

The Activities of Tracing Roads Across

“Intervention in Pontedera I” Pontedera (Italy): May 11 – 17, 2003

This first “Intervention” of “Tracing Roads Across” took place at the festival “Fabbrica Europa,” a renowned event for European culture.

“Fabbrica Europa” is a yearly arts festival that takes place at Stazione Leopolda, a former train station located in the heart of Florence, Italy. Fondazione Pontedera Teatro, one of the co-organizers of “Tracing Roads Across,” is one of the three organizers of “Fabbrica Europa.”

“Intervention in Pontedera” included:

- The presentation of two opuses inside “Art as Vehicle,” *Action* (presented on May 11, 12, 15, 17) and *The Twin: an Action in creation* (presented on May 11, 12, 17).
- The screening of “A film documentation of *Action*,” followed by a discussion between Thomas Richards, Mario Biagini, and the audience.
- “Meeting on the Project Tracing Roads Across.” (presented on May 14) introduced by Roberto Bacci (Director of Fondazione Pontedera Teatro and co-organizer of “Tracing Roads Across”).

Frame Work: “Opening Doors I” Vienna (Austria): May 22 – July 8, 2003

The activities of “Opening Doors I” took place within Theatre des Augenblicks (Vienna, Austria), an acclaimed center for intercultural artistic exchange.

During “Opening Doors I,” the Tracing Roads Across team accomplished:

- The “Frame Work” that included the Exchanges-in-work with two theatre groups and one solo-artist on July 2 and 3; and a seminar for twelve students from the University of Kent, Great Britain. The students were led by their professor, Paul Allain, who is also a member of the Documentation Team of “Tracing Roads Across.”
- The creation of the “Tracing Roads Across” website <www.tracingroadsacross.net> that became available on-line on June 28.
- A projection of two documentation films of the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards on June 27. For the first time during “Tracing Roads Across” the film “Art as vehicle” (1989) was shown. “A film documentation of *Action*” was also screened.
- The Opening International Symposium – “Performing Through: Tradition as Research at the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and

Thomas Richards,” that took place on the June 28 and 29. Speakers from Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, France, Great Britain, Greece, Great Britain, Italy, Poland, and Turkey were invited on the basis of their specific knowledge of theatrical and/or anthropological fields of investigation. The Opening International Symposium was open to the public and free of charge.

Focal Point: “Crossroads in Istanbul” Istanbul (Turkey): July 11 – August 12, 2003

“Crossroads in Istanbul” held in one of the oldest and most distinct buildings in Istanbul, the Byzantine church Aya Irini. Built on the 6th century, Aya Irini is one of the oldest churches in Istanbul. It is located in the first court the Topkapi Palace, which served as the sultan’s residence during the Ottoman Empire.

During “Crossroads in Istanbul” the project’s artistic team presented three opuses in the Byzantine church Aya Irini:

- *Action* on July 18, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30 and August 2, 4.
- *The Twin: an Action in creation* on July 27 and August 1, 2, 3.
- *One breath left: Dies Irae* on July 24, 25, 26, 27.

The Video Documentation Team of “Tracing Roads Across,” came from France to begin video-recording the artistic opuses of the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards.

The project’s artistic team held an exchange-in-work with two Turkish theatre groups on August 6-7, in Aya Irini and in the rooms of Darphane Buildings, next to the church.

“Crossroads in Istanbul” was concluded by an Open Conference for the general public led by the Artistic Director, Thomas Richards, and Associate Director, Mario Biagini. The Documentation Team members speaking at the Open Conference were: Professor Aysin Candan (Yedipe University, Bilgi University, Turkey), Mag.a Dr.in. Gabriele Pfeiffer (Vienna University Theatre Department), Jelena Kovacevic (Journalist and scholar, Serbia and Montenegro) and Albert Dichy (IMEC – Institut Memoires de la Edition Contemporaine, France).

“Intervention in Pontedera II” Pontedera (Italy): October 1-7, 2003

The second “Intervention in Pontedera” took place at the “Festival Generazioni” 2003, an important Italian performing arts event organized by Fondazione Pontedera Teatro, the Italian co-organizer of “Tracing Roads Across”.

