

## Constantin Stanislavski 1863 - 1938



'The actor must use his imagination to be able to answer all questions (when, where, why, how).'

Believed that the audience should emotionally connect with the characters.

Actors should use their own experience to make their characters as believable as possible.

### Terminology and techniques:

- The fourth wall
- Emotional memory
- The magic 'if'
- Sense memory
- Objectives
- Given circumstances
- Subtext
- Method of physical actions

**Naturalism**

## Bertolt Brecht 1898 - 1956



'Art is not a mirror to reflect reality, but a hammer with which to shape it.'

Believed that theatre should be used to spread a message and comment on society.

The audience should always be aware they are watching a play and constantly questioning what they see.

### Terminology and techniques:

- Breaking the fourth wall
- Alienation (Verfremdungseffekt)
- Gestus
- Use of placards
- Narration
- Multi-role
- Minimal set/costume/props
- Masks

**Epic theatre**

## Augusto Boal 1931 - 2009



'The theatre is a weapon, and it is the people who should wield it.'

Believed that theatre gave people the ability to take control and make changes.

Well known for Forum Theatre, in which the audience can stop a piece of drama and step in to change the outcome.

### Terminology and techniques:

- Forum theatre
- Improvisation
- Public theatre
- Audience participation
- 'Spect-actor'
- Exploring social issues

**Theatre of the Oppressed**

## Jacques Lecoq 1921 - 1999



'The body knows things about which the mind is ignorant.'

Believed theatre was about using the body to tell stories.

Focus on physical theatre, movement and mime.

Movement generates the emotion (muscle memory)

### Levels:

1. Catatonic (jellyfish)
2. Relaxed (Californian)
3. Neutral (no story)
4. Curious/alert (Mr Bean)
5. Reactive/Suspense (melodrama)
6. Passionate (opera)
7. Tragic (petrified)

**Seven levels of Tension**

## Frantic Assembly 1994 - Present



'We began with little more than a fierce work ethic and a desire to do something different and to do it differently.'

World-renowned theatre company who use physical theatre to devise performance.

Wanted to create non-realistic pieces of theatre through the use of movement and music.

### Terminology and techniques:

- Chair duet
- Hymn hands
- Lifts
- Walk the grid
- Mirroring
- Round-By-Through

**Physical theatre**