AteliercuncheoN researchtheatre

Bergamo - Italia

Theatre Pedagogy *and Practice*

AteliercuncheoN is an independent theatre company based in the province of Bergamo, northern Italy, founded and directed by actor and director Andrea Benaglio.

The company's artistic research draws on the practices of Third Theatre, combining physical performance with elements of classical and popular traditions. It also explores movement, rhythm and performance traditions rooted in Sufi cultures,developed through collaborations with musicians and dancers.



AteliercuncheoN has participated in international theatre festivals and developed projects supported by Italian cultural institutions in Mediterranean countries.



THE PEDAGOGICAL APPROACH

AteliercuncheoN's theatrical pedagogy draws on the European tradition of group theatre and Third Theatre, in which independent groups develop their own artistic language through collective research, continuous actor training and the creation of original performances.

Our workshops offer actors and theatre students an opportunity to explore this approach through practical work, combining physical, vocal and rhythmic training with improvisation and the development of individual and collective expression. Each workshop is an encounter with our artistic research and can be adapted to the experience and needs of the participants.

A central element of our practice is the actor's physical training. We develop our dramaturgy through the elaboration of the actor's physical score — a structured sequence of actions, movements and rhythms that shapes the performance. Depending on the focus of the workshop, the work may also include mask techniques, character development and the exploration of live music, voice and rhythm.

We consider the collective creative process essential to theatrical research. The workshop becomes a space for shared exploration in which participants can develop their individual artistic resources while contributing to the work of the group.

Andrea Benaglio



Andrea Benaglio is an Italian actor, director and theatre pedagogue. He graduated in Political Sciences from the University of Milan in 2004 and in Educational Sciences from the University of Bergamo in 2010, developing an interdisciplinary perspective on the relationship between the body, artistic practice and education.

From 1997 to 2007, he worked as an actor with theatre companies in Italy, France and Russia. Between 2007 and 2009, he deepened his personal theatrical research through encounters with practitioners of contemporary Egyptian rhythms and dance, as well as professional theatre training in Europe.

In 2009, he founded AteliercuncheoN researchtheatre, where he has since authored and directed original theatre productions and developed workshops and cultural projects presented internationally. His work combines physical theatre, actor training and collective artistic research, drawing on the European tradition of Third Theatre.

WORKSHOP CONTENTS AND PRACTICE

AteliercuncheoN offers workshops focused on actor training and creative research, with the possibility of developing short performance projects or work demonstrations for an audience.

Participants explore the relationship between physical training, rhythm, voice, improvisation and dramatic composition. Through individual and group exercises, they develop physical awareness, explore new expressive possibilities and create material that can be shaped into a physical score, a character or a performance sequence.

ACTOR TRAINING

Body and Movement
[Warm-up, stretching, acrobatics, walking and stepping techniques, breathing exercises, body awareness and principles of physical integration.]

Rhythm
[Individual and collective rhythm work through movement, body percussion and traditional percussion instruments, including the darbouka and daf.]

Voice
[Breathing, self-perception, body resonance, traditional songs from different cultural traditions, polyphonic singing and voice work with instrumental accompaniment.]

Space, Direction and Intention
[Spatial awareness, movement patterns, choreography, physical improvisation and the exploration of direction, intention and collective movement.]

CREATIVE RESEARCH

Physical Action and Composition
[Exploration of physical actions, the creation of movement sequences, the transition from sequences to a structured physical score, and work with objects.]

Mask and Character
[Introduction to mask work, the relationship between physical action and the mask, the exploration of sound and movement, and character development.]

Physical Transformation and Expansion
[Exploration of the body's expressive possibilities through the enlargement and transformation of movement, including selected techniques involving stilts or other movement tools when appropriate.]

Text and Dramaturgy
[Working with a selected text or a shared theme to explore its dramatic universe and develop individual and collective performance material.]

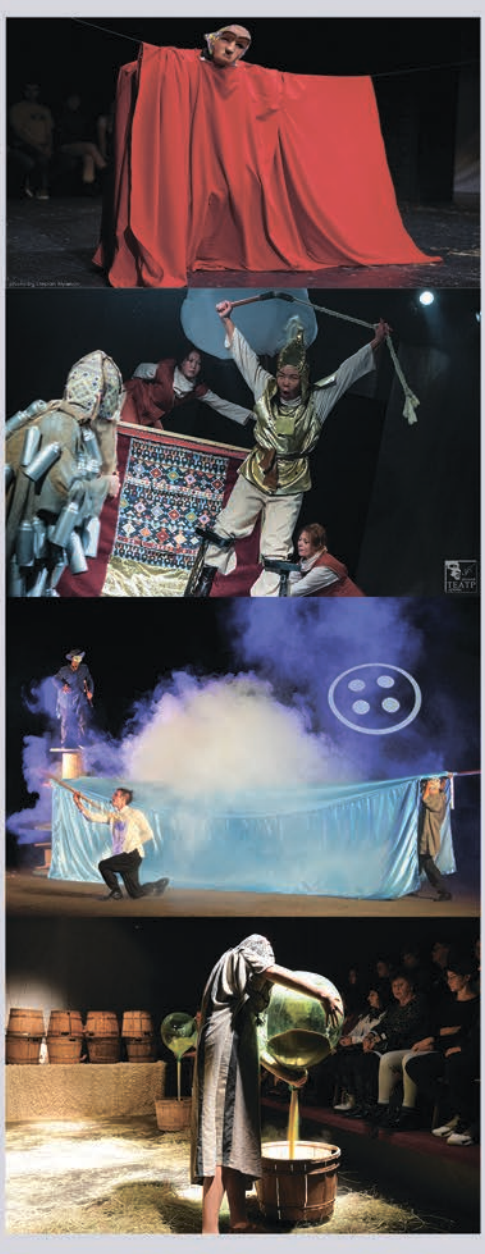


WORKSHOP FORMAT

The duration and structure of each workshop can be adapted in collaboration with the host institution. Formats range from intensive sessions lasting one to three days to longer-term programmes with a stable group of participants, potentially leading to the creation of a performance.

The workshop can be led by Andrea Benaglio or, depending on the programme and its objectives, involve other AteliercuncheoN practitioners with specific expertise in different areas of the creative process.

SELECTED CREDITS AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS



Under the direction of Andrea Benaglio, AteliercuncheoN has developed theatre productions, workshops and pedagogical projects in collaboration with theatre institutions and cultural organisations internationally.

The company's international activities, including festival appearances and theatre workshops, have on several occasions received support from Italian Institutes of Culture (IIC). Its work brings together artistic research, actor training and intercultural exchange through collaborations with local artists and theatre institutions.

Selected productions created in collaboration with theatre institutions and cultural organisations include:

Platero y yo (2012) In collaboration with Khabarovsk TUZ, Khabarovsk, Russia. Inspired by Platero y yo by Juan Ramón Jiménez, with music by Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco.

Karabay's Dream (2013) A three-act Kazakh drama created in collaboration with the S. Seifullin Drama Theatre, Karaganda, Kazakhstan. Directed by Andrea Benaglio and Dunay Yespaiev.

YR – Canto a Čingiz (2018) Created in collaboration with the Chingiz Aitmatov Russian Drama Theatre, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, inspired by the works of Chingiz Aitmatov.

The Ratcatcher (2019) A theatrical performance for actors, musicians and wooden coils, created in collaboration with Almityevsk Street Theater, Russia, inspired by Marina Tsvetaeva's The Ratcatcher.

The Fortress (2023) Created in collaboration with the Banja Luka Student Theatre, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Inspired by the novel The Fortress by Meša Selimović, with traditional Balkan music.

Theatre Workshops and Cultural Exchange Projects:

Banska Bystrica (SK) 2022, Academy of Theatre Arts
Tashkent (UZ) 2019, Ilkhom Theatre
Casablanca (MA) 2018, Fituc
Mostar (BiH) 2014, 39th Festival Authorial Poetics
Bejaia (DZ) 2013, International theatre festival
Tanger (MA) 2012, International Conference INPS
El Kef (TUN) 2012, "24 heures théâtre Du kef"
Konya (TR) 2010, Konya Devlet Tyatrosu

Participation in International Theatre Festivals:

Nikšić (MNE) 2026, Korzo
Bašina Bašta (RS) 2026, Cultural Summer
Chełmno, Poland 2026, 9 Hills Festival
Smederevo (RS) 2026, Cultural Summer
Zlatibor (RS) 2026, KulturNatura
Prishtina (XK) 2026, PITF
Herceg Novi (MNE) 2026, JUK Herzeg Fest
Skopje (MK) 2025, Skupi
Kalisz (PL) 2025, La Strada
Chojnice (PL) 2025, Fiesta
Craiova (RO) 2024, Puppets occupy street
Plzen (CZ) 2023, Divadlo
Kaliningrad (RU) 2021, Theatre Festival Bashnya
Subotica (RS) 2021, Festival of Children's Theatres
Podgorica (MNE) 2021, FIAT
Jelenia Gora (PL) 2021, 38. MFTU
Tarnowskie Gory (PL) 2021, Teatralne Parkowanie
Pićan (HR) 2019, LegendFest
Tula (RU) 2019, IX Teatral'nyj Dvorik
Casablanca (MA) 2018, Fituc
Kotlas (RU) 2017, International Street Festival
Maasmechelen (B) 2016, Del Mundo
Dneprodzerzhinsk (UA) 2016, Classics Today
Porec (HR)) 2014, Street Art Festival
Bitola (MK) 2014, Bit FEST
Bejaia (AZ) 2013, Festival International Du Théâtre
Athens (GR) 2013, Heaven On Earth project
Cherkassy (UA) 2013, Festival Scene of humanity
Chisnau (MD) 2013, The State Youth Drama
Menen (B) 2012, Festival Zomer'12
Pisogne (IT) 2012, Mostra Mercato
El Kef (TU) 2012, 24 heures théâtre Du kef
Lovere (IT) 2012, Silence day
Angarsk (RU) 2012, Sibirean Footlight fest
Tanger (MA) 2012, Conference INPS
Ohrid (MK) 2011, Summer Festival
Lodz (PL) 2011, Fest Trotuart
Lipesk (RU) 2011, State Academy Theatre Tolstoy
Smederevo (RS) 2011, Fortress Festival
Nabeul (TU) 2010, Neapolis
Napoli (Italy) 2010, Scaramuche Teatro
Vilnius (LT) 2010, Mozaika
Brest (BY) 2010, Belaya Vezha
Valmiera (LV) 2010, European Culture Street Fest
Novosibirsk (RU) 2010, Transit Fest
Konya (TR) 2010, Konya DT, State theatre
Leitring bei Leibnitz (A) 2009, Theatre Methods
L'viv (UA) 2009, Le Kurbas Theatre

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