

2026 Wuzhen Art Studio

2026 Wuzhen Art Studio
Thomas Richards / Theatre No Theatre
Actor Craft & Creation Program
Wuzhen Art Studio Recruitment Brochure

Culture Wuzhen Co., Ltd.

Address: 18 Shifo South Road, Wuzhen Town, Tongxiang City, Zhejiang Province, China 314501
Tel: 0573-88732588

The Wuzhen Art Studio: Actor Craft & Creation Program is organized by Culture Wuzhen Co., Ltd. Led jointly by Thomas Richards and Theatre No Theatre, the program provides high-level actor training and creative practice. Through a rigorous and precise workflow focused on individual creative exploration and professional-level craft, participants will enter the process of original performance material development.

This training program is tailor-made for theatre talents distinguished by artistic seriousness, receptivity and authentic creative necessity. The training will be personally directed by Mr. Thomas Richards, with the assistance of Theatre No Theatre members. The primary language of instruction will be English.

I. Enrollment Capacity

Spring Session: 15 participants per group (2 groups total, 30 slots).

Autumn Session: 15 participants (Selected exclusively from Spring Session participants).

Open to all genders.

II. Target Audience

Professional practitioners with artistic seriousness and an authentic creative necessity, including:

Professional actors, directors, and theatre/acting students;

Professional singers and playwrights;

Practitioners with a serious interest in high-level performing arts craft.

III. Faculty

Lead Director: Thomas Richards

Assistant Teachers: Jessica Losilla-Hébrail and members of Theatre No Theatre.

IV. Program Structure & Timeline

The program consists of two intensive phases held at the Wuzhen West Scenic District.

Session	Dates	Arrangement
Spring Session (Cohort 1)	April 13 – May 3, 2026	3 weeks of intensive training (incl. Public Events Week)
Spring Session (Cohort 2)	April 26 – May 17, 2026	3 weeks of intensive training (incl. Public Events Week)
Autumn Session (Advanced)	Sept 28 – Oct 11, 2026	2 weeks of advanced pedagogy & outcome presentation (Selected Participants Only)

Note: The two Spring cohorts overlap during the week of April 26 – May 3 for public activities (lectures, screenings, dialogues, etc.).

V. Curriculum & Content

Focused on creative exploration and professional craft through a precise workflow:

- **Pedagogical Creation:** Development of "acting proposals" based on songs and/or texts, analyzing creative motivation and the precision of action and of meaning.
- **Singing Training:** Exploring traditional songs, melody, and rhythm, and their impact on the performer's "inner life."
- **Creative Pedagogy (Autumn):** Developing original materials potentially leading to "Open Rehearsals" for the public.
- **Lectures:** Historical analysis of the work of Jerzy Grotowski in collaboration with Thomas Richards, and of Richards' subsequent development of this line of performing arts research, including the viewing and study of video materials from works such as *Action* and *The Living Room*.

Note: Specific arrangements for courses and training sessions will be provided in the subsequent schedule.

VI. Detailed Schedule

- **Spring Session (3 weeks per participant):**

Cohort 1:

Check-in & Commencement: April 13

Training Period: April 13 – May 3

Rest Days: April 18, 19, 25, 26

Cohort 2:

Check-in: April 26

Training Period: April 27 – May 17

Rest Days: May 3, 9, 10, 16, 17

• **Autumn Session (Advanced Phase - 2 weeks):**

Training & Presentation: Sept 28 – Oct 11

Rest Days: Oct 3, 4, 7

• **Mandatory Requirements:**

Full attendance is required; no absences permitted.

• **Performance Proposals:**

Before the start of the workshop, each participant will prepare an “acting proposition” to be presented during the first days of the workshop. The “acting proposition” should be a maximum of 5 minutes long and can be based on either a text, a song, or a combination of both, according to the participants choice. This proposition should be structured and repeatable, with a beginning, a development, and a conclusion, resembling a “mini-performance” that reflects your most creative work. This work will be analysed and may be used as a basis for creative work during the program.

VII. Venue

Theaters and Rehearsal Halls within Wuzhen West Scenic Zone.

Address: Wuzhen Town, Tongxiang City, Zhejiang Province, China, 314501

VIII. Tuition Fees

Spring Session: 21,000 RMB / person.

Autumn Session: 14,000 RMB / person.

Fees cover tuition only. Accommodation and meals are at the participant's own expense.

Payment is accepted via bank transfer only; details will be provided with the

admission letter.

IX. Application Materials

- Personal Information (including physical condition and personal interests).
- Curriculum Vitae (including where and with whom you studied theatre; a list of past productions including the director and venue information).
- 2 Photos (1 headshot, 1 full-body shot; stage or training photos preferred).
- Video Excerpts: Please submit two video excerpts (approx. 3 minutes each): one based on song, and one based on text. These may be newly prepared pieces or excerpts from live performance. (Cloud drive links only).
- Previous Experience: If you have participated in other programs organized by Culture Wuzhen Co., Ltd. (e.g., Art Training Camp, Wuzhen Theatre Festival Workshops), please fill in the required information on page 5.
- Personal Statement (Letter of Motivation).
- Recommendation Letter.

X. Admission Process

Application Deadline: March 10, 2026.

Notification: Mid-March 2026, via email and phone.

XI. Contact Information

Email: public@wuzhenfestival.cn

Tel: 0573-88732588

Website: www.wuzhenfestival.com

Mob:19548056792

Office Hours: Weekdays 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM