of the worldwide, Grotowski Year 2009 celebrations. The co-hosts of the Grotowski Year inauguration are co-founders of the Laboratory Theatre: Ludwik Flaszen, Rena Mirecka and Zygmunt Molik.
When machines dominate.
look instead for the living.
All of life is a complex phenomenon
of counterpoise. It’s not a matter
of having a conceptual image of that,
but of asking yourself the question:
This life that you are living,
is it enough?
JERZY GROTOWSKI
Jerzy Grotowski (1933–1999)

Polish theatre director, cultural practitioner and thinker, researcher of human behaviour under 'meta-daily conditions'. Along with Ludwik Flaszen, Grotowski took over the Theatre of the 13 Rows in Opole in 1959. Together, they transformed it into the Laboratory Theatre, in which they realised their conception of 'poor theatre', most extensively articulated in the classic volume Towards a Poor Theatre, edited by Eugenio Barba (1968). This idea emphasized the essential element of any theatre event: the intensified participation of actors and spectators in a shared space, shaped anew for each meeting between them.

Peter Brook called Grotowski 'unique', because 'no-one else in the world, [...], no-one since Stanislavski, has investigated the nature of acting, its phenomenon, its meaning, the nature and science of its mental-physical-emotional processes as deeply and completely as Grotowski'. The Laboratory Theatre, led by Grotowski and Flaszen, was not theatre in its usual sense, but rather an institute for research into the domain of theatrical art, and the art of the actor in particular.

Its line of work centered on the great classical texts (by Polish Romantic authors: Mickiewicz, Słowacki,
and Wyspiański, as well as by Marlowe and Calderón) whose function in Polish culture was close to myth. Grotowski's performances consisted of 'vivisections' of those myths. Grotowski emphasised the elimination of blocks rather than the accumulation of skills, naming this approach the *via negativa*. By means of this 'negative path' a human being could achieve 'a total act', about which Grotowski said: 'It is the act of laying oneself bare, of tearing off the mask of daily life, of exteriorizing oneself. Not in order to "show oneself off" for that would be exhibitionism. It is a serious and solemn act of revelation. The actor must be prepared to be absolutely sincere. It is like a step towards the summit of the actor's organism in which consciousness and instinct are united'.

The most advanced realisations of this phenomenon were his works with Ryszard Cieślak on The Constant Prince (1965) and with the whole ensemble on Apocalypsis cum figuris (1968/69).

Grotowski pushed the boundaries of theatre in the parath-
Theatrical projects of the 1970s. There, the separation between actors and spectators vanished, creating a shared domain of active culture. The main premise of this phase of work was a search for the conditions in which a human being can act truly and with the whole self – fulfilling his or her individual, creative potential.

In the late 1970s Grotowski explored ritual techniques connected to various source traditions. Working in his *Theatre of Sources* project with an international team of practitioners, every member of which was 'rooted in his native background related to tradition and culture', Grotowski aimed at examining 'techniques, archaic or nascent, that bring us [those actively involved] back to [...] organic primary experience of life. Existence-presence'. His approach in *Theatre of Sources* made Grotowski amongst the first to theorise the intersections between theatre and anthropology.

From 1986 until his passing in 1999, Grotowski dedicated himself to a research that came to be known as 'Art as vehicle'. This research focuses mainly on 'actions related to very ancient songs which traditionally served ritual purposes and so can have a direct impact on – so to say – the head, the heart and the body of the doers, songs which
can allow the passage from a vital energy to a more subtle one'. Grotowski further wrote, 'When I speak of [...] Art as vehicle, I refer to verticality. [...] With verticality the point is not to renounce part of our nature — all should remain in its natural place: the body, the heart, the head, something that is "under our feet" and something that is "over the head". All like a vertical line, and this verticality should be held taut between organicity and the awareness. Awareness means the consciousness which is not linked to language (the machine for thinking), but to Presence'.