The project's artistic team welcomed interested individuals and fellow artists to witness the opus *Action* ("art as vehicle"); and invited colleagues to five Open Rehearsals of the performance it was developing, *Dies Irae* (Project *The Bridge: Developing Theatre Arts*).

Main Work: "Tradition and Performance I" Pontedera (Italy): October 9, 2003 – January 31, 2004

Fondazione Pontedera Teatro, co-organizer of "Tracing Roads Across," hosted the artistic team's "Main Work".

In this edition of "Tradition and Performance," aside from continuing its artistic research, the project's artistic team held Exchanges-in-work with six theatre groups coming from Bulgaria, Crete, France and Cyprus.

"Intervention in Poland I" Wroclaw (Poland): November 21-22, 2003

"Intervention in Poland I" unfolded as a two-day event with Artistic Director, Thomas Richards and Associate Director, Mario Biagini. It was organized by The Center of Studies on Jerzy Grotowski's Work and of the Cultural and Theatrical Research in Wroclaw, Poland.

Mr. Richards presented on November 21 the screening of two documentary films on the research developed at the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards ("Art as vehicle" [1989] and "A film documentation of *Action*" [2000]), and Mr. Richards and Mr. Biagini conducted the next day an Open Meeting with Polish scholars, experts, students, and the general public.

Main Work: "Rehearsals in Pontedera" Pontedera (Italy): February 1-26, 2004

During "Rehearsals in Pontedera", the project's artistic team focused on the artistic and technical preparations for *Dies Irae*'s upcoming premiere, at Fondazione Pontedera Teatro (Italy), and the continuation of its research on *The Twin: an Action in creation*, the new opus under development in the domain of "art as a vehicle."

Dies Irae premiered on February 6 at Pontedera Teatro (Pontedera, Italy), followed by eight performances on February 7-8, and 11-15.

"Rehearsals in Pontedera" Torino (Italy): February 27-29, 2004 and Pontedera (Italy): March 21-28, 2004

Documentation Team member Professor Antonio Attisani (University of Torino and University of Venice) invited Thomas Richards and Mario Biagini to conduct a meeting with students and the general public at the University of Torino. The University of Torino and the cultural association ORSA-Organizzazione per le ricerca in scienza e arti, organized and hosted this meeting under the title “Grotowski’s Legacy: perspectives and significance.”

On February 27 the artistic team projected two documentary films on the research of the Workcenter: “Art as Vehicle” (1989) and “A Film Documentation of *Action*” (2000). After the screening, the project’s artistic team met with students in an open discussion.

On February 28 Thomas Richards and Mario Biagini held a second open meeting with the general public called Open Dialogue. Edoardo Fadini, president of ORSA and a professor at the University of Torino, introduced this meeting, and along with Professor Antonio Attisani spoke of the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards and their reasons for inviting them to Torino.

“Rehearsals in Pontedera” March 21-28 at the Vallicelle estate (Pontedera, Italy) was a time of intense practical work for the project’s artistic team.

“Eastern Meeting-place I” Novi Sad (Serbia and Montenegro): April 1 – 15, 2004

The first “Eastern Meeting-place I” was an intense seminar led by Thomas Richards, Mario Biagini, and the project’s artistic team, attended by selected young individual artists or scholars coming from eleven countries. A practical meeting on different elements of theatre craft was held, dealing with acting and singing skills, directing capacities, montage techniques, intellectual analysis and dramaturgic elaboration. The participants worked under the leadership of the project’s artistic team.

During the activity the project’s artistic team also had the opportunity to address topics related to creative analysis with theatre experts and scholars who were present.

Moreover, “Eastern Meeting-place I” included an exchange-in-work with a young Serbian theatre group and with a program for “Postgraduate Specialization Studies for Theater/Dance Performers” of The Drama Department at the Academy of Arts, University of Novi Sad.

It also included on the 13 of April, the projection of documentary films on the Workcenter research: “Art as Vehicle” (1989) and “A Film Documentation of *Action*” (2000), open to the participants of “Eastern

Meeting-place I” and to the general public, followed on the next day by an Open Public Meeting with the audience.

