



INTERNATIONAL PLAYHOUSE



“SHAKES-SHARE” – London, 11-13th November, 2016



We are very pleased to present the first International Playhouse project: “Shakes-Share”. This is an intercultural educational event involving International House Ancona and Jesi, International House Voronezh, International House London, Leyton 6th Form College, The Arts Educational Schools London, Trinity College London and International House World Organisation.

This November around 50 students from Italy, Russia and the UK will come together to perform a mixture of existing drama projects as well as sharing and creating new dramatic and linguistic experiences. With 2016 celebrating the 400th anniversary of the life and death of Shakespeare, the central theme of the project is Shakespeare’s works and their influence that carries through to this day. Each participating school group has already created their own successful Shakespeare-themed projects in their own cities. They will now meet in London for a weekend of cultural and linguistic exchange. Students will participate in a day of drama workshops, hosted at IH London, with workshops proposed by Arts Educational Schools tutors as well as the directors of the Italian and Russian theatre projects. All the workshops will have a Shakespeare thread running through them. This will be followed by a day of performances along with local students at Leyton 6th Form College.

Trinity College London, whose range of exams is designed to enhance real-world communication skills include English language, drama and music, is an enthusiastic partner of this project. All students taking part will receive a certificate of participation along with feedback from Trinity’s expert assessment team.

There are multiple objectives of this exciting project:

Linguistic: students will be working in English to prepare and perform their pieces.

Literary and cultural history: with theatre as a cultural reference point, students will have the opportunity to discuss a wide variety of topics around the central theme of Shakespeare.

Co-operation: each participating school contribute to the staging of the performances, taking charge of a specific area of the representation and working on a given creative field.

Social: this is a unique opportunity for developing cross-cultural awareness and friendships between the students and teachers involved, broadening horizons and creating a feeling of community.

A summary of the participating groups and projects

International House Ancona and Jesi – The Victoria Company (Italy)

Project: “Shakespeare in a Box III” (*Title of work revisited: “TMPST- The Tempest vogued”*)



An original production directed by Fiorenza Montanari and created and performed by students of IH Acona & Jesi at the Pergolesi Theatre on the 23rd of April, 2016. This bilingual (English-Italian) play combined three intertwining components: Shakespeare’s “The Tempest”, the poetry of Giovanni Pascoli and the music of Madonna. Although these three worlds might appear completely unrelated, the final product was a successful combination of culturally valuable topics that were relevant to the student’s studies and age groups.

The production explored the themes of the relationship between man and nature, the conflict between father and daughter, the momentum towards the profanation of what is holy to the previous generation, magic and the supernatural, the invisible force of music, ‘the New World’ and the theme of immigration. The production was supported by the Associazione Culturale Victoria (A.C.V.), a local organisation which promotes the appreciation of multicultural and multilingual activities in the region.

International House Voronezh (Russia)

Project: “Shakespeareia”



A project initiated by a prominent local actor, Kamil Tukaev, this educational drama space exposed teenagers to Shakespeare’s masterpieces in their original versions through acting and learning. Regular classes involve drama, body and voice, language and team-building activities, taught by a team of top professionals.

As part of this endeavour, a group of 16 teenagers aged 13-18 started working on their own version of *Midsummer Night’s Dream* in January 2016, and in April they performed at the international youth drama festival in Gent. Here they took part in workshops, met their young colleagues from abroad and enjoyed being together as a group.

The production was a 45-minute piece, presenting one of the plot-lines from *Midsummer Night’s Dream* (the complicated love story of 4 teenagers). The text, a joint creation of the director and actor Kamil Tukaev and Natalia Bayrak, the project’s language consultant and teacher, is a modern English teenage-language adaptation of the original text (with the story “retold” in verse) combined with pieces of the original text, sonnets, modern and original songs and music. The actors “swap”, so the same part is played by several actors, enforcing the “chaos” element, however, the strong body-language focus helps keep the play very accessible.

Leyton 6th Form College (London)

Located in North East London, the college’s mission is: “*Working within a safe, welcoming and stimulating environment, which embraces diversity and promotes respect, we help students fulfil their academic potential and become thinking, questioning and caring members of society.*” With excellent facilities including a state of the art theatre and rehearsal studios, Leyton College will be the venue for the Shakes-Share project performances. A group of Leyton College students will participate in the Saturday workshops and will perform their version of *Macbeth* alongside the performances from IH Ancona and Jesi and IH Voronezh on Sunday.

For more information visit <http://www.leyton.ac.uk/>

The Arts Educational Schools London

Arts Educational Schools London (ArtsEd), based in Chiswick, is recognised across the globe as a centre of excellence for training in the performing arts. ArtsEd was founded in 1939 when Grace Cone and Olive Ripman merged two existing schools with the ambition of preparing young people for professional careers in the theatre, a principle that has remained at the forefront of ArtsEd's training ever since.

ArtsEd offers a three year Acting BA Hons course which prepares students for stage and screen. The Musical Theatre BA Hons course is widely regarded as the best in its field within the UK. The school offers a range of undergraduate, postgraduate and part-time courses, providing exceptional training to all ages and abilities. The Independent Day School and Sixth Form nurtures pupils from the ages of 11-18 with an outstanding vocational and academic education.

For the Shakes-Share project, ArtsEd tutors will be involved in the programme of Shakespeare themed drama workshops planned on Saturday, and some students will be contributing performances on Sunday.

Named 'School of the Year' at The Stage Awards 2016. For more information please visit www.artsed.co.uk

Trinity College London

Trinity College London is a leading international exam board with a positive, supportive approach to assessment and development. Trinity has been delivering external exams since 1877 and offers qualifications across a range of disciplines in performing and creative arts, as well as English language learning and teaching.

Preparing for Trinity exams and assessments helps equip people with the skills needed to communicate and perform effectively in real life situations beyond the classroom. The Trinity approach is to build learner confidence and inspire people to progress by marking stages of achievement at all levels of competence.

Trinity qualifications are valued by colleges, universities and employers worldwide and help people achieve their personal, educational and career goals. Trinity delivers over 700,000 assessments in more than 60 countries each year.

International House World Organisation and Trinity College London have recently signed a relationship agreement and are working closely together to enable more of IH's high quality schools to become Trinity exam centres.

For more information visit www.trinitycollege.com