In 1996, Grotowski changed the name of the Workcenter to The Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards, acknowledging the unique importance of his collaboration with Richards. In this final phrase of his life's research, Grotowski had become concerned with transmission: 'The nature of my work with Thomas Richards has the character of "transmission"; to transmit to him that to which I have arrived in my life; the inner aspect of the work'. Today, Richards leads the Workcenter, continuing and developing its research. Mario Biagini, a key member of the Workcenter since shortly after its foundation, has been the Workcenter's Associate Director since 2003.

Before the end of his life, Jerzy Grotowski traced the trajectory of his life and work as Professor at the Collège de France, in a series of lectures entitled *The 'organic line' in theatre and in ritual* (1997–1998).
The Honorary Committee of the Grotowski Year 2009

Marianne Ahrne | the French Minister of Culture – Christine Albanel | Roberto Bacci | Georges Banu | Eugenio Barba | Mario Biagini | the President of the University of Wrocław – Marek Bojarski | Peter Brook | Robert Cohen | Martha Coigney | Marco De Marinis | Janusz Degler | The Mayor of the City of Wrocław – Rafal Dutkiewicz
Partners

Adam Mickiewicz Institute
www.iam.pl

British Grotowski Project,
University of Kent
www.britishgrotowski.co.uk

tablasalarcos

Casa Editorial
Tablas-Alarcos, Havana
www.tablasalarcos.cult.cu

Central School of Speech and
Drama, University of London
www.cssd.ac.uk

CPR
CENTRE FOR PERFORMANCE
Research
www.thecpr.org.uk

Centro Teórico-Cultural
Criterios, Havana
www.criterios.es

C.I.C.T. / Théâtre
tes Bouffes du Nord
www.bouffesdunord.com

Collège de France
www.college-de-france.fr

Drama Department and
Faculty of Polish Philology,
the Jagiellonian University
www.polonistyka.uj.edu.pl

UCIrvine
DRAMA

Drama Department,
University of California, Irvine
www.drama.arts.uci.edu

Fondazione Pontedera Teatro
www.pontederateatro.it

Institute of Polish Culture
in New York
www.PolishCulture-NYC.org

Institute of Polish Culture,
University of Warsaw
www.ikp.uw.edu.pl

Library Foundation
of Los Angeles
www.aloudla.org

National Ossoliński Institute
www.oss.wroc.pl

Odin Teatret
Holstebro
www.odinteatret.dk

Polish Institute in Rome
www.istitutopolacco.it

Polish Institute in Vienna
www.polnisches-institut.at

Pomona College, Claremont
www.pomona.edu

Premio Europa per il Teatro
www.premio-europa.org

The Ludwik Solski State
Higher School of Theatre
www.pwst.krakow.pl

Université Paris Sorbonne
www.paris-sorbonne.fr

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all those
who agreed to join the Honorary
Committee of the Grotowski Year.
We are grateful to our partners
for the chance to collaborate
on the realisation of
the Grotowski Year.
We also thank the representatives
of the institutions that will
co-host the various events
of the Grotowski Year.

Furthermore,
we owe debt of gratitude to:
Jan Bortkiewicz
Jarosław Broda
Marina Fabbri
Ludwik Flaszen
Jerzy Ilkosz
Konrad Imiela
Adolf Juzwenko
Paulina Kapuścińska
Ewa Kutryś
Thomas Leabhart
Maciej Łagiewski
Michał Mastowski
Krystyna Meissner
Krzysztof Mieszkowski
Jarosław Obremski
Katarzyna Osińska
Jacek Popiel
Paweł Potoroczyn
Robert Secchi
Eli Simon
Robert Skolmowski
Nina Soufy
Louise Steinman
Małgorzata Sugiera
Małgorzata Waraszkiewicz

