

The Saratoga International Theater Institute

SITI, The Saratoga International Theater Institute, was founded in 1992 by Anne Bogart and Tadashi Suzuki to redefine and revitalize contemporary theater in the United States through an emphasis on international cultural exchange and collaboration. Originally envisioned as a summer institute in Saratoga Spring, NY, SITI has expanded to encompass a year round program based in New York City with a summer season in Saratoga.

SITI's three ongoing components are the creation of new work, the training of young theater artists and a commitment to forming partnerships with international collaborators. SITI believes that contemporary American theater must necessarily incorporate artists from around the world and learn from the resulting cross-cultural exchange of necessarily incorporate artists from around the world and learn from the resulting cross-cultural exchange of dance, music, art and performance experiences.

The American theater is at a significant turning point. The regional theaters are now many generations removed from the artists who created them and these institutions and their audiences are experiencing a crisis of identity. The way SITI is accomplishing its mission is to integrate into other organizations in the existing American and international theater systems. Examples include our ongoing relationships with Actors Theatre of Louisville, Modus Ensemble and the Magic Theater in San Francisco, Skidmore College, the Wexner Center for the Arts, the Walker Art Center, City Theatre in Pittsburgh, the Toga International Arts Festival, New York Theater Workshop, and other organizations. It is exciting to see these relationships take hold and continue. The institutions and their audiences experience a breath of fresh air from us, and we, in turn, can grow and create in relation to them.

SITI has most recently returned from a run of Culture of Desire in the US and at the Bogata International Theater Festival in Colombia. After our annual Summer Intensive at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, New York, (June 7-28, 1998), SITI will begin developing its new piece, The Audience Project, in collaboration with Actors Theatre of Louisville and the 1999 Humana Festival of New American Plays. Other projects in development include: Alice, Underground in collaboration with City Theater (Pittsburgh, PA) and the Wexner Center for the Arts (Columbus, Ohio). The upcoming season has teaching workshops in venues including: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Minneapolis, Columbus, Ireland, Italy, Wales, and New York.

The SITI Company is: Akiko Aizawa, J. Ed Araiza*, Will Bond *, Leon Ingulsrud*, Andrew Kranis, Ellen Lauren*, Kelly Maurer*, Jefferson Mays*, Tom Nelis*, Barney O'Hanlon*, Neil Patel, Karenjune Sanchez*, James Schuette, Mimi Jordan Sherin, Megan Wanlass*, Stephen Webber* and Darron L West.*

For more information on the company and its training programs and performances; to purchase copies of Anne Bogart: Viewpoints or SITI Training T-shirt; or to make a tax-deductible contribution in support of SITI, please contact:

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