



**FOCUS ATELIER: Theatre of the Oppressed & Identity
Deconstruction ...
Cluj-Napoca, 20th-31st March, 2015**

1) What did you think of the experience overall?

It was a great opportunity to meet new people from different backgrounds and experience together other ways of approaching theatre. I have worked with George, Kurt and Iulia before but this time it was very interesting to see how non-actors relate to these workshops. I have to mention that I did not take part in George's workshops this time

2) Which parts of the workshops worked best?

The collaborative part was the best, in my opinion. The ideas that people came up with for the flash-mobs were really cool and I liked how we were able to intertwine physical elements with social problems which exist in Cluj.

3) What could be improved?

It just crossed my mind that Kurt and Iulia mentioned several times that the loneliness exercise can be done experiencing many emotions, not just despair. What about really trying to do it in order to explore extreme joy, for example? I like the "dark places" explored in the Identity Deconstruction workshop, but I think you could still put some more stress on the positive emotions. It seems to me that there is a general prejudice about the "happy feelings"-as if it was super easy to achieve it - we tend to look at it superficially, I think, and not explore their extremes.

4) How will you use what you learned in the workshops?

I can't put a finger on it, but I am almost sure this training has changed the way I work on creating my characters. For example, associating certain movements with emotions (using the affective memory of the body, I would call it) is one of the best things that I've learned during this workshop.

5) What would you like more training in?

I would like to work more with George. I was not a great fan of activism in theatre or in art, in general, as I believe the "message" of a work of art should not be too straightforward, but leave room for interpretation. I liked George's approach and the fact that he uses humour in his work (his "games" are both funny and intriguing)

6) What did you think of the quality of training given by the facilitators?

It was great (I think it results from what I've said before)

7) Which experiences had the most impact on you?

The flash-mobs (the one in the market was the best for me and I am not a vegetarian ☺)

8) How has the training been useful for your work?

The training itself is useful because it familiarizes me with different methods in acting. I also look at it as a way to connect with people and develop new projects (or just enjoy their company and have a great time together).

ANY OTHER COMMENTS ...

See you soon, I hope ☺