

The **ACCADEMIA TEATRALE DI FIRENZE** is a school of dramatic arts founded in 1992 and directed by Pietro Bartolini under the patronage of the Municipality of Florence. It offers courses in the performing arts for children and adults. The four-year programme includes seminars for the study of diction, classical texts, dance, singing and directing as well as theatre in English and film making laboratories. Every year end-of-course performances, including plays and musicals, showcase emergent student talent that has benefitted from the rigours and opportunities of the training. Framed by deeply rooted cultural and artistic values and shaped by the course architecture, including exposure to the latest digital techniques and visual and creative arts, students continue to make progress in the industry. In recent years the school has achieved excellent results preparing young actors for professional careers in film, advertising and theatre.

PIETRO BARTOLINI studied at Vittorio Gassman's Bottega and under Orazio Costa. As an actor, he has worked in European tours with Gabriele Lavia, Mariangela Melato, Peter Stein and Giancarlo Sepe amongst others. He has directed numerous plays with many appearing at Teatro della Pergola in Florence. He is an author, producer and director of plays, documentaries, videos and academic papers. Currently Pietro teaches acting and directing at the Accademia Teatrale di Firenze, which he founded in 1992. Combining classical perspective and detailed investigation of the opportunities and challenges of new technologies Pietro was the first to apply Immersive Virtual Reality in drama teaching and actor training. This spawned innovative project partnerships with the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna of Pisa and other universities and research institutes including Laboratorio GECO Università degli Studi di Firenze, directed by Prof. Grazia Tucci.

TIZIANA ACOMANNI embraces many forms of artistic expression: she is a stage designer, make-up artist and painter. After graduating from the Accademia delle Belle Arti in Florence, since 1994 she has been teaching drawing and painting for courses organized by the Municipality of Florence. She has collaborated with the Accademia Teatrale di Firenze as a stage designer for video and theatre productions and also teaches make-up for actors. She has participated in numerous exhibitions in Italy and abroad, and her works are included in both public and private collections. She specialized in special effects for the theatre and cinema at the Teatro della Scala in Milan. Recently, she has specialized in art therapy and organizes seminars and workshops on this subject for various organizations and institutions.

TO ATTEND THE MEETING
IT IS NECESSARY TO BE REGISTERED

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Under the patronage and contribution of



EMANUELE DE LUCA is an Associate Professor of Theatre Studies at Côte d'Azur University: PhD in History of Visual and Performing Arts from Pisa University and PhD in Italian Studies from Sorbonne Université. He is a Member of CTELA, Université Côte d'Azur, Associate Scholar of ELCI, Sorbonne Université and of CMBV, Centre de Musique Baroque de Versailles. His research and teaching interests focus on exchanges among Italian, French and European Theatre in the early modern period, and on the theory of acting from the ancient world to the contemporary. He works as a director and dramaturge and organizes events that bring together academic research and artistic work.

CONSERVATOIRE ROYAL DE BRUXELLES Founded in 1932 the Conservatoire, Graduate School of Arts of the French Community, is one of the oldest arts education institutions in Belgium. Bringing together the fields of music - early music, classical music & jazz - and the disciplines of speech the RCB pools international student talent and focuses its training through a rich, prestigious theatrical past with an outward, confident view of the future. Tradition and creative interpretation, supported by detailed technical knowledge and skills, form the body of course processes. These are channeled through dramatic and non-dramatic works and free form expression thus advancing the practices of performative theatrical art. The conservatoire continues to offer courses in general & humanistic education.

JEAN-FRANÇOIS BRION is an actor and director and today mainly a teacher. A defender of popular theatre but also of a theatre that gives its rightful place to the beauty of language, he alternates working around boulevard or tragedy authors with the same appetite. A lover of music, he leaves a strong place for it in his theatrical approach. Strongly interested in pedagogy and vocal work, he is a professor of methodology and vocal training for actors at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels. A lover of travel, he also leads master classes abroad, linking theatrical acting and voice. International participations: Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts, National School of Delhi, and exchanges with Erasmus (RADA, Université de Rennes, de Paris 8)". As an actor, he played for Frédéric Dussenne, Jean-Claude Penchenat, Jean-Claude Idée, Marine Haulot. Teaching: He was teacher of methodology, and is now main Voice teacher, inspired mainly in his work by François Combeau (le geste vocal).