Partners

Polish Audiovisual
Publishing House
www.pwa.gov.pl

Polish Centre of the
International Theatre Institute
www.it-i-worldwide.org

Polish Institute Committee for UNESCO
www.unesco.pl

Polish Institute in Berlin
www.polnischekultur.de

Polish Institute in Budapest
slowo/obraz terytoria
www.terytoria.com.pl

Theatre Arts Researching
the Foundations
www.tarf.info

The Ludwik Solski State
Higher School of Theatre
www.pwst.krakow.pl

Université Paris Sorbonne
www.paris-sorbonne.fr

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Maciej Łagiewski
Michał Mastowski
Krystyna Meissner
Krzysztof Mieszkowski
Jarosław Obremski
Katarzyna Osińska
Jacek Popiel
Paweł Potoroczyn
Robert Secchi
Eli Simon
Robert Skolmowski
Nina Soufy
Louise Steinman
Małgorzata Sugiera
Małgorzata Waraszkiewicz
2009 ROK GROTOWSKIEGO
THE GROTOWSKI YEAR
L’ANNÉE GROTOWSKI
L’ANNO GROTOWSKI

CELEBRATION OF THE AWARD OF the European Theatre Prize
Premio Europa per il Teatro

WROCŁAW, APRIL
Contact: Joanna Klass
jklass@grotowski-institute.art.pl

International Theatre Festival
The World as a Place of Truth
PRESENTATIONS OF PERFORMANCES
BY: Roberto Bacci, Eugenio Barba, Pina Bausch, Peter Brook, Alvis Hermanis, Krystian Lupa, Richard Schechner, Włodzimierz Staniewski, Tadashi Suzuki, Theodoros Terzopoulos, Krzysztof Warlikowski, and MEETINGS WITH Ludwik Flaszen and Anatoli Vassiliev

WROCŁAW, JUNE
Contact: The Grotowski Year 2009 Office
office@grotowski-institute.art.pl

In the programme

PRACTICAL SEMINARS

Giving Voice
Centre for Performance Research in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute
WROCŁAW AND BRZEZINKA, APRIL
Contact: Magdalena Mądra
magda@grotowski-institute.art.pl

Meetings with Remarkable Women
the project Meetings with Remarkable Women, Canada, in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute
WROCŁAW AND BRZEZINKA, JULY, AUGUST
Contact: Izabela Młynarz
iza@grotowski-institute.art.pl

CONFERENCES

Grotowski: what was, what is. And what is to be done
The Grotowski Institute
WROCŁAW, JANUARY
Contact: Magdalena Mądra
magda@grotowski-institute.art.pl

Grotowski: the solitude of theatre. Documents, contexts, interpretations
The Grotowski Institute, the Faculty of Polish Philology of the Jagiellonian University, The State Higher School of Theatre in Kraków
KRAKÓW, MARCH
Contact: Magdalena Mądra
magda@grotowski-institute.art.pl

Grotowski: Theatre and Beyond
British Grotowski Project, University of Kent
CANTERBURY, JUNE
Contact: Giuliano Campo
G.Campo@kent.ac.uk

Practical Seminars

Giving Voice
Centre for Performance Research in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute
WROCŁAW AND BRZEZINKA, APRIL
Contact: Magdalena Mądra
magda@grotowski-institute.art.pl

Meetings with Remarkable Women
the project Meetings with Remarkable Women, Canada, in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute
WROCŁAW AND BRZEZINKA, JULY, AUGUST
Contact: Izabela Młynarz
iza@grotowski-institute.art.pl
The Theatrical Anthropology of Jerzy Grotowski
Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, Université Paris Sarbonne, The Grotowski Institute and Collège de France
PARIS, OCTOBER
Contact: The Grotowski Year 2009 Office
office@grotowski-institute.art.pl

Performer:
Twenty Years After
University of California, Irvine in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute
IRVINE, NOVEMBER
Contact: Joanna Klass
jklass@grotowski-institute.art.pl

Słowacki and Grotowski.
'He broke my internal bones...'
the Drama Department of the Faculty of Polish Philology at the Jagiellonian University, in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute
WROCŁAW, DECEMBER
Contact: Magdalena Mądra
magda@grotowski-institute.art.pl

Final conference
Institute of Polish Culture at the University of Warsaw, in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute
WARSAW, JANUARY 2010
Contact: Magdalena Mądra
magda@grotowski-institute.art.pl