“Eastern Meeting-place I” took place in Novi Sad, Serbia and Montenegro, and was hosted by the local academic institution, University of Novi Sad, Department for postgraduate studies in performing arts, Body Unlimited.

The University of Novi Sad provided a working space in a unique site: an ancient château, “Petrovaradinska Tvrđjava,” the largest fortification in the ex-Austro-Hungarian Empire.

Main Work: “Rehearsals in Pontedera” Pontedera (Italy): April 19 – 29, 2004 and “Intervention in Pontedera III” Pontedera (Italy): April 30 – May 6, 2004

During the 10 days preceding the activity “Intervention in Pontedera III”, along with research in the domain of “art as vehicle,” the project’s artistic team rehearsed the performative opus *Dies Irae* and got ready for the subsequent presentation of the opus during “Intervention in Pontedera” in the frame of “Fabbrica Europa” festival.

During “Intervention in Pontedera III” the project’s artistic team presented the performance *Dies Irae* on May 1, 2, 4, 5, 6.

Dies Irae was presented in Cantieri Goldonetta: a performance space in the historical city centre of Florence, in the old building which used to serve as a storeroom for the nearby Teatro La Goldonetta, an old Italian theatre.

“Impulse in Bulgaria” Varna and Balchik (Bulgaria): May 12 - June 10, 2004

“Impulse in Bulgaria” was hosted by “For a New Bulgarian University” Foundation, co-organizer of “Tracing Roads Across” and took place in Varna and Balchik, Bulgaria.

During the activity, the project’s artistic team presented three creative opuses:

Action and *The Twin: an Action in creation* took place in the “St., St. Konstantin and Elena” Church, Balchik.

Action was presented on May 20, 21, 27, 28, 30 and June 2, 3, 7, and the demonstrations of *The Twin: an Action in creation* on June 4 and 6.

The performance *Dies Irae* in Project *The Bridge: Developing Theatre Arts* was presented in the City Fine Art Gallery, Varna, within the “International Theatre Festival – Varna Summer 2004”. The presentations were on May 21, 29, 30 and June 2, 4, 6.

The project's artistic team accomplished exchanges-in-work with two Bulgarian theatre groups on May 22 and 23 2004.

At the end of the activity, an Open Conference was held on June 8, 2004 at the Conference Halls, in the Palace of Culture – Varna. The invited scholars were Professor Antonio Attisani (University of Venice and University of Torino, Italy), Professor Paul Allain (University of Kent, UK), Professor Claudia Tatinge Nascimento (Wesleyan University, USA), Grzegorz Ziolkowski (Program Director of The Centre for Study of Jerzy Grotowski's Work and for Cultural and Theatrical Research, Poland) and Jelena Kovacevic (scholar and journalist from Serbia and Montenegro).

The accommodation for the artistic team was organized in The Palace, in Balchik. Former residence of the Romanian queen (the Palace is now a property of Ministry of Culture). It is classified as an architectural and botanical reserve.

“Impulse in France” Caen (France): June 11 – July 19, 2004

Centre Dramatique National de Normandie - Comédie de Caen (CDN), co-organizer of “Tracing Roads Across”, took responsibility for the organization of “Impulse in France”.

“Impulse in France” included:

- Demonstrations of *Action* in Saint-Nicolas church: June 29, 30, and July 1, 3. The Saint-Nicolas church is from 11th century, and the ground plan is that of the Benedictine abbeys (Latin cross, east end with chapels in echelon, long nave with side aisles).
- Demonstrations of *The Twin, an Action in creation* in Saint-Nicolas church: June 30, and July 1, 2.
- Presentations of *Dies Irae* in Halle aux Granges: June 24, 25, 26, 27.
- A practical seminar held by Thomas Richards from June 23 to 27, 2004 for twelve young artists of C.R.E.T. - Centre de Recherche et d'Expérimentation Théâtrale du Centre Dramatique National de Normandie - Comédie de Caen.
- The screening of two documentary films on July 4 in Théâtre d'Hérouville at which the first presentation of “Action in Aya Irini” (2003) was made. The opus *Action* was deftly filmed by Jacques Vetter of Atelier Cinéma de Normandie – A.C.C.A.A.N. in the ancient church Aya Irini during the Workcenter's visit to Turkey in “Crossroads in Istanbul” (2003). The screening was followed by an Open Meeting with Thomas Richards and Mario Biagini.

