

Theatre RE - Education Pack



"The workshop helped students explore fundamental elements in an accessible way - a window into performance training: controlling the body, articulating the space, holding a focused body, ensemble awareness. So much learning in 2 hours! An instant antidote to the pedestrian classroom drama habits!"

Helen Whelan

Head of Drama at Parkstone Grammar School

We are one of the UK's leading visual theatre companies combining original live music with striking visual performance. We create world class, deeply moving non-verbal productions about universal human challenges and the fragility of life. We engage with audiences locally, nationally and internationally to create, share and promote life-changing theatre that is both inventive and accessible through cross-arts and cross-sector collaboration.

We are an artist-led company based at The Point in Eastleigh with a strong 13-year track record: six mid-scale productions, extensive touring in the UK (84 venues in 50 cities) and internationally (17 countries across 3 continents) - including a Broadway transfer, international licensing of our repertoire and sold-out runs at the Hong Kong Arts Festival, the Cervantino Festival (Mexico), and London International Mime Festival.

Our training programme is in high demand across the world with long-term partners such as the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. Partnerships with community organisations throughout the creation process and while on tour are central to our work.

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If you are unfamiliar with our live work, check out our company trailer [here](#).



"Theatre Re provided exactly what my students needed: focus, precision, detail and challenge. They worked them hard and got a level of creativity and imagination out of them which surprised and impressed the students themselves - and me! All the time offering positive and encouraging feedback so that even the most cautious of the group could throw themselves into the work without fear. It was a really brilliant day - I wish we could have done more."

Sarah McCormack
Head of Drama and Theatre,
Redmaids' High School, 2023

Writing with Space, Movement, Weight and Rhythm - Devising Workshop for GCSE & A Level Drama Students

Our starting point or **stimulus** when we make work is action. In this workshop we will share with students how we create something out of nothing by working physically with **space, movement, weight and rhythm**. We will introduce the main principles that fall within Theatre Re's ethos through **games, improvisational exercises, technique, repertoire** and **ensemble work**.

These principles include:

- Creating meaning through **visual metaphors**
- **Working collaboratively** within a devising process.
- Refining the actor's **physical skills** to create clear, specific and provoking performance
- Becoming an **active** and **reflective** collaborator through the use of a specific physical vocabulary

The final part of the workshop will always involve a composition exercise where students are invited to "compose" their own **movement score** using all of the vocabulary and skills that we have shared with them. This workshop will equip participants with a **set of tools and reflexes** that they can then apply to their own practical projects and written work.



Acting without Words: Practitioner-based Acting Training for A-Level or BTEC Drama Students

Students will be offered a rigorous workshop grounded in Theatre Re's primary source of movement language - **Corporeal Mime**. Focusing on **physicality** and the ability to **communicate without words**, participants will discover **body articulation, counterweights, dynamo rhythms** and **how to evoke rather than depict**.

We will explore the concept of the **"Reversed Metaphor"** through **research & development** and how this is a significant stage of our making process. We will use Theatre Re's repertoire to demonstrate how we research and create through physical practice and enquiry.



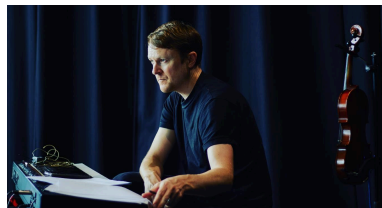
Additional principles we will explore will include:

- **Developing ideas** and **creating meaning through visual metaphors**
- Creating something from nothing using **movement as the stimulus** to trigger the maker's **imagination**
- Using the physical vocabulary of Theatre Re: which is rooted in the practice of **Etienne Decroux's Corporeal Mime**.
- Working **collaboratively** and **independently** to devise theatrical material within the role of performer or director.
- Developing the skill of **"rehearsing"** with the aim to refine and produce exceptional live performance
- Becoming an **active** and **reflective** performer

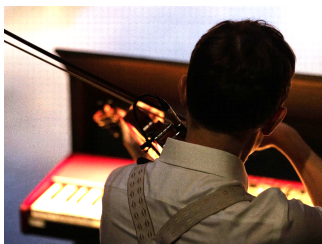
Music Workshops

Composing Incidental Music: Music Composing for Devised Theatre for Music or Actor-Musician Students

Using music from Theatre Re's current productions as reference points, participants will discover how **thoughts and emotions derived from visual sources** can be **transformed into musical form with melody, harmony, rhythm and structure**. This workshop will be led by Theatre Re Co-Director and Composer Alex Judd, and can be assisted by other musicians in the company.