Meetings throughout Europe, and the Americas
Contact: The Grotowski Year 2009 Office
office@grotowski-institute.art.pl

Exhibitions and installations in Wrocław, Canterbury, London and Paris
Contact: The Grotowski Year 2009 Office
office@grotowski-institute.art.pl

Publications in English and Polish, including:
- Peter Brook *Theatre is Just a Form. On Jerzy Grotowski*
- *To Be a Whole Man: Polish Authors on Grotowski*
- *Ludwik Flaszen On Grotowski and The Laboratory Theatre* (provisional title)

Contact:
English publications – Adela Karszniak
adela@grotowski-institute.art.pl
Polish publications – Monika Blige
monika@grotowski-institute.art.pl
12TH–15TH JANUARY, WROCŁAW

INAUGURATION OF THE GROTOWSKI YEAR 2009

CO-HOSTS: Ludwik Flaszen, Rena Mirecka, Zygmunt Molik

- **CONFERENCE** *Grotowski: what was, what is. And what is to be done*
- **PRESENTATION OF THE MEDALS:** *Order of Merit for Culture Gloria Artis*
- 14th January: **CONCERT** of Bauls from Bengal on the 10th anniversary of Jerzy Grotowski’s death
- **OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION** *Dust: ‘Apocalypsis cum Figuris’ in the photographs of Maurizio Buscarino*
- **FILM PRESENTATION** *Sacrilegious Rite, Abounding in Sorcery – On Jerzy Grotowski’s Laboratory Theatre*, realised by Krzysztof Domagalik
- **MEETING** with Peter Brook devoted to his book *Theatre is Just a Form. On Jerzy Grotowski*, edited by Georges Banu and Grzegorz Ziolkowski with Paul Allain (Wrocław: the Grotowski Institute, 2009; in collaboration with the British Grotowski Project, UK); led by Georges Banu

WROCŁAW – the Old Market Square

EXHIBITION **50 years of the Laboratory Theatre**

PUBLICATION OF THE BOOK *Grotowski powtórzony* [Grotowski Repeated], edited by Stanisław Rosiek (Gdańsk: słowo/obraz terytoria, 2008), in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute
February 2009

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6th February, New York, United States

The first meeting in the Year of Grotowski cycle, realised by The Polish Cultural Institute in New York in collaboration with Richard Schechner of the Tisch School of the Arts, New York University; the programme includes panel discussions, film presentations and workshops; subsequent meetings: April, May and July 2009

20th–21st February, Holstebro, Denmark

Meeting The First Stone, devoted to Jerzy Grotowski, organised by Eugenio Barba’s Odin Teatret
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UNTIL 5TH APRIL
**25TH–27TH MARCH, KRAKÓW, POLAND**

CONFERENCE *Grotowski: the solitude of theatre. Documents, Contexts, Interpretations*, organised by the Grotowski Institute, the Ludwik Solski State Higher Theatre School in Kraków and the Faculty of Polish Philology of the Jagiellonian University

MEETING devoted to the first issue of the English-language journal *Polish Theatre Perspectives* (*Grzegorzewski, Warlikowski, and Sketches*), edited by Tadeusz Kornaś, published by the Grotowski Institute

**27TH MARCH**

Ludwik Flaszen’s address for *World Theatre Day*

**31ST MARCH – 5TH APRIL, WROCŁAW**

Premio Europa per il Teatro
FROM 31st MARCH

April 2009

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31ST MARCH – 5TH APRIL, WROCŁAW
Premio Europa per il Teatro

4TH APRIL, the Nights of the Theatres of Wrocław and Lower Silesia
5TH APRIL, CELEBRATION OF THE AWARD of the European Theatre Prize to Krystian Lupa, and of the New Theatrical Realities prizes to Guy Cassiers (Belgium), Pippo Delbono (Italy), Rodrigo García (Argentina/Spain), Árpád Schilling (Hungary), François Tanguy and Théâtre du Radeau (France)
- PRESENTATIONS of performances and works in progress by laureates
- SEMINAR MEETINGS dedicated to the activities of the award winners

