

*Schule für Schauspiel Hamburg*  
and *Michael Chekhov Europe Training* present:

## **CHEKHOV WORLD THEATRE**

### **International Summer Academy**

hosted by Ulrich Meyer-Horsch

**July 14 - 20, 2023 in Hamburg, Germany**

with

**Suzana Nikolić**, MCE & StudioChekhov Croatia, Zagreb

**Ramith Ramesh**, GITAM University Hyderabad, Telangana, India

**Prajith Prasad**, Trivandrum, Kerala, India

**Kim Chen**, Taipei Theatre Lab, Taiwan

**Jan Oberndorff**, Schule für Schauspiel Hamburg (SfSH), Germany

**Ulrich Meyer-Horsch**, Schule für Schauspiel Hamburg & Michael Chekhov Europe (MCE)

**Michael Chekhov Acting Technique** meets:

**Story telling**

**Clowning** (Europe and South Asia)

**Traditional Kudiattam theatre** (Kerala, India)

**Physical theatre with masks**

**Intercultural theatre** in Singapore, India, East Asia and Europe

### **Welcome to our 2<sup>nd</sup> International Summer Academy “CHEKHOV WORLD THEATRE”**

This annual intercultural encounter brings performance and training approaches from different backgrounds and continents into a practical exchange. You will intensively study the Michael Chekhov Acting Technique, and at the same time you will be in dialogue with other artistic traditions and performance techniques from around the globe. Our guiding topic is: THE AUDIENCE. It will open new perspectives on Acting, Movement, Characterization, Relationships, Style, Body & Space.

There will be various workshop tracks in the morning and afternoon, followed by showcases, events and open classes in the evening. The daily training sessions can be combined so you will get a sense of each of the offered forms. The Summer Academy 2023 includes Michael Chekhov Europe's Training module 5: "Communion with the Audience".

[www.sfsh.de/chekhov-international](http://www.sfsh.de/chekhov-international)

## **WORKSHOP TRACKS**

### **WORKSHOP TRACK 1:**

#### **CLOWNING and STORY TELLING**

Clowning is probably the purest form of acting and storytelling. We all have stories. How do we share these stories? How do we find those ecstatic moments in which we laugh out loud up to the point where we hardly can live anymore? Some people write, some dance, some act. The clown plays.

The clown plays and acts innocently and curiously. The clown experiences the world like a wondering child. Even in moments of fiasco he/she stands up and tries again.

In this track we will learn to follow our first impulse and explore the excitement in improvisation. We will experience funny bones, funny speech and funny story telling. And we will research the complicité between clown and audience.

### **WORKSHOP TRACK 2:**

#### **KUDIYATTAM – traditional Sanskrit theatre from India**

This track offers an opportunity to access the secrets of Kudiyaattam, one of the oldest living theatre traditions which is more than 2000 years old, through a unique method for modern actors.

Emphasizing the principles of training and the basic performing techniques, we will approach all the key elements of Kudiyaattam. After an introduction on general aspects of Sanskrit theatre, participants will start to get acquainted with the basis of the training process such as animal characterization, eye movement, facial movements, moreover physical movements to communicate a story.

The main features of the performing system of Kudiyaattam will be addressed, such as the language of *mudras*, the concepts of *rasa* and *bhava*, the use of the voice, or the primary importance and function of music, make up and costumes.

### **WORKSHOP TRACK 3:**

#### **COMMUNION WITH THE AUDIENCE (Michael Chekhov Technique)**

Whatever we create on stage, we are creating not for ourselves but for others: for the audience. We want to give. *“What is it that we in the theatre give? Instead of images on canvas or in the form of statuary or music, we give our body, voice, feelings, will, imagination – we give a form of pulsating art to life itself.” (M. Chekhov)*

When you create a production or a piece – what are your intentions and aims? What are the needs of your audience? What can you give them? Do you enjoy sharing?

We will explore these questions through improvisation and physical action on the floor. The psycho-physical training will focus on tools like *radiating and receiving*, *listening*, *objectives*, *generosity*, *complicité* and *ensemble*.

## **EVENING EVENTS**

In the evenings, there will be offerings of open classes, performances and special events including a sharing on intercultural theatre in India, East Asia, Singapore and Europe. A full schedule of events will be released a few weeks before the summer academy begins.

**CHEKHOV WORLD THEATRE – International Summer Academy**  
**July 14-20, 2023 in Hamburg, Germany**  
hosted by Ulrich Meyer-Horsch

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Date: **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> of July, 2023**

Working hours: **Fri 14<sup>th</sup>: 5pm - 8pm**  
**Sat 15<sup>th</sup>, Sun 16<sup>th</sup>: 10am - 5pm (incl. lunch break)**  
**Mon 17<sup>th</sup>: 10am - 1pm**  
**Tue 18<sup>th</sup>, Wed 19<sup>th</sup>, Thu 20<sup>th</sup>: 10am - 5pm (incl. lunch break)**  
Evening events TBA

Venue: **Schule für Schauspiel Hamburg**  
Oelkersallee 29a and 33, Hamburg  
[www.sfsh.de/en](http://www.sfsh.de/en)  
Public transport: S-Bahn: Holstenstrasse (10 min. walk)

Working language: English / on stage, participants may act in their own language

Tuition fee:

**€ 580,--** (early bird payment before June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

**€ 640,--** (payment after June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023)

Participants from non-EU countries may apply for a discount (only limited number!)  
(If you want to apply for a discount, please contact: [chekhov@sfsh.de](mailto:chekhov@sfsh.de) )

Housing and food are not included.

If you need help in finding inexpensive accommodation please contact [chekhov@sfsh.de](mailto:chekhov@sfsh.de) !

**CONTACT**

**Michael Chekhov Europe Training**  
at **Schule für Schauspiel Hamburg**  
Oelkersallee 29a 22769 Hamburg, Germany  
[chekhov@sfsh.de](mailto:chekhov@sfsh.de)  
+49 40 4302050  
[www.sfsh.de/chekhov-international](http://www.sfsh.de/chekhov-international)  
[www.michaelchekhov.eu](http://www.michaelchekhov.eu)  
[www.michaelchekhoveurope.eu](http://www.michaelchekhoveurope.eu)

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## FACULTY

### **Suzana Nikolić** – *StudioChekhov Croatia, Zagreb, & Michael Chekhov Europe e.V.*

- Michael Chekhov Technique • Voice and speech

Suzana Nikolić is a full-time professor at the Academy of Dramatic Arts, University of Zagreb. She is a Founder and Artistic Director of Performing Arts StudioChekhov Croatia. Ms. Nikolic's organizational and production credits include over a dozen international workshops. Ms. Nikolić has worked with the Michael Chekhov Technique and taught it professionally for over 20 years and received the MICHA teaching certificate of completion in 2004. In 2004 and 2019 she edited the Croatian translation of Michael Chekhov's *To the Actor – On the Technique of Acting*.

At the Academy of Dramatic Arts, she was a Vice Dean for International Affairs from 2004-2006, Head of the Voice and Speech Department from 2006-2010, and Head of the Acting Department 2016-2018. Since 2016, Ms. Nikolić has been an official faculty member of MICHA, USA. She is a co-founder and member of Michael Chekhov Europe and its international Training Programme.

She graduated from the Academy of Dramatic Arts, and was a Fulbright scholar at NYU Tisch School of the Arts, Graduate Acting Program. She is an award-winning actress with credits in theatre performances, feature films, television films & series as well as radio, and has had over 25 years of additional acting and voice training abroad.

Ms. Nikolić has taught the Chekhov Technique in Europe, America, Israel, and Asia. From 2019 to 2022, she has been teaching the Michael Chekhov Acting Technique at the Shanghai Theatre Academy, China. Her book *Actor of the Future* will be published in China by the end of 2022.

### **Ramith Ramesh** – *GITAM University Hyderabad, Telangana, India*

- Kudiyyattam traditional theatre • Intercultural theatre

Ramith Ramesh is an actor, theater maker and traditional Kudiyyattam practitioner, grown up in Kerala, South India. Currently he lives in Hyderabad, Telangana, where he teaches as a full time Assistant Professor at the recognized GITAM University.