“Intervention in Poland II” Wroclaw (Poland): July 10 - August 3, 2004

“Intervention in Poland II” was organized by The Center of Studies on Jerzy Grotowski’s Work and of the Cultural and Theatrical Research in Wroclaw, Poland. Over the course of three weeks, the Workcenter presented:

- at Ossolineum – the Ossolinski Library: *Action* on July 16,18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 27; *The Twin: An Action in Creation* on July 16, 20, 24, 25, 27.
- held Meeting/Dialogue on July 30, and an Open Conference on August 1.
- On July 31 two documentation films on the research of the Workcenter: “Art as Vehicle” (1989) and “A Film Documentation of *Action*” (2000) were presented at The Center of Studies on Jerzy Grotowski’s Work and of the Cultural and Theatrical Research.

“Impulse in Cyprus” Nicosia (Cyprus): September 1 - 29, 2004

The project’s artistic team accomplished “Impulse in Cyprus” giving:

- Demonstrations of *Action* on September 12, 14, 15.
- Demonstrations of *The Twin: an Action in Creation* on September 17.
- Presentations of *Dies Irae* on September 23, 24, 25 as part in the 7th Cultural Festival of the University of Cyprus.
- Exchanges-in-work with two Cypriot theatre groups.
- Open Conference on September 27 at the Cultural Center of the University of Cyprus.

“Opening Doors II” Vienna (Austria): 1 October – 22, December, 2004

During “Opening Doors II,” the artistic team carried out the “Frame Work” of Tracing Roads Across.

“Opening Doors II” reached a tremendously diverse audience with:

- demonstrations of *Action* on November 3, 5 and on December 4.
- demonstrations of *The Twin: an Action in creation* on November 4, 29, and on December 3, 8.
- and presentations of *Dies Irae* on November 6, 28 and December 2, 10, 19, 20.

Exchanges-in-work were held with theatre groups with members from Austria, Germany and the United States.

In addition, a group of thirteen French artists led by Ali Ihsan Kaleci, attending a workshop led by Thomas Richards from the 7 to the 17 of December. And between November 28 and 30 Tracing Roads Across held an educational project with 15 students of Mag.a Dr.in Gabrielle Pfeiffer from the University of Vienna.

“Intervention in Bulgaria,” Sophia, Bulgaria: Nov 11 – 17, 2004

“Intervention in Bulgaria” was hosted by “For a New Bulgarian University” Foundation, co-organizer of “Tracing Roads Across” and took place at The Red House Centre for Culture and Debate, in Sophia, Bulgaria.

The event focused on:

- Projections on November 13 of documentary films on the researches done at the Workcenter: "Art as Vehicle" (1989); "*Action in Aya Irini*" (2003).
- An Open Conference on November 14 was led by Thomas Richards, Mario Biagini and Vazkressia Vicharova with invited guest speakers from the Documentation Team of Tracing Roads Across: Claudia Tatinge Nascimento (Wesleyan University, USA), Jelena Kovacevic (scholar and journalist from Serbia and Montenegro), Mag.a Dr.in Gabriele Pfeiffer (University of Vienna, Austria), and Kris Salata (Stanford University, USA).
- A practical work session for selected Bulgarian actors was conducted on November 15 by Thomas Richards and Mario Biagini.

“Intervention in Great Britain” Canterbury (England): January 6 -7, 2005

“Intervention in Great Britain” took place in the city of Canterbury and was organized by the University of Kent Drama Department, within the School of Drama, Film and Visual Arts.