16TH–26TH APRIL, WROCŁAW
PRACTICAL SEMINAR Giving Voice, realised by the Centre for Performance Research (Wales), in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute
- MEETING devoted to the book To Be a Whole Man: Polish Authors on Grotowski, edited by Grzegorz Ziolkowski (Aberystwyth: Black Mountain Press, 2009), a collaboration between the Centre for Performance Research and the Grotowski Institute
SERIES OF MEETINGS at Polish Institutes around Europe
(Berlin, Budapest, Düsseldorf, Prague, Vienna)

PUBLICATION of the book by Jana Pilátova
Grotowski's Nest in the Czech language, supported by the Grotowski Institute
11TH–14TH JUNE, CANTERBURY, UK

PRESENTATION on the activities of the Grotowski Institute at the conference *Grotowski: Theatre and Beyond*, realised by the British Grotowski Project at the University of Kent

- MEETING WITH Ludwik Flaszen devoted to his English-language book, published by Icarus Publishing Enterprise (a collaboration between the Grotowski Institute, Odin Teatret and Theatre Arts Researching the Foundations, Malta), supported by the British Grotowski Project
- MEETING devoted to the second issue of *Polish Theatre Perspectives* (*Grotowski: Voices from Within*), edited by Paul Allain and Grzegorz Ziółkowski

9TH JUNE, LONDON, UK

PRESENTATION on the activities of the Grotowski Institute at the Central School of Speech and Drama

14TH–30TH JUNE, WROCŁAW

International Theatre Festival

THE WORLD AS A PLACE OF TRUTH

- PRESENTATIONS OF PERFORMANCES BY: Roberto Bacci, Eugenio Barba, Pina Bausch, Peter Brook, Alvis Hermanis, Krystian Lupa, Richard Schechner, Włodzimierz Staniewski, Tadashi Suzuki, Theodoros Terzopoulos, Krzysztof Warlikowski, and meetings with Ludwik Flaszen and Anatoli Vassiliev
- MEETING of former collaborators of Jerzy Grotowski: ‘*For this Land is an Inn on Our Great Journey*’

PHOTOGRAPHS: Fiorela Bemporad, Łukasz Giza, Marek Grotowski, Tomasz Holod, Gints Maiders, Stefan Oksłowič, Piotr Skiba, Johanna Weber
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**UNTIL 5TH AUGUST**
7TH JULY – 5TH AUGUST, WROCŁAW AND BRZEZINKA

PRACTICAL SEMINAR *Meetings with Remarkable Women* within the frame of the project by Virginie Magnat (Canada), realised in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute

- WORK SESSIONS led by Ang Gey Pin, Dora Arreola, Rena Mirecka, Iben Nagel Rasmussen and Katharina Seyferth

- PERFORMANCES AND MEETINGS
August 2009

FROM 7TH JULY

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Zygmunt Molik, Antoni Jahólkowski, Ryszard Cieślak
and Elizabeth Albahaca in Apocalypsis cum Figuris, 1979.
Photograph: Maurizio Buscarino
19th–21st October, Paris, France

Conference Anthropologie théâtrale selon Jerzy Grotowski in collaboration with the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, Université Paris-Sorbonne and the Collège de France

- Presentations of documentary films on the Laboratory Theatre, Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord
- Meeting with Peter Brook devoted to his book Avec Grotowski. Le théâtre n’est qu’une forme, preface by Georges Banu (Arles: Actes Sud Papiers, 2009)
- Exhibition devoted to the Laboratory Theatre prepared by the British Grotowski Project in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute, and presented with the participation of the Centre Georges Pompidou
ROME, ITALY
MEETING at the University of Rome La Sapienza, in collaboration with the Polish Institute in Rome

