FIASCO THEATER
SUMMER CLASSICAL THEATRE INTENSIVE: Shakespeare in Performance
ARTS-UG1024
M,T,W,Th 5:30pm-8:45pm (NO CLASS on Monday May 30th)
May 23rd-June 9th
Taught by Ben Steinfeld, Jessie Austrian, and Noah Brody

Description:

Working with Fiasco Theater, this intensive class has two principal goals: to give students training in a variety of acting and performance techniques for the classic stage, and to mobilize those skills towards interpretation and performance. Time will be spent focusing on such topics as: rehearsal techniques, voice and speech, clowning, working with verse, physical metaphor, conceptualizing and adapting plays for Shakespearean performance, and ensemble games. This intensive is appropriate for all students interested in the performance of Shakespeare. All students will participate in all activities, but the focus of each student can include a diversity of roles.

Schedule:

Week 1 – Foundations

In the first week we will focus on laying the technical foundations for classical acting and exploring how Shakespeare’s language works on stage. This will include group work on text analysis, scansion, imagery, thought discovery, and mode shifting. We will learn a full-length vocal warm-up. The group will collectively explore texts, and also begin individual verse monologue work.

Week 2 – Deepening the Process

In the second week we will begin to make the transition into exploring what makes effective rehearsal. In addition to continued group text and voice work, this week will see the completion of fully physicalized and memorized verse monologues and begin to work on two and three person scenes.

Week 3 – Ensemble Rehearsal

The final week we will continue the scene work and also begin to explore group ensemble rehearsal. We will also broaden our discussion to include topics such as conceptualization, the role of the director and designers, the design process, musical adaption, etc.
Attendance

You must attend every class. Be ready to work. Be fired up. Care. Watch and listen attentively and actively. Support each other. Theater is a collaborative thing – we are all in it together.

Clothes

You must wear or bring appropriate rehearsal clothes to class. This means clothing you can move comfortably in, and don’t mind getting sweaty/dirty/etc. Please do not wear tight jeans or skirts. If you choose to bring rehearsal clothes, you must be changed into them by the start of class.

Grading

Grades for this class will be based entirely on participation and preparation. No one will be evaluated on “talent”, whatever that means. Your talent should not be your concern, and it certainly won’t be our concern. You must be on time and attend every class in order to get an A since your grade is based on participation and preparation. If you need to miss a portion of class due to illness or something extreme please contact us.

Incomplete Grades

Please do your work. Please do not find yourself in a situation where you have to file for a grade of Incomplete. Be aware that a grade of Incomplete can only be given with permission from the instructor, and under approved circumstances.

Academic Integrity

Students in this seminar will be expected to uphold the high standards of academic integrity outlined for all NYU students in your handbook. Plagiarism of any kind is strictly prohibited, and will result in a failing grade, and subsequent punitive action by the Gallatin School.