



DIGITAL COLLECTION OF EUROPEAN ROMA THEATER AND DRAMA

www.romaheroes.org

Evilface

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CSABA GERNER

Good evening. Wow, there sure are a lot of you here.

Couldn't you find something decent to do? A proper job?

Do you all want to devote yourselves to theater? Well, alright...

I don't care what you do with your lives.

The important thing is that you've paid your tuition.

Has everyone paid?

Come on! Hands up! Who hasn't paid yet?

We'll look into this at the end.

There's no such thing as free labour!

So. We record every session, the recording is available for three weeks.

So, the topic of today's class... The development of the structure of adverbs in 17th-century mystery plays as reflected in the language use of peripheral animal characters.

What was the first mystery play in Hungarian?

I assume you have no clue. Obviously.

Or do you?

That's why I'm here.

It was 'Three Christian Maidens'. It had animal characters such as the lion, the lamb, the white dove, and the flat pig.

That's what it's called. Flat pig.

These animals not only serve an allegorical function but also subtly yet consistently modify the use of adverbial phrases.

The Three Christian Maidens, the ugly one, the hideous, and the repulsive...

What day is it?

What day of the month?

The sixth...

You aren't here for this, are you?

The 17th-century one is in a week.

I'm supposed to be talking about character development, aren't I?
Alright. Just a minute. I'll just load the other PowerPoint.

I've been in the business for over thirty years. I know a thing or two.
Listen here.

I hope you're not on your phones. I don't want you scrolling Facebook during my lecture. I don't want to be staring at a bunch of heads looking down. With your fancy hairstyles. Those of you that have hair.

So, I've been an actor for 30 years. Even if I woke up from a coma, I could talk about character development for as long as I like.
I just need to find my notes real quick.

In the meantime... I'll start the recording...
They say that if it's blinking and it's red, it's already recording.
That's right.

So... The topic of today's class is, What You See Is What There Is:
Identity and Character Development in the Art of Acting.

You all want to be actors, right?
Who's going to be the audience then?

Let's begin. What am I doing right now?
Serious question!
Okay then...
Well, by the end of the class, I guarantee that some of you will drop out.
And that's a good thing!
Let the trash take itself out!
Take notes! They're important.
Maybe I'll give bonus points to whoever has the most comprehensive notes.
Maybe you can come to one of my shows for free!
I'll teach you everything about acting. In theory!
In practice, portraying a person is an entirely different story.

But don't worry. These days you'll still be able to get by on stage even if you only get character portrayal in theory.

Write this down, it's important. Let the trash take itself out.

You can take a picture at the end of the class, but no phones before that! No heads looking down.

Let's get back to the exercise.

What am I doing right now?

I'm standing? Brilliant...

I'm spacing out?

I'm getting ready?

It's simpler than that.

That's it. I'm staring.

It's easy to just be staring, isn't it? Of course! Any moron can stare.

Show me how a moron would stare.

Thank you.

Let's practice a bit.

I'll show you how a moron would stare.

Or... Or...

These are not the only ways a moron can stare.

Like this...

But why do they stare like that?

Because the moron's just staring, but he isn't seeing. The moron doesn't even concern himself with seeing anything.

The central question of today's class is: Who am I?

Write it down. Take notes.

Who am I?

I've put together a brief overview of myself.

We'll watch it and then you have to answer some questions.

WHO AM I?

Well... They say our whole life is reflected on our faces.

What's my life like? What do you see in me?

Be honest.

Loaded! Rich as hell. Okay...

What? Cohol? Oh, alcohol! No, I don't drink. Thank you so much.

I understand... Anyway. I've been here less than five minutes, and you've already made up your mind about me!

The most important question is: How does the world see us?

Reality is what I see. How can we see an objective reality?

The objectivity of reality is pure physics.

You can't perceive the world from any perspective other than your own.

That means that reality is me! and by 'me', of course, I mean myself, not you.

Reality: this is how I see it, therefore it is so.

Write that down.

How does the world see you?

This is how I see it, so this is how it is.

I'm your instructor, so pay attention to me.

Love me.

I am going to teach you everything about acting.

About portraying a character.

My past thirty years in the field contain everything worth knowing about the profession, about the art of acting.

So the name of our course couldn't be anything else, but...

Me! Me...

At the end of the semester, you will all have to portray the same character.

Me.

Not just on the external level, but internally as well.

A consistent image is crucial. It's important that we present a unified image, because that's what makes the audience feel comfortable, and if you want to be successful, the most important thing is that the audience feels comfortable and has a good time.

So how can we perceive objective reality?

I've mentioned that reality is pure physics.

The great Hungarian songwriter has already put this to song.

You see with your eyes, you feel with your heart.

But in your case, reality is always interpreted relative to me!

This is what you need to know for a successful exam!

You need to see the world through my eyes.

As I've said before, reality is ME. Not you or you, me.

Write this down, take notes!

Reality: This is how I see it, so this is how it is.

If you're talented like me, this is the way to get into what's called 'the canon'.

(...)