18TH–25TH NOVEMBER
CLAREMONT, IRVINE, LOS ANGELES, UNITED STATES
Realisation of the programme The Grotowski Year in California
• MEETING devoted to English-language publications on Polish theatre in the ALOUD Series, Central Library, Los Angeles
• LECTURES on the activities of Jerzy Grotowski, Pomona College (Claremont), the Helena Modjeska Arts and Culture Club, Loyola Marymount University and the University of California (Los Angeles)
• CONFERENCE ‘Performer’: Twenty Years After, organised by the University of California, Irvine, in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute

10TH–16TH NOVEMBER, HAVANA, CUBA
SEMINAR on the work of Jerzy Grotowski and the Laboratory Theatre, in collaboration with Centro Teórico-Cultural Criterios and Casa Editorial Tablas/Alarcos
10\textsuperscript{th}–11\textsuperscript{th} DECEMBER, WROCŁAW
CONERENCE \textit{Stłowacki and Grotowski. ‘He broke my internal bones...’}, organised by the Drama Department of the Faculty of Polish Philology of the Jagiellonian University, in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute
14TH–15TH JANUARY, WARSAW

Final conference, at the Institute of Polish Culture, University of Warsaw, in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute
INSTITUT
IM. JERZEGO
GROTOWSKIEGO

WROCŁAW
The Grotowski Institute in Wrocław is a cultural institution which combines artistic and scholarly research projects that correspond to the challenges laid down by Jerzy Grotowski’s creative practice. The Institute emerged out of the Centre for Study of Jerzy Grotowski’s Work and for Cultural and Theatrical Research, which was established at the former premises of the Laboratory Theatre, at the Old Market in Wrocław and at Brzezin-ka, near Oleśnica, in 1989. The originator of the Centre’s programme guidelines was Zbigniew Osiński, who directed the institution initially with Alina Obidniak and subsequently — from 1st June 1991 to 31st January 2004 — with Stanisław Krotoski. Their successors, Jarosław Fret and Grzegorz Ziółkowski, transformed it into the Grotowski Institute. The changes of name and statute, which took place on 28th December 2006, mark a realignment, expansion and development of the institution’s programmes. The Grotowski Institute continues the lines of work run by the Grotowski Centre, whilst placing more emphasis on education, promotion, producing and publishing. Fret and Ziółkowski are the current directors of the Institute. The members of the Grotowski Institute Council are Professors: Janusz Degler, Leszek Kolankiewicz and Dobrochna Ratajczakowa.
The promotional activities of the Institute include multi-dimensional support for independent theatre initiatives in the form of long-term artistic research projects, such as those conducted by: Maisternia Pisni (Lviv; www.maisternia.com.ua), Song In-Between (Wrocław), Teatro La Madrugada (Milan; www.teatrolamadrugada.com), Theatre ZAR (Wrocław), and other artists. The Institute supports artists from a younger generation who did not work with Jerzy Grotowski directly but for whom his work is an important point of reference.
The educational line involves practical seminars, guest lectures, film presentations and meetings devoted to publications. Practical seminars take the form of shorter work encounters and the month-long Atelier — a series of work sessions for actors, singers, dancers and directors, with the aim of working on craft in the fundamental meaning of the word. The educational line is also conducted through meetings with secondary school and university students, including: Matura Teatralna (directed towards secondary school pupils from Wroclaw and towns in Lower Silesia) and Work Exchanges (with Polish theatre studies students and artists from independent groups).
The publishing activities operate within the framework of two series: Grotowski: Problems and Tasks and The Path of Theatre and Culture. The first focuses on the documentation and interpretation of Jerzy Grotowski’s creative work, whilst the second is dedicated to cultural and theatrical research.

The Grotowski Institute publishes English-language books in collaboration with the Centre for Performance Research (Wales; www.thecpr.org.uk), which will provide international access to Polish artistic and scholarly theatre thought. Additionally, the Grotowski Institute, Odin Teatret (Denmark; www.odinteatret.dk), and Theatre Arts Researching the Foundations (Malta; www.tarf.info) have established the Icarus Publishing Enterprise, focusing on specialist, English-language texts relating to the practice and concept of theatre as a laboratory.

