

TART I35: EXTENDED PERFORMANCE TOPICS
INSTRUCTOR: CLAUDIA SCHNÜRER, ELI SIMON
CONTACT HOURS: 80
CREDIT HOURS: 3

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Designed as an introduction to the methods and aims of physical theatre, this course is a selection of movement and acting options that reflect the inter-disciplinary thrust of the program. Depending on visiting faculty and on-going developments in the program, students will be exposed to techniques that integrally connect to the core substance of the training.

During the first month of the semester the course includes concentrated physical training designed to prepare students for the intensive needs of commedia and mask work. Subsequent segments concentrate on specific physical and acting skills with an emphasis on ensemble playing.

Currently this course focuses on four principal areas of training:

- Movement skills, including acrobatics, contact improvisation and group dynamics
- Ensemble-building
- Personal and small group improvisation and composition
- Clown workshop

JOURNALS + ASSIGNMENTS

We consider keeping an up-to-date, accurate journal of the training—and artistic and cultural reflections that it inspires—to be an essential element of each student's journey through the semester.

These journals are not intended for public dissemination, but the Program Director will at his discretion ask to have access to them at specific points in the semester to help evaluate students' progress.

The journal may take several forms, including the literary, the visual and the photographic. The ultimate objective of this task is to produce a coherent record for each individual student that serves as a point of crystallization for his or her artistic and intellectual growth.

In addition, the Program Director will set short written assignments at key moments in the semester so that students can articulate clearly their progress and demonstrate comprehension of fundamental principles in the training. The Program Director will provide students with a full calendar of assignments.

OBJECTIVES

The goal of this course is to provide concentrated and rigorous movement training designed to prepare students for mask work and expose them to the basic requirements of acting in a physical theatre context, as well as expand the students' horizon of performance experience and facilitate specialized studies in a chosen area. The combined elements of this course will provide students with experience in ensemble playing.

OUTCOMES

Students will understand the basic notions that underline physical theatre and will have experienced an intensive period of physical training that prepares them for this style of theatre. They will understand more clearly what constitutes ensemble playing and how this can be achieved.

SUGGESTED TEXT

The Moving Body, Jacques Lecoq, Routledge

Please note: Students are not required to obtain the suggested text.

MEANS OF EVALUATION

Attendance and class preparation	60%
Presentations	25%
Journal	15%