

# «Acting for Peace – Theatre and Arts in Peace Activism»

International TO-Workshop with Hector Aristizabal (USA/Columbia)

**When:** 15. – 21. March 2009 **Where:** Marburg (Germany)



## What:

What can art and theatre contribute to build up a culture of peace? How to use theatre of the oppressed in conflict-transformation and peace education? What other esthetic elements like music, storytelling or rituals can enrich the TO-work with communities?

The Six-Day-Workshop with Hector Aristizabal starts on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> of March, and ends on Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> of March. The workshop will focus on theatre and arts in peace-activism and brings together Boal's techniques *Rainbow of Desire* and *Cop in the Head*, elements from community theatre and storytelling. The workshop lasts about six to seven hours per day and includes certain moments to talk about the "how to.." and "what to think off while working with communities..".

On Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> of March at 3 p.m. Hector will perform *Nightwind*, a solo-performance about his own torture experience, in a local theatre center. All participants of the workshop have free entrance to the performance. In the evening after the performance there will take place the first meeting with all participants to get to know each other and to talk about open questions and the program.

During the week there will be several events in the evening, such as a discussion with scientist and students from the university center for peace- and conflict-studies, documentary-films about international examples of theatre for peace in a local cinema and an *open space* with all participants to present own projects and talk about own experiences with TO. On the last day there will be a public performance in the streets, showing elements of the work done during the week and also a *world café*, organized to reflect the experiences during the workshop and to support the transfer into the own concrete practical work. This last day is very important in our eyes as it tries to overcome the usual gap after an intense workshop-week and puts together what we discuss and experience all over the week: acting for peace in public and the transfer into our own practice!

## For whom:

Practitioners of theatre of the oppressed, theatre-activists and others interested in peace-activism with the means of theatre. This is not an introductory workshop! We expect the participants to bring experience with theatre of the oppressed and material about own projects to share with the others. The workshop is for 30 participants only. If you want to take part, please send us an Email with some details about your background and experience with TO. We add you on the list and in January 2009 you will get further information.

## How much:

Participation fee is between 150 € and 250 € for the Workshop, including food for six days. According to your financial means, you can decide how much you are able and willing to pay. As there will be some participants from abroad, who additionally have to pay the travel costs and for other reasons like the different social (and socio economic) background, we think this is the best way to guarantee that everyone interested in the workshop can take part.

## Further Details:

Accommodation will be provided for everyone in students' apartments and private flats and does not cost extra. There will be two vegetarian meals each day (lunch and dinner), breakfast has to be organized by the participants themselves. Arrival date is the 15<sup>th</sup> of March, there will be the *Nightwind* performance at 3 p.m. and a meeting with all participants at 8 p.m. It is also possible to arrive the day before, 14<sup>th</sup> of March; in this case we will organize accommodation earlier for you. Departure date is Sunday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March.

## Please bring with you:

Sleeping bags, music instruments, material about your own theatre-work...



**Hector Aristizabal** is a native from Columbia and emigrated to the USA after being tortured by the Columbian military because of his engagement in human rights activism. For several years he has been working as a therapist, actor and peace activist in prisons, schools and all kinds of communities with the means of theatre and arts. He combines various kinds of rituals, musics, storytelling and social theatre in his work and now is travelling a lot through different regions of the world to share his experience. Hector is also an experienced practitioner of Boal's theatre of the oppressed, which he uses a lot in conflict-transformation and community-organizing.

## Contact and Registration:

Tim Krause, Dominik Werner, Inga Hölzel, Email: [info@spectactors-marburg.net](mailto:info@spectactors-marburg.net)

We are looking forward to welcome you in Marburg!!!