Ramith received his training from the esteemed Intercultural Theatre Institute (ITI) in Singapore and from Kerala Kalamandalam. He appeared on stage more than 250 times at numerous national events and across the globe.

In addition, he has taken part in many theatrical productions and served as an assistant director in various short films. He worked with Ariane Mnouchkine and Theatre du Soleil in Paris, with Indianostrum Theatre in Pondicherry, and has taught Kudiyyattam in theatre organizations in and outside India.

Ramith has received several accolades for his dedication to his career. His work focuses on applying the Asian traditional forms and principles to the performing arts of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### **Kim Chen** – *Taipei Theatre Lab, Taiwan*

- Michael Chekhov Technique • Theatre in East Asia

Kim Chen (Chen Yu-Ting) is the founder and director of Taipei Theatre Lab and a full-time lecturer at The School of Theatre in Taipei National University of the Arts (TNUA). She also works as a freelance director, actor, playwright, and producer. Her theatre work could be seen in major theatre companies' productions and theatre festivals in Taipei.

As a director and producer, Kim's interest and strength is to infuse music, song, and dance into various kinds of creative works.

As a theater educator, Kim is known as the pioneer who has introduced Michael Chekhov Technique to Taiwan and stretched its application into different disciplines such as theater, dance, musical, opera, film, and television.

### **Prajith Prasad** – *Trivandrum, Kerala, India*

- Intercultural theatre • Devising • Story telling

Prajith K Prasad is an actor, performance maker and producer. He is the artistic director of 'The Artswokers Studio', a laboratory space for the performing arts in Trivandrum, capital of Kerala, India. Prajith did his bachelors in English literature from Kerala University and took his diploma in acting from the Intercultural Theatre Institute (ITI) in Singapore. In 2022, he had the opportunity to work with the Suzuki Company of Toga, Japan. Recently he became a guest teacher at Hyderabad Central University, one of the leading universities in India.

As an actor, Prajith has performed in both India and Singapore. He was invited to theatre festivals like International Theatre Festival of Kerala (ITFOK) and Soorya Theatre Festival. In the last years, Prajith has been developing his own acting pedagogy called "Rediscovering Senses", using the fundamental principles from various forms from different cultures.

### **Jan Oberndorff** – *Artistic director, Schule für Schauspiel Hamburg*

- Clowning • Improvisation • Movement in Space

Jan Oberndorff studied dramatics at Ludwig-Maximilian-Universität Munich and acting at Schule für Schauspiel Hamburg. For many years he worked as an actor in Hamburg and Berlin, on stage and in television. 1996 he founded his own theatre company named "Berliner Männerensemble". During the next five years he directed 12 productions in Berlin. In 1998 he received the renowned award "Kritikerpreis der Berliner Zeitung" for the production of Romeo and Juliet. He also directed throughout Germany and Austria, e.g. in Hamburg, Hildesheim, Tübingen, Stuttgart, Munich and Vienna.

In the same time he started to teach. He gave classes at acting schools in Berlin, Hamburg, Vienna, Zurich, Weimar, Temeswar (Romania) and Seoul (Korea).

From 2006 to 2009 he worked as resident director for the global operating enterprise Stage Entertainment, managing two big musical theatres in Hamburg: "Das Operettenhaus" and "Neue Flora". 2010 he returned to the school where he had studied and became one of the artistic directors of "Schule für Schauspiel Hamburg".

### **Ulrich Meyer-Horsch** – *Artistic director of SfSH; Michael Chekhov Europe e.V.*

- Michael Chekhov Technique • Mask work (neutral, character, Bali)

Ulrich Meyer-Horsch is an award-winning actor and theatre director with three decades of working experience in German state and regional theatres: Deutsches Schauspielhaus Hamburg, Theater Kiel, Theater Lübeck, Schauspiel Frankfurt, Kampnagel Hamburg, Altonaer Theater, Komödie Düsseldorf, Maxim Gorki Theater Berlin, among others. He has worked with Simon McBurney and Complicité, Augusto Boal and Yoshi Oida. Until 2015 he was the associate artistic director of Kreuzgangspiele Feuchtwangen, one of Germany's biggest summer theatres.

