

## Sources' Research Milòn Mèla

### Workshop in India

Two sessions: 25 Nov. - 15 Dec. 2008

15 Dec. - 14 Jan. 2009



The core of the Source's Research project lies in the practical work. Every year in the months of November, December and January two work-sessions take place at Theatre House (**Santiniketan /Bolpur, West Bengal**). The proposal implies the journey to India, in an area, which is not on the tourist map itineraries.

The workshop is guided by Abani Biswas in collaboration with more than 30 traditional artist and masters from ancient Indian disciplines: **Bauls** musicians from Bengal, **Chhau** dancers from Jarkhand, masters of martial art **Kalaripayattu** from Kerala, **Gotipua** dancers from Orissa.

The structure and the method of learning on which the workshop is based took inspiration from the experience of the Theatre of Sources', directed by Jerzy Grotowski, in which Abani participated. We invite the participants to experience a well-structured process of work based on silence, music, dramatic actions, and techniques of attention, observation, voice and breathing. The residential workshop conducted at **Theatre House** is different, from a multitude of various workshops that Westerners can attend in India, in the fact that it does not offer exclusively the possibility of learning the traditional techniques. It rather gives the opportunity to attend traditional and ritualistic modalities of expression, however, in an accurate manner.

The daily rhythm of work is very intensive, participants will practice under the guidance of traditional masters: martial arts forms, dance choreographies, traditional songs and mantra.

During the workshop many guests arrive in alternation to conduct demonstrations: **Fakirs** musicians, **Patua** storytellers and scroll painters, traditional actors and music players. People who participate in the laboratory are Westerns or Indians from the cities, and many are the guests that follow traditional spiritual and artistic practices and disciplines. It is possible to participate in one (900 euros-work, food, accommodation) or in both the sessions (1.200 euros), the contribution for students is 700 euros one session and 900 euros for both the sessions. In the middle of January (on 11th/ 12th/ 13th), Theatre House hosts for three days a large number of wondering monks of different currents of Hinduism.



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