It was a two day event, led by Artistic Director, Thomas Richards Thomas Richards and Associate Director, Mario Biagini, in collaboration with Professor Paul Allain (University of Kent) with three invited speakers, including two from Italy – Professor Antonio Attisani (University of Venice, Italy), Carla Pollastrelli (Fondazione Pontedera Teatro) – and one from the USA, Dr. Lisa Wolford Wylam (Bowling Green State University). “Intervention in Great Britain” included an Open Conference with invited speakers, the screening of two documentary films on the research of the Workcenter: “Art as Vehicle”

(1989) and “A Film Documentation of *Action*” (2000), and a closed seminar session.

Main Work: “Tradition and Performance II” Pontedera (Italy): January 12, 2005 – March 31, 2005.

The second “Tradition and Performance” took place in Pontedera, Italy. Fondazione Pontedera Teatro, co-organizer in “Tracing Roads Across,” hosted the “Main Work” of the artistic team, which took place in the Vallicelle estate.

During the activity the practical research of the project’s artistic team was carried on in a internal work environment.

Three exchanges-in-work of took place, each lasting five days with theatre groups from Poland, Great Britain, and Cyprus.

“Rehearsals in Pontedera” Pontedera (Italy): April 1 – May 24, 2005 and “Intervention in Pontedera IV” - Pontedera, Italy: May 3 - 8, 2005

In “Intervention in Pontedera” the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards took part in the international arts festival Fabbrica Europa in Italy.

The presentations and demonstrations of performative opuses are:

Action, May 10, 18, 19 (Vallicelle, Pontedera)

Dies Irae: My Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show, May 5-8, 12-15 (Fondazione Pontedera Teatro, Pontedera)

“Intervention in Poland” III Wroclaw (Poland): May 27 – June 5, 2005

This was the final of three “Interventions in Poland” to take place in Wroclaw during the project “Tracing Roads Across.”

Thomas Richards accompanied conducted an intensive six-day work-session with selected Polish actors.

The project’s artistic team presented the latest version the performative opus *Dies Irae: My Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show*, on June 1, 2, 3, 4.

“Eastern Meeting-place II” Moscow, Russia: June 8 – 25, 2005

The “Eastern Meeting-place II,” hosted by the Moscow “School of Dramatic Art”, was an intense workshop/seminar led by the artistic team of The Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards.

The work sessions focused on practical elements of theatre craft: acting and singing skills, directing, montage techniques, dramaturgy, and critical analysis. The participants worked individually and in small groups supervised by either Thomas Richards or Mario Biagini.

During the activity the project’s artistic team also had the opportunity to address topics related to creative analysis with theatre experts and scholars who were present.

In addition, the Workcenter presented its opus *Action* and working rehearsals of a newly emerging structure of *The Twin: an Action in creation* to the international theatre students and scholars associated with Vasiliev’s School of Dramatic Arts.

“Intervention in France” Caen (France): June 26 – July 5, 2005

This activity was organized by the Centre Dramatique National de Normandie - Comédie de Caen (CDN), co-organizer of “Tracing Roads Across”.

Artistic Director, Thomas Richards conducted a workshop with local professional actors. Aside from this principal activity, a select group of actors from Paris came to present monologues and receive professional advice from Thomas Richards.

There was also a screening of a documentary film on the research of the Workcenter: “*Action in Aya Irini*” (2003).

Focal Point: “Anatolian Gate” in Cappadocia” Turkey: July 6 – August 5, 2005

The Workcenter presented in Cappadocia two creative opuses in the domain of “art as vehicle”: *Action* on July 18, 19, 21, 26, 27 and June 2, 3, 7 and an advanced version of *The Twin: an Action in creation* on July 19, 24, 26, 27; and the Workcenter presented also *Dies Irae: My Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show* the performance created inside Project *The Bridge: Developing Theatre Arts*, on the following dates: July 16, 17, 23, 24.

Witnesses and audience members and the general public were invited to the projections of documentary films on the research of the Workcenter: “Art as Vehicle” (1989) and “Action in Aya Irini” (2003) on July 30 and to an Open Conference on July 31.

Moreover, Thomas Richards and Mario Biagini assisted by some of the project’s artistic core team members, held an intensive work-session

between July 16 and 21 with a group of actors coming from Paris led by Ali Ihsan Kaleci.

The church of Saint John the Baptist in the village of Cavusin was chosen for the demonstrations of *Action* and *The Twin: an Action in creation*. It is an ancient cave-church from VI century A.C, built on a cave up on a 150 meters rock, facing a tremendous view of the Cappadocia mountains.

The performance *Dies Irae: My Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show* was presented in the Rose Valley, an open air valley, surrounded by high white calcareous rocks.

Daily rehearsals and trainings, seminars, projections of documentary films and the Open Conference took place in a characteristic old Koranic school in Mustafapasa village, by courtesy of the Municipality of Mustafapasa.

“Bridging Through Mediterranean Sea” Zaros, Crete (Greece): September 2 – October 30, 2005

The organization of the activity was supervised by Antonis Diamantis, Artistic Director of Omma Studio Theatre in Heraklion, Crete.

“Bridging Through Mediterranean Sea” happened in a site that met the stated goals of Focal Point events in allowing for the spatial and sonic exploration of architectural spaces of extraordinary character, most notably through presentations of *Action* at the Church of the Madonna of the Angels (Eklisia tis Panagias), an active Greek Orthodox Church nestled in the Psitoritis mountains.

During this activity, Artistic Director, Thomas Richards changed the name of *The Twin: an Action in creation* to *An Action in creation: work session* in order to stress to the witnesses and to the Documentation Team that they were not witnessing a finished performative structure, but an ongoing process of creation.

At “Bridging Through Mediterranean Sea” the artistic team presented:

- Demonstrations of *Action*: September 14, 20, 21; October 1, 3, 4, 11.
- Demonstrations of *An action in creation: work session*: October 4, 5.
- Presentations of *Dies Irae: My Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show*: September 18, 24, 30, October 2.

An Exchange-in-work took place on October 7, in the Tavern Agrimia with three Greek theatre groups.

On October 8, the general public was invited to an Open Conference and to view screenings of documentary films on the Workcenter research: "Art as Vehicle" (1989); "Action in Aya Irini" (2003).

The members of the Documentation Team present at the Open Conference were: Kris Salata (Stanford University, USA) and Jelena Kovacevic (Journalist and scholar, Serbia and Montenegro).

“Intervention in Cyprus” Limassol (Cyprus): November 2 – 9, 2005

“Intervention in Cyprus” was held in Limassol, the second largest city in Cyprus. It consisted of a meeting between Thomas Richards, Carla Pollastrelli (co-director of Fondazione Pontedera Teatro – the Italian co-organizer of Tracing Roads Across) and Cypriot artists, scholars, journalists, students and theatre lovers.

On November 4th, Carla Pollastrelli held a lecture on “Akropolis”, one of the main theatre opuses directed by Jerzy Grotowski in the sixties. On the same day film documentaries were shown: Documentary film "The Laboratory Theatre of Jerzy Grotowski" by Marianne Ahrne (1992), a film documentation of "Plastiques" and fragments from "The Constant Prince". Carla Pollastrelli commented the showing of documentary films, providing the films with technical explanations and historical background.

On November 5th, Thomas Richards introduced the projection of two documentary films on the Workcenter researches: “Art as Vehicle” filmed in 1989 by Mercedes Gregory and “Action in Aya Irini” (2003). Afterwards there was an open meeting between Thomas Richards and those present.

“Eastern Meeting-place III” Moscow (Russia): November 4 - December 3, 2005

“Eastern Meeting-place III” was the last extended practical seminar held by the Workcenter during the project “Tracing Roads Across”. The activity took place at the Moscow Theater “School of Dramatic Art” of Anatoli Vasiliev, a partner of the project.

The Workcenter presented to the general public the performance *Dies Irae: My Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show* on November 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30.

Exchanges-in-work took place on November 27, between the project’s artistic team and two Russian theatre companies.

On November 29 Thomas Richards introduced the projection of the film documentation “Action in Aya Irini” (2003). Afterwards, an Open Meeting took place between Thomas Richards and those present.