Since March 2007, the Institute has published the theatre journal Didaskalia. In 2009, in collaboration with Didaskalia, the first issue of the annual journal Polish Theatre Perspectives will be published, which aims to make important works by Polish researchers accessible to English-language readers. Articles are arranged within themed volumes under the supervision of specialist, guest editors, and are devoted to both Polish and world theatres.
The Grotowski Institute runs an **Archive**, with the following tasks:

- The gathering, completion and cataloguing of — and provision of access to — the archive materials related to the activities of Jerzy Grotowski, the Laboratory Theatre, the Wrocław Second Studio, the Grotowski Centre and the Grotowski Institute
- Collaboration on projects presenting the work of Jerzy Grotowski and the Laboratory Theatre (documentary films, exhibitions, publications, lectures outside the Institute)
- Presentation of documentary films in the Theatre Cinema
- Documentation of the Institute’s current programmes and the updating of its chronicle

The Institute also organises open events, such as:

- Guest theatre presentations and concerts
- Polish and international conferences, practical seminars, and work meetings
- Exhibitions and expositions

The Grotowski Institute, with the support of the City of Wrocław, acts as the logistical co-ordinator of **Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards’ project Horizons** (2007–2009). Through its support of **Horizons**, the Institute creates a meeting point in Poland with the Workcenter — directed by Grotowski’s artistic inheritor, Thomas Richards — by periodically hosting its ongoing research.

In 2009, the Grotowski Institute together with the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, Paris, and the Barbican Centre, London, will co-produce ***Eleven and Twelve — a performance directed by Peter Brook***. The premiere of the performance is planned for November 2009, in Paris. The performance will subsequently be presented in Wrocław (January 2010) and London (February 2010).

The Institute has acquired a new space at 30/32 **Na Grobli** street, Wrocław, in order to fulfil its extended activities. Its opening is planned for 2009.
Selected key projects of the Centre and the Institute, marking the 20th anniversary of the establishment of THE GROTOWSKI CENTRE

1990
- Presentations of the performance by the School of Dramatic Art, Six Characters in Search of an Author, directed by Anatoli Vassiliev
- Symposium The Mahabharata in Indian and Western Culture
- Symposium Anthroposophical Inspirations in Twentieth Century Theatre

1991
- Exhibition Ryszard Cieślak at the Laboratory Theatre in Wrocław, in collaboration with the Wrocław History Museum
- Visit of Jerzy Grotowski, due to the presentation of the doctorate honoris causa by the University of Wrocław;

1992
- Presentation of Mercedes Gregory’s film Art as Vehicle
- Visit of Odin Teatret, presentation of the performance Talabot, directed by Eugenio Barba
- Seminar Inspirations of Carl Gustav Jung and his School in the Art of Twentieth Century
- Seminar Reduta – Meaning and Contexts: European Theatre Laboratories 1910–1940
- Meeting with Peter Brook and promotion of the Polish edition of the book by P.D. Ouspensky, In Search of the Miraculous: Fragments of an Unknown Teaching

1993
- Symposium Konstantin Stanislavski and Michael Chekhov, with the participation of Anatoli Vassiliev; open rehearsals of Vassiliev’s performance Joseph and His Brothers
- Exhibition Antek Jahołkowski
- Visit of Odin Teatret and presentation of their performance Kaosmos, directed by Eugenio Barba
- Symposium Herman Hesse – Writer and Phenomenon

1994
- Symposium Theatre and Ritual in Bali
- Cycle of events devoted to Maja Komorowska
- Presentations of Indian Odissi dance by Sanjukta Panigrahi

1995
- Visit of Odin Teatret, presentations of the performance Itsi Bitsi, directed by Eugenio Barba
1996
- Festival Copenhagen – Warsaw – Poznań – Wrocław; presentations by groups from Bali, Brazil and Japan
- Presentations of a performance by the New World Performance Laboratory The Book of Saints and Martyrs, directed by James Slowiak

