

"Meeting Jerzy Grotowski and his work"

**Scientific Symposium
December 3–5, 2025, University of Patras**

Organized by:

- The Laboratory of Drama and Speech, Department of Theatre Studies, University of Patras
- The Center for Theatrical Anthropology
- Patras Municipal and Regional Theatre (DIPETHE Patras)

The Polish teacher, researcher, and director **Jerzy Grotowski** passed away on January 14, 1999, at the age of 65. Alongside K. Stanislavski, V. Meyerhold, B. Brecht, and Peter Brook, he is one of the great figures of 20th-century theatre. Yet, he and his work remain largely unknown to many even today. Twenty-six years after his death, no academic meeting has yet been held dedicated to his work and studies.

This Symposium will attempt—through presentations by Greek and international guests, including academics, directors, actors, as well as through workshops and screenings of rare visual material—to highlight all phases of his research and to demonstrate the extent to which his work has been important and decisive for contemporary performance. The Symposium will take place at the end of 2025 and will include:

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM:

Thursday, December 3, 2025

Theatre Workshop

Venue: DIPETHE Patras

Thomas Richards: Director, former head of the Work center of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards (Italy)

Friday, December 4, 2025

Venue: University of Patras

Lectures – Presentations:

- **Thomas Richards:** Director, former head of the Work center of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards (Italy)
- **Eugenio Barba:** Director, founder of Odin Teatret (Denmark), founder of Theatre Anthropology, Honorary Professor at several universities
- **Kris Salata:** Professor of Theatre, Head of Theatre Department, Florida State University (USA)
- **Mirjana Poptesin:** Actress, holder of a postgraduate degree from the University of Crete

- **Maria Fragki:** PhD in Theatre Studies, Director, Academic Staff Member of the Department of Theatre Studies, University of Patras

Theatre Workshop

Venue: DIPETHE Patras

Mario Biagini: Director, actor, former associate director at the Work center of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards, co-founder of the Open Program (Italy)

Saturday, December 5, 2025

Venue: University of Patras

Lectures – Presentations:

- **Mario Biagini:** Actor, co-director at the Work center of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards, co-founder of the Open Program (Italy)
- **Jaroslav Fret:** Director, actor, Director of the Grotowski Institute (Wrocław, Poland)
- **Maria Saritsami:** Holder of a postgraduate degree in Theatre Studies, School of Fine Arts, University of the Peloponnese, specializing in “Theatre and Society: Performance Practice, Pedagogy and Social Applications”
- **Yiannis Mitrou:** Professor, Department of Visual and Applied Arts, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Director of the International Research Lab Alma Kalma, Psychoanalyst
- **Myrto Koumarianou:** PhD in Theatre focusing on the research of the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards (Italy)

Round Table Discussion: “Meeting Grotowski”

Participants include, Vasilis Langos, Maria Panoutsou, Pari Korachai, and others.

At the end of each day, there will be a screening of visual material from the work of Jerzy Grotowski, open to the public, held at the University of Patras.

Masterclass:

Vasilis Langos – *The physical actions of the Work center during the Wrocław period*