

This workshop is open to all involved in the performing arts, actors, directors, dancers, singers etc. both within the profession and as students.

Please come prepared with a text in your mother tongue of at least 5 minutes duration, and be prepared to provide me with an English translation of the same. Shakespeare comes highly recommended.

Uncovering the Speaking Voice

A series of interconnected training workshops aimed at liberating the beauty and creative power of the speaking voice, accessing the full expressive range of language and gesture both bodily and vocally.

The course will include:

- Relaxation and breathing
- Freeing breath imbued vocal tone
- Placing the voice within the stream of formative shaping movement
- Grounding bodily resonance and vocal gesture
- Releasing unnecessary bodily/emotional tension, making both transparent to the free flow of dynamic, colourful, meaning-filled musical poetic speech-
- Grounding the focused power of intention and gesture
- Exploring different qualities and styles of artistic expression i.e. epic, lyric, dramatic and storytelling.
- We will experience poise, articulation, rhythm, alliteration, assonance, resonance, modulation, pause, pace, prosody, phrasing, interpretation and characterisation working on great texts of world literature including detailed work on Shakespeare.

The course is open to all who have an active use or have an active interest in language. To be held over at least 4 intensive long weekends throughout the year.

For more information about any of the workshops and details of availability and prices contact Geoff@VoicingTheSilence.co.uk

Creative Speech

*A range of
workshops*

*By
Geoff Norris*

In the Beginning

This workshop will explore the formative dance of the *Logos* and its embodiment in language, enabling the participants to access their own unique creative powers both within the realm of physicality and in the inspired, moving, breath-imbued voice.

Through the power of imagination we shall begin to perceive the vibrant **Dance of Creation**, and reconnect to the living source of creative life. We will enter experientially into the mysteries of creation: of Birth, Death, Resurrection, and the Fiery-tongue experience of World-Whitsun.

The workshop is open to all who have an interest in the power of language. It is of especial importance to those who are involved in the performing arts: actors, singers, dancers, teachers, but not exclusively. We all have the right to speak.

Sounding the Silence

The workshop will explore the creative dance of the *Logos*, bringing new and vital meaning into the realm of language and vocal expression, accessing the powers of imagination and strengthening the sense of individuality.

Through intense theoretical and practical exercises in mind and body the participants will be led to experience the resonance and creative charge of language and its expressive power. They will begin to overcome their sense of isolation and be led to an experience of groundedness and enhanced powers of communication, leading to a feeling of vivid presence in all bodily and vocal expression and to a deep experience of inner freedom and *singing silence*.

Finding your Voice

This workshop will explore the mechanics and dynamics of the voice leading to a more integrated and grounded use of the creative power of speech.

Starting from movement and gesture we will explore the whole sphere of *presence* and *delivery*, looking at the qualities of breath, musicality, rhythm, tone, voice production, intonation, phrasing, pace and emphasis, leading to a relaxed, ease-imbued, imagination-filled power of expression, and to the rediscovery and deepening of the living *charge* of the spoken word.

The workshop is open to all who have an interest in strengthening their powers of communication, but is of especial importance to those who are involved in the performing arts, as well as to poets, teachers and lecturers.

All participants need learn a short text in their mother tongue (monologue, poem or descriptive passage/story of 2-5 min in duration), be prepared to dive playfully into the creative dance of language and be open to experiencing the grandeur and power of inspiration, the wind that blows through thee.

The Whole Person in Acting

Working improvisationally with the dramatic insights of Michael Chekhov, Rudolf Steiner, Viola Spolin and other leading theatrical innovators we will explore the integration of the Creative Imagination with the power of *Gesture* both within the body and in vocal expression. We will awaken and enliven the body's power of subtle, qualitative, expressive differentiation and the effects of psycho-physical movement on the actor's character creating abilities. We will integrate and strengthen *singing* spatial awareness, most particularly in relation to the *other*, leading to a musical sense of *Form*, *Beauty*, *Ease* and *Presence*.