Ulrich Meyer-Horsch holds a degree in Acting from Schule für Schauspiel Hamburg and diplomas in

Theology, Philosophy and Theatre Pedagogy from the universities of Heidelberg, Hamburg, and London (King's College). He studied with Michael Chekhov's former students Hurt Hatfield, Deidre Hurst du Prey, Mala Powers and Joanna Merlin as well as with master teachers from Russia and East Asia. In his approach to the Chekhov Technique he incorporates the exploration of children's games and work with masks. Since 1994 he has been teaching throughout Europe, Russia, Armenia, the Middle East, Brazil, Uruguay, the US, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan and Indonesia. He is a guest lecturer at Yeditepe University, Istanbul, Turkey, and a member of the international faculty of the Michael Chekhov Association (MICHA), New York. Since 2020 he is the co-artistic director of Schule für Schauspiel Hamburg (SfSH).

## HOW TO GET TO HAMBURG

### **By train and bus:**

There are very good train connections from most European cities: [www.bahn.de](http://www.bahn.de)  
You can reach the city also easily by bus (e.g. Flixbus).

### **By plane:**

Hamburg Airport: [www.hamburg-airport.de](http://www.hamburg-airport.de)

From the airport you take the S-Bahn to get to Hauptbahnhof (main station) or Holstenstrasse or Bahnhof Altona.

### **How to get to Schule für Schauspiel (SfSH):**

From the airport or from Hauptbahnhof (main station) you take the S-Bahn to Holstenstrasse (S11, S21, S31). From there it is a 10 min. walk to Oelkersallee 29a and 33.

Check city map on: [www.sfsh.de/service/anfahrt](http://www.sfsh.de/service/anfahrt)

## THE CITY

[www.hamburg-tourism.de](http://www.hamburg-tourism.de); [www.hamburg.de](http://www.hamburg.de); [www.hafen-hamburg.de](http://www.hafen-hamburg.de)

## ACCOMODATION

[www.schanzenstern.de](http://www.schanzenstern.de); [www.instantsleep.de](http://www.instantsleep.de); [www.hostels.com/hamburg](http://www.hostels.com/hamburg)

[www.meininger-hotels.com/en/hotels/hamburg](http://www.meininger-hotels.com/en/hotels/hamburg)

[www.hamburg-tourism.de](http://www.hamburg-tourism.de); [www.hamburg.de](http://www.hamburg.de); [www.Hotelreservierung.de/Hamburg](http://www.Hotelreservierung.de/Hamburg)

[www.airbnb.de](http://www.airbnb.de); [www.booking.com](http://www.booking.com)

The school cannot organize your accommodation. However, we are happy to send you a list of affordable places close to the school. Please feel free to ask if you need further help.

There are many cafes, restaurants and shops in the area. You can pay in Euro, credit card and V-pay (maestro/girocard). Smaller places will accept only cash.

## LUNCH at the school

The school has a nice little Café: Cantina 33. Apart from snacks and drinks, you can buy delicious and inexpensive lunch in the cafe. We recommend everybody to stay there in the lunch breaks.

## HOW TO APPLY

Please book your place via: Schule für Schauspiel Hamburg

**<https://sfsh.de/chekhov-international/international-summer-academy>**

Please make your payment to:

Schule für Schauspiel Hamburg

via

**<https://sfsh.de/chekhov-international/international-summer-academy>**

Applications will be registered once the application form has been returned and the workshop fee is paid. Your place will be confirmed by email as soon as possible thereafter.

Ca. 2 weeks before the workshop you will be sent further details concerning practical matters.

The organizers are not liable for any claims regarding loss or theft of valuables, or in cases of accidents, injuries, harm or illness during the workshop or on the way to or from the working space.

We expect you to show a professional working attitude during the workshop.

*All details are subject to change.*