“Opening Doors III” Vienna (Austria): August 13 - 31, 2005 (first segment); December 4, 2005 - January 4, 2006 (second segment)

This first segment (August 13 – 31, 2005) of “Opening Doors III” was used for the ongoing practical daily work of the project’s artistic team. The second segment (December 4 – January 4) consisted of:

- Demonstrations of *An Action in creation: work session*, in the branch of research known as “art as vehicle” that took place on December 17, 18, 20, 21.
- Presentations of the performance *Dies Irae: The Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show*, an opus within Project *The Bridge: Developing Theatre Arts*, that took place on December 13, 14, 15.
- An “exchange-in-work” with two theatre companies coming from Eastern Europe that took place on December 18.
- Mag.a Dr.in Gabriele C. Pfeiffer (ext. Lekt.Universität Wien) of University of Vienna came with 33 of her students from the Theatre, Film and Media Department (Dramatics) and were able to see both opuses presented in Vienna during “Opening Doors III”.

Main Work: “Tradition and Performance III” Pontedera, (Italy): January 5 – February 22, 2006

“Tradition and Performance III” was hosted by Fondazione Pontedera Teatro.

For the project’s artistic team “Tradition and Performance III” was the last precious opportunity in “Tracing Roads Across” of a relatively long period for internal rehearsals.

Moreover, the activity included exchanges-in-work with five theatre groups from France, Greece and Bulgaria.

Focal Point: “Southern Cradle ” Hammamet (Tunisia): February 23 – March 30, 2006

Focal Point: “Southern Cradle” was the first visit of the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards to Tunisia. The activity took place at the International Cultural Center of Hammamet.

During “Southern Cradle” the artistic team presented both opuses in the domain of “art as a vehicle”, *Action* and *An Action in Creation: work session*, and the opus in Project *The Bridge: Developing Theatre Arts, Dies Irae: The Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show*.

Action was presented on March 6, 7, 10, 14, 17.

An Action in Creation: work session was presented on March 8, 11, 12, 15, 17.

Dies Irae: The Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show was performed on March 23, 24, 25.

An exchange-in-work was held with two theatre groups during “Southern Cradle”, one from Tunis and the other made up of young actors coming from a variety African countries.

On March 27, the general public was invited to view screenings of two documentary films on the Workcenter research: “Art as Vehicle” (1989) and “Action in Aya Irini” (2003) at the cinema hall of the International Cultural Centre of Hammamet.

On the same day, an Open Conference was held by Thomas Richards and Mario Biagini with Dr. Lisa Wolford Wylam of the Documentation Team as guest speaker.

Final International Symposium, “Living Traces: Performing as a Shared Reality” (Italy), April 1 – April 16, 2006

The Final International Symposium, “Living Traces: Performing as a Shared Reality” took place at Fondazione Pontedera Teatro in Pontedera, Italy on April 12 – 13.

Organizers, members of the documentation team, scholars and other cultural workers from Austria, Bulgaria, France, Great Britain, Greece, Cyprus, Italy, Poland, and the United States were invited on the basis of their specific knowledge of theatrical and/or anthropological fields of investigation and their familiarity with the Workcenter's evolving research. The Final International Symposium was open to the public and free of charge.

On April 11, presentations of documentary films were held for the general public at Fondazione Pontedera Teatro. Presentations included Mercedes Gregory’s film of *Downstairs Action* entitled, “Art as Vehicle,” (1989), along with the video documentation film “Action in Aya Irini” (2003). In addition, fragments of raw footage shot by the video documentation team of *Dies Irae/One Breath Left* and *The Twin: An Action in Creation* from presentations in Aya Irini, Istanbul in 2003 were shown, as were video fragments from *Dies Irae: The Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show* from Moscow, November 2005, and selections from *The Twin: an Action in Creation* filmed in Caen, France, in June 2004.

During the days leading up to the Final International Symposium, the artistic team presented both opuses in the domain of “art as vehicle,” *Action* and *An Action in Creation: work session* in the Vallicelle workspace, and the opus from Project *The Bridge: Developing Theatre Arts, Dies Irae: The Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show* at Fondazione Pontedera Teatro.

Action was presented on April 3, 4, 6, 11.

An Action in Creation: work session was presented on April 5, 10, 16.

Dies Irae: The Preposterous Theatrum Interioris Show was performed on April 8, 9.