DIANE FOURDRIGNIER is a Brussels-based theatre artist, dramaturge and teacher whose practice moves across theatre, dance, and contemporary performance. A longtime collaborator of Peeping Tom, she has performed internationally in major productions including 32 rue Vandenranden, A Louer, Moeder, and The Land. Her dramaturgical work, spanning collaborations with

artists such as Meg Stuart and Mohamed Toukabri, has presented in festivals and venues across Europe and beyond. Alongside her artistic work she has taught acting at the Royal Conservatoire of Brussels since 2015 and regularly leads international workshops. Her work is rooted in dramaturgical precision, embodied storytelling and the dialogue between movement, text and stage presence.

ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS - UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS SHARJAH is a world-class facility galvanising communities, showcasing local and international creative talent, and leading the way in higher education for performing and production arts in the MENA region. SPAA offers the opportunity for candidates to study full-time Bachelor degrees in Acting, Production Arts and Musical Theatre, in addition to the Trinity Level 6 Diploma in Professional Dance, and this year now offers postgraduate studies, Master of Fine Arts in Theatre and Live Performance Creation. Their programmes are led by highly qualified professionals and educators using intensive, practice-based training. Opened in 2019 and born from the vision of His Highness Sheikh Dr Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, Ruler of Sharjah, SPAA is the only Academy of its kind in the Middle East and through the generosity of HH, Ruler of Sharjah, fully funded scholarships are available for eligible students each academic year for all programmes.

BENEDICT AYRTON was Assistant Director at the Everyman Theatre and Salisbury Playhouse (1989-1991) Associate Director for the Gateway and Contact Theatres (1992-1999), Artistic Director for Theatre Venture (2000-2004) and Chief Executive for NAYT (2004-2006). Ben rejoined the RSC as Associate Practitioner in 2007 and in 2009 became Executive Producer for NE-Generation, the North East England cultural programme for London 2012 Olympic Games, receiving the NCVYS Award for Arts and Culture 2013. Ben's writing career has seen him work across theatre, television and film, working with BBC Drama and Continuing Drama, Channel 4 and a range of independent companies. He holds a Master's Degree (Distinction) in Creative Writing from Northumbria at Newcastle University and is an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society Arts (UK).

ZENON KRUSZELNICKI is a theatre director, actor, and actor trainer specialising in contemporary performance and actor training. He has worked internationally across Europe, the UK, the Middle East, and the United States, developing productions and leading workshops for emerging and professional artists. His practice draws on diverse European and global traditions, with a focus on ensemble work, physical performance, and rigorous rehearsal processes. With extensive experience in conservatoire education, he supports actors and directors in combining strong

technical foundations with imaginative and critically engaged approaches to contemporary performance.

ARTS² ÉCOLE SUPÉRIEURE DES ARTS - MONS The ARTS² Theatre Department's educational program aims to train actors. It is organized into a coordinated set of foundational courses (body, voice, and public speaking training) and theoretical and general courses. The student's learning process is both continuous and structured around specific events and application exercises concentrated within a timeframe. ARTS² has three other departments: music, visual arts, and dance.

ERIC DOMENEGHETTY's professional journey began with the Marseille Naval Fire Battalion (1986-1987), before turning toward theatre; he moved toward contact dance and improvisation, training with renowned dance figures such as Louise Burns, Kristie Simson, Steve Paxton, Julyen Hamilton, and Mark Tompkins. His collaborations with various artists from the Franco-Belgian creative scene have enabled him to develop and refine his role as a performer, in a constant process of questioning and exploration. Alongside this, since 2010 he has been actively involved in the ECLA - Art for All project, the Wallonia Performing Arts Centre for Children and Youth. He is also a regular movement coach at the Higher School of Arts of Mons - Arts² (Belgium), within the theatre department. Since 2025, he has been a member of the reading committee of Quartier des Auteurs et des Autrices (QD2A) in Belgium.