Improvisation as a Tool for Composition: Music Composing for Devised Theatre Workshop for Music or Actor-Musician Students



Using music from Theatre Re's current productions as reference points, participants will delve into Theatre Re's approach of **creating something from nothing** and discover how **utilising improvisational techniques from underscoring** can create an effective and diverse musical composition. The workshop will culminate in a group presentation / performance.

This workshop will be led by Theatre Re co-Director and Composer Alex Judd, and can be assisted by other musicians in the company.

Workshop Rates

Our rates for our workshops are as below:

* **Half day workshop with 1 practitioner** (up to 3 hours)

£400 + Travel

* **Half day workshops with 2 practitioners** (up to 3 hours)

£600 + Travel

* **Full day workshop with 1 practitioner** (up to 7 hours with 1 hr lunch break)

£500 + Travel

* **Full day workshop with 2 practitioners** (up to 7 hours with 1 hr lunch break)

£700 + Travel

Performance / Workshop deal

If a booking is made for a Theatre Re show for 15 students or more, we are happy to offer a 20% discount on the workshop fee.



DBS Checks

All of our practitioners hold an enhanced DBS check, and we are happy to send through copies in advance of booking a workshop. However, when working with students under the

age of 16, **we ask that teachers are present at all times** to ensure the best experience of the workshop for everyone involved.

Upcoming Tour Dates and Events

More touring dates will be announced soon..

Pre or Post-show Talks

Theatre Re are also able to offer a pre or post-show Q&A at each touring venue. These talks will be chaired by a representative from the venue who will be joined by company members as available. In most cases, the Theatre Re team will be joined by academics (with expertise in the themes of the show) and local representatives from a relevant local charity partner.

Whenever possible, we would also seek to provide BSL interpretation for these events to widen access to our wraparound events.

Access

At Theatre Re, we are committed to making our productions and workshops as accessible as possible and endeavour to work with all our hosting venues to do this. We are particularly interested in engaging with D/deaf communities, as the majority of our work is non-verbal.

If you'd like to request a specific access requirement for either our performances or participatory events, please reach out to us via theatrere.participation@gmail.com the contact info below.

Key Word Glossary

Dynamo-rhythm

In Etienne Decroux's Corporeal Mime, **Dynamo-Rhythms** refer to the **speed, the weight and the trajectory of the movement**. They are based on the necessities of **real actions** – for instance a muscular vibration comes out of the necessity to overcome what needs to be overcome.

Dynamo-Rhythms are crucial in ensuring that all actions or movement acquire a **dramatic value**.



Counterweight

In Etienne Decroux's Corporeal Mime, a **counterweight** refers to the ways in which we, humans, deal with or fight against the weight - this can be gravity itself or the weight of something else.

Counterweights move the work **from the periphery (hands) to the centre of the actor's body**.



Articulation

Within Theatre Re's work, to articulate means to **divide, to organise and to give value**. Areas of articulation include: **space, body, weight and rhythm**.

Corporeal Mime

'For an art to be, the idea of one thing must be given by another thing'. Etienne Decroux

For us, the art of Mime is about **making the portrait of one thing (an idea, emotion, a mental attitude) with another thing (your body, an object, voice, the use of space...etc)**. Within this context, Corporeal Mime is about making the portrait of one thing with the body.

Etienne Decroux

Étienne Decroux (1898 - 1991) was a French actor, director, theatre pedagogue and mime. He is at the origin of Corporeal Mime.

Visual Metaphor

This is when an **action, an object or anything that can be seen** is used to give the idea or/and suggest something else.

Movement composition

Within Theatre Re's work, this refers to the making of a **short physical sequence**. In building that sequence **rhythmical connections are favoured over narrative connections**.



The Verb "To Be"

In Etienne Decroux's Corporeal Mime, this refers to what is required of the actor before anything can happen. It means to be **open, available, and muscularly ready**.

Triple Design

In Etienne Decroux's Corporeal Mime, this refers to the combination of a **rotation, a lateral inclination and an inclination in depth**. This is usually used when looking at **inter-corporeal articulation** (articulation within the body).

Stylisation

Within Theatre Re's work, this is both a process and an end result. It equates to finding the essence of an action and allowing it to grow and transform, in order to elevate its dramatic potential.

Line of Force or "The Promise"

Within Theatre Re's work, this is **what is suggested within a particular action but isn't fulfilled**. It refers to where an action or movement would go if it was not stopped and could continue.

Contact Us

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SEE US

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