1997
- Presentations of the opus Action, by Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards; meeting with Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards, presentation of Mercedes Gregory’s film Art as Vehicle
- Symposium The Theatre Culture of Latvia
- Conference European Theatre Laboratories and Studios in the Twentieth Century – Techniques and Values: A Survey

1998
- Exhibition Zbigniew Cynkutis
- Symposium Towianism in Polish Culture
- Presentations of Milón Méla group led by Abani Biswas
- Symposium German Theatre in the Twentieth Century

1999
- Celebrations on the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Laboratory Theatre
- Visit of Odin Teatret to Wrocław, presentations of the performance Mythos, directed by Eugenio Barba

2000
- Presentations of the performance by La Groupe de la Veillée, Stavrogin’s Confession, directed by Zbigniew Teo Spychalski
- Symposium The Russian Reception of Jerzy Grotowski’s Work; presentations of the performance by the School of Dramatic Art, Don Juan or The Stone Guest and Other Poems, directed by Anatoli Vassiliev
2002
- Visit of the Centre for Theatre Practices Gardzienice and presentation of the performance Metamorphosis, directed by Włodzimierz Staniewski; conversation between Ludwik Flaszen and Włodzimierz Staniewski
- Festival Petersburg – Theatre – Wroclaw
- Work session by Yoshi Oida and presentation of his performance Interrogations
- Presentations of Serbian independent theatres Pozorište – Theatre
- The Mandeans, the first European conference devoted to the gnostic group from Iraq and Iran

2001
- Visit of Peter Brook and presentations his performance by the Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord, Le Costume
- Publication of the Polish edition of Eugenio Barba’s book Land of Ashes and Diamonds: My Apprenticeship in Poland
- Presentations of One Breath Left by Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards, directed by Thomas Richards and Mario Biagini
- Conference Towards the Essence: Georgi Ivanovich Gurdjieff – His Influence and Significance, with the participation of Peter Brook, James Moore, Laurence Rosenthal and Tilo Ulbricht, publication of the Polish book Gurdjieff

2003
- Conference Yevgeny Vakhtangov. What Remains After the Theatre Artist?
- Visit of Odin Teatret, performances and work presentations
- Work session of Phillip Zarrilli – Making the Body All Eyes, and presentation of the performance by Theatre Asou, Speaking Stones, directed by Zarrilli
- Meeting with Ludwik Flaszen, publication of his texts Teatr – sztuka antraktu [The Theatre – the Art of Intermission] and Marzyciele [The Dreamers]

2004
- Presentations of the opuses Action and The Twin: an Action in creation by Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards; publication of the Polish edition of The Edge-Point of Performance, by Thomas Richards interviewed by Lisa Wolford
Presentations of the performance *An Ass’s Bray*, directed by Roberto Bacci

Conference *Theatre – Space – Body – Dialogue: Research in Contemporary Theatre*

Co-publication of the Polish edition of Peter Brook’s *The Shifting Point*

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#### 2006

- Festival *Tadeusz Różewicz’s Archipelago: Wrocław 2006*
- Festival *Theatre – Place – Meeting*
- International practical seminar *The Line of Body in the Theatre*, organised to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Henryk Tomaszewski’s Wrocław Pantomime Theatre
- International conference *Performance Studies: and Beyond*; Polish translation of Richard Schechner’s *Performance Studies: an Introduction*
- Publication of the Polish anthology *Mysterium tremendum et fascinans*, on the performances of Jerzy Grotowski and the Laboratory Theatre

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#### 2005

- Presentation of Peter Brook’s theatre research *Tierno Bokar*
- 14th session of the International School of Theatre Anthropology (ISTA) directed by Eugenio Barba; publication of the Polish edition of The Secret Art of Performer: A Dictionary of Theatre Anthropology, by Eugenio Barba and Nicola Savarese
- Presentations of *Dies Irae: My Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show* by Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards

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#### 2008

- *Openings Festival and the Atelier Suspension of Expression*

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