DELPHINE VEGGIOTTI is an actress, director, and drama teacher. In 2007, Delphine completed her drama studies at the Conservatory of Mons. Upon graduating, she discovered theatre aimed at broad and young audiences - a passionate and dynamic field in which she has been working for more than 20 years. At the same time, she quickly became deeply interested in the art of acting, clown performance, and teaching. For the past 11 years, she has been teaching clowning and drama. She offers actors a series of experiences and explorations designed to make the actor's body available, stronger, and more flexible (through the Feldenkrais method). The same applies to the voice, breathing, and mind. She has worked as an actress with several artists and companies.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ART (RADA) Founded in 1904, Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA) provides world-leading performing arts training, internationally recognised for excellence in acting, technical theatre, stage management, design and creative practice training. For more than 120 years, RADA has shaped generations of influential performers, directors, writers and production specialists whose work has had a profound impact on cultural life around the world. Our graduates have

received global recognition across stage and screen, collectively winning Academy Awards, BAFTAs, Olivier Awards, Tony Awards and Golden Globes, while leading major cultural organisations and productions worldwide. RADA combines artistic excellence with a strong commitment to equity, inclusion, wellbeing and access, empowering students to become resilient, socially engaged and creatively ambitious practitioners whose collective impact transcends individual achievement and resonates far beyond our borders and the performing arts.

SINÉAD RUSHE is a theatre director and acting coach. She is Lead Acting Tutor at RADA London. She trained at The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama London, following a degree in English and French at Trinity College Dublin and a DEA at University of Paris 8 and the Ecole Normale Supérieure. She is the author of Michael Chekhov's Acting Technique: A Practitioner's Guide (Bloomsbury 2019) and co-translator into French, with Sarah Hirschmuller, of four plays by Howard Barker (Editions Théâtrales). She is co-director of Michael Chekhov UK, Faculty Council member of Michael Chekhov Association USA (MICHA) and patron of Living Pictures theatre company in Wales. She gives masterclasses and talks worldwide on acting, the Michael Chekhov technique and Meyerhold's Biomechanics and offers regular coaching at Creative Actor Training where she is Artistic Director.

JOE WINDLEY, Voice & Speech Teacher/Coach and actor. Trained at Bristol Old Vic Theatre School and the Royal Central School of Speech & Drama. Previously head of voice at GSA Conservatoire (Unis), Manchester School of Theatre (MMU) and The Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (King's College, London). Before teaching at Carnegie Mellon School of Drama (CMU-Pittsburgh) Joe was Principle Lecturer & Head of Course for Royal Central School of Speech & Drama's prestigious MA Voice Studies programme (London). He has also served as guest faculty at WAAPA, (Perth, Western Australia) and SPAA, University of the Arts, (Sharjah, UAE). Last year included a first contribution to European Forum Alpbach (Austria) and voice coach on Than Hussain Clark's acclaimed London theatre production of Mother Has Arrived. He is co-director of Shakespeare in English Workshops and Honorary Ambassador for META, an event attended every year since its inception in 2015.

4/9 July 2026

TEATRO DELLA PERGOLA

Florence | Italy

directed by Pietro Bartolini



10th Edition

Accademia Teatrale di Firenze
Florence

Arts² École Supérieure des Arts
Mons

Conservatoire royal de Bruxelles
Brussels

Academy of Performing Arts - University of the Arts Sharjah
Sharjah - United Arab Emirates

Royal Academy of Dramatic Art RADA
London

MEETING ON METHODS FOR TEACHING DRAMA

Saturday, 4th July

10.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. *Saloncino*

***Acting Workshop** held by Joe Windley *Honourary Ambassador META*

1.00 p.m. - 2.00 p.m. *Lunch break*

2.00 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. *Saloncino*

Character and interiority, creativity and study of emotions

***Workshop** held by Tiziana Acomanni

Monday, 6th July

8.45 p.m. *Sala Grande*

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

by William Shakespeare

directed by Pietro Bartolini

voice tutor Joe Windley

make up artist Tiziana Acomanni

technical director Lorenzo Belli

cast Sofia Manara, Margherita Tonarelli, Giulia Fagnoni, Anita Altilio, Valentina Kaiser, Linda Fucini, Damiano Falsini, Matteo Campostrini, Bernardo Salmeri, Gabriele D'Andrade Corsa, Duccio Camarlinghi, Matteo Franchetti, Ermal Kuqi, Nicola Salvati, Giosuè Guerri

A witty romantic comedy that follows the playful battle of words between Beatrice and Benedick alongside a tale of love and misunderstanding. It explores themes of deception, honor, and the complexities of relationships with humor and sharp dialogue.



