

ANNOUNCING A UNIQUE EXPLORATION OF OVID'S *METAMORPHOSES*:
A Three-Week Workshop on the Aeolian Isle of Stromboli, Italy
May 25 - June 14, 2008
For 12 Professional Actors

The workshop will be led by Alessandro Fabrizi, Italian director and teacher; Susan Main, designated Linklater voice teacher; and Ragnar Freidank, Michael Chekhov teacher.

A select international group of professional actors will be led in a workshop exploring tales from Ovid's *Metamorphoses* in the English translation by renowned poet Ted Hughes. The workshop will appropriately be conducted on the Island of Stromboli, as close as we can get to Ovid's original setting. Daily classes will include advanced Linklater voice work along with "Movement and Text Technique" created by Alessandro Fabrizi. Michael Chekhov work will begin during the second week. The workshop process will culminate in a series of site-specific performances at different locations on the island of Stromboli and a final public presentation at the Anfiteatro Eos in Stromboli, an outdoor amphitheatre whose backdrop is the Mediterranean Sea.

Stromboli, an island formed by an active volcano, offers an inspiring set for this exploration: the voices and the stories will resonate in an environment of fire, water, wind, black sand, and rocks. The constantly changing landscape and seascape there evoke elemental metamorphoses. The actors' gestures and voices will respond to and be enhanced by the stimuli of the environment, the voice and movement techniques studied during the workshop sessions, and the images conjured up by the stories. All this will occur under the eye of the theatre director, who will absorb, reflect on, and give shape to what has stirred.

The workshop will investigate the purpose and potential of language and the human voice; it will consider how communication transpires at the deepest levels of being; and it will reflect on the experience of enlightenment that can still take place in the theatrical interaction between actors and audience.

Metamorphosis, elemental transformation, communication.... Isn't that the actor's calling?

Biographies:

ALESSANDRO FABRIZI:

is a theatre director and actor, and teaches Voice at the "Accademia Nazionale di Arte Drammatica Silvio D'Amico" in Rome and is Faculty Member of the Actors' Center of New York.. Among his latest productions as theatre director are: "Bartleby the Scrivener" at the Blue Heron Arts Center in New York (Fall 2005) and "Studio per Tre Novelle dal Decameron" for the Anagni Medieval Theatre Festival (Italy, July 2006). He has held seminars on "Movement & Text" at the University of Chicago, Dartmouth University, Butler University (Indianapolis), Columbia University in New

York, University of Long Island and the Blue Heron Arts Center and the Actors Movement Studio in New York, USA. He recently directed the Actors' Thesis of the MFA program at the School of Performing Arts of Columbia University, New York ("Metamorphoses – Ted Hughes' Tales From Ovid", Fall 2006). As a filmmaker he has directed the short film *E se...* (2001), and the documentary *Giving Voice – Kristin Linklater, 15 actors and 7 Tales from Ovid* (World Video Production). In cinema, he has collaborated with Anthony Minghella (*The Talented Mr. Ripley*), Tom Tykwer (*Heaven*) and Fatih Akin (*Solino*) as supervisor of the Italian dialogues of those movies and as dialect coach (for Jack Davenport, Giovanni Ribisi, Cate Blanchet and Barnaby Metsurat). As an actor he has played the role of Sergeant Baggio in *The Talented Mr Ripley* and the role of Inspector Alberto Cerutti in *The International* (USA release August 2008) directed by Tom Tykwer.

SUSAN MAIN:

is an actress and Designated Linklater Voice Teacher based in New York City. She currently serves on the faculties of the Actor's Studio MFA program at Pace University, the Linklater Center for Voice and Language, and the Larry Singer Studios. Susan has taught voice and/or movement on the faculties of New York University, Emerson College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Boston Conservatory. Susan also works actively as a private vocal coach both in NYC and abroad, regularly conducting voice workshops in New York, Italy and Australia. Her students include politicians, corporate executives, Broadway, film and television actors. At present, she is the vocal coach for a piece for the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company's 25th Anniversary Season, debuting in 2008 at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. She has served as a voice and movement coach to theatre companies in Italy and Portugal. In 2005, she co-produced and served as script supervisor and assistant director on the documentary *Giving Voice*, filmed in Stromboli, Italy, featuring world-renowned voice teacher Kristin Linklater. Susan holds an MFA in Theatre Education specializing in voice and movement from Boston University.

RAGNAR FREIDANK:

is from Germany. He was trained as a mime and holds an MFA in Acting from the Conservatory of Music and Theatre in Hamburg. He received a scholarship from Villigst (Germany) to study the Michael Chekhov Technique in New York City; his teachers were Ted Pugh and Fern Sloan, with whom he subsequently collaborated for many years in The Actors' Ensemble. He has worked as an actor and director in Germany and has performed in Budapest, London, Stockholm, and New York. He teaches in the Graduate Acting Programs of Columbia University and The New School and is currently directing *Beautiful Hills of Brooklyn*, a short film starring Joanna Merlin. As a master teacher for MICHA (Michael Chekhov Association) he continues to teach at international conferences in Europe and the United States. He co-directed *Master Classes in the Michael Chekhov Technique*, MICHA's DVD series, published by Routledge in 2007.

Contact Alessandro Fabrizi or Susan Main for further information:

alessandrofabrizi@libero.it

smain@nyc.rr.com