



OPEN CALL: RADIX
directed by Josephine Gray/Iraqi Bodies

Application open for *DANCERS, ACTORS, MIMES & CIRCUS PERFORMERS*
including last-year students of any of the above disciplines at a higher education

Iraqi Bodies are continuously searching for a radical theatre made up of the entirety of scenic expression. Radical must in this context be seen as an origin, or root—from the Latin *radix*. Considering that the origin of theatre in Ancient Greece incorporated text, movement, music and acrobatics it seems, to us, the only viable option if true appreciation for ‘theatre’ is to be upheld. For us a radical theatre is one in which all aspects of the body are considered and used: musicality, agility, voice and gesture.

To this end we are establishing a wider spanning research *studium* whereby the totality of the actor/performer is questioned and investigated. We will offer a practical and theoretical approach to the stage: the *studium* is where both meet.

The *studium* RADIX will run **throughout the entire year** (2022) with 3-4 monthly meetings including physical as well as theoretical sessions. In June an intensive session of 1-2 weeks will be organized. The main venue for the *studium* will be Teater Trixter in Gothenburg.

We are looking for performers who seek to develop their area of expertise and who are willing to participate in a highly demanding physical and theoretical environment. We encourage all who are interested to visit/look at the work of Iraqi Bodies to get acquainted with our work before applying. The *studium* will be a unique opportunity to deepen your skills and experiences as a performer and is one-of-a-kind in terms of the various territories that will be explored while simultaneously being free of charge for the performers selected.

Territories:

Nogushi Technique/Metamorphosis techniques/Aspects of the “holy actor”/Mimodynamics/Corporeal Mime/Expression and Impression as tools for movement and characterisation/ The actor as “witness”/Acrobatics/Movement analysis/Aerial/Juggling/Chorus–Protagonist/Mask work/Vocal and (dramatic) text work

Few examples of lecture topics:

The predecessors of Ancient Greek Drama: *satyrs* and *komastai*

Aristotle’s *Poetics*

Ritual theatre and its impact on the western theatre canon

The use and evolution of mask in its various periods

The modern problem of the body onstage as a result of the “failure” of mime

The grotesque (comic and tragic) in Shakespeare and its echo in 20th century dramatists

Nietzsche’s impact on theatre in *The Birth of Tragedy from the Spirit of Music*

Catastrophe in the 20th century: physical expression at its limit

Catastrophe in the 21st century: why theatrical movements have been unable to negotiate the atrocities committed and its relation to the problematic use of the term “the third world”

We will invite 3-4 participants from each discipline (theatre, dance, mime and circus) that will form the *studium* from January to December at several working sessions in Gothenburg and the region of Västra Götaland. We encourage applications from all the Scandinavian countries and abroad! **The working language of the *studium* will be English.**

The *studium* is directed by Josephine Gray and will be led together with Anmar Taha along with international artists who will inform the working sessions with their expertise. The invited artists will be announced shortly.

The **preliminary** dates are:

29-30 January • 5-6 February • 13 February • 5-6 March • 26-27 March
2-3 April • 10 April • 7-8 May • 21-22 May • 13-26 June (intensive)

No activities July-August

September-December dates TBC

NB: DATES MAY BE ADDED AND/OR ALTERED. THIS WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO THE SELECTED PERFORMERS IN DUE TIME.

To apply please send us your CV and a personal letter (min. 1 A4, max. 2 A4) on why you would like to participate and what interests you in the above suggestions of a radical theatre. Please take care in writing your letter as this will be the basis for the selection rather than your CV.

The application should be sent to iraqibodieslaboratory@gmail.com by **December 15th 2021**. Selected participants will be informed by January 7th 2022 the latest. We are very much looking forward to receiving your application and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us!

About:

The work of Iraqi Bodies explores the link between movement and gesture, between dance and physical theater. The poetics of awareness is an absolute given in their continued search for a radical scenic language. The company is based in Gothenburg, Sweden, led by Artistic Directors Anmar Taha and Josephine Gray.

Josephine Gray has been performing on-stage for more than fifteen years while developing the dramaturgy and philosophy of Iraqi Bodies. She is a graduate of L'École Internationale de Théâtre de Jacques Lecoq and has two post-graduate degrees in Philosophy and English Literature. She is currently co-editing the anthology *Second Nature: Comic Performance and Philosophy* together with Lisa Trahair forthcoming 2022 with Rowman and Littlefield International, London, UK.

For more info please visit www.iraqibodies.com