This show is in Italian

Tuesday, 7th July

9.30 a.m. - 12.30 a.m. *Saloncino*

***Acting Workshop** *The Seagull* from Anton Čechov held by Jean-François Brion

Conservatoire royal de Bruxelles

12.30 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. *lunch break*

1.30 p.m. - 2.30 p.m. *Visit to the citadel of the Pergola Theatre*

2.30 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.

***Acting Workshop** *Characterisation and the Michael Chekhov approach*

held by Sinéad Rushe

Royal Academy of Dramatic Art RADA

8.45 p.m. *Sala Grande*

TWELVE SOULS

directed by Eric Domeneghetti and Delphine Veggiotti

cast Léo Nortier, Téa Bruyninckx, Adrien Gillot, Alvard Malkhasyan Sébastian Cannell, Emilie Metral, Elise Perot, Alana Kerihuel, Romane Loup, Maël Peano, Juliette Culot, Aléxia Willai

Twelve souls, each carrying their own monsters, gathering for the span of a night. The desire to belong, to tell stories, to stand just for a moment at the center of something larger than themselves. A balance between missteps, reaching and hope. And together, they step into joy, or the idea of it.



This show is in French

Wednesday, 8th July

9.30 a.m. - 12.30 a.m. *Saloncino*

***Acting Workshop** held by Pietro Bartolini and Emanuele De Luca Accademia Teatrale di Firenze - Université Côte d'Azur

12.30 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. *lunch break*

1.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m. *Saloncino*

***Acting Workshop** *Body in the Moment* held by Eric Domeneghetti and Delphine Veggiotti Arts² École Supérieure des Arts - Mons

7.45 p.m. *Saloncino*

MAD BEAM

directed by Diane Fourdrignier in collaboration with Daphné D'Heur *cast* Huguette Izobimpa, Adrian Marsia, Yannig Bonard, Matteo Vieuxtemps, Sapho Baworowski

"Where is the fool?" Shouts the King. Does Shakespeare respond with questions, or lack thereof? Maybe that's the answer. Through a poetic-politico-foolishico cabaret, the students of the Royal Conservatory of Brussels invite you to a sensitive immersion in Shakespeare's mad mind, moving through the outcasts haunting the fringes of society. Where are these lonely ghosts who dare defy authority now?



This show is in French

9.15 p.m. *Sala Grande*

THE CUB

Episodes from Arab Football

directed by Ali Mashaal

stage manager Martin Luke

technical manager Haidi Faraj

sound engineer Mohamed Ehab

video editor Ihab Mandra

cast Mamdoh Salah, Abdullah Fattal, Soukaina Benchekroun, Fatma Mohamed, Amjad Abu Ammar

The Cub: Episodes from Arab Football is a documentary-theatre work that traces a century of Arab history through the language, rituals, and mythology of football. Moving between memory, politics, and play, the performance follows a silent child known only as The Cub, whose journey unfolds across different moments where football intersects with identity, violence, hope, and collective memory.



This show is in Arabic with English subtitles

Thursday, 9th July

9.30 a.m. - 12.30 a.m. *Saloncino*

***Acting Workshop**

held by Zenon Kruszelnicki and Benedict Ayrton

Academy of Performing Arts - University of the Arts Sharjah

1.30 p.m. - 2.30 p.m. *lunch break*

2.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.

Methods for teaching theatre: final considerations and ceremony with delivery of final certificates to participants

8.45 p.m. *Sala Grande*

RICHARD II

by William Shakespeare

directed by Sinéad Rushe

technician Lauren-Eve Martin

cast Danielle Adu, Alice Allen, Eilidh Northridge, Kirsty Williamson, Noah Boileau, Stefano Cisano, Daniel McNamee, Edward Oulton, Joseph Philips

King Richard II banishes Henry Bolingbroke, seizes noble land, and uses the money to fund wars. Henry returns to England to reclaim his land, gathers an army of those opposed to Richard, and deposes him



This show is in English

An interpreter (English - Italian) will be present