

Tentativi di evasione dal Metodo: nuovi stili recitativi e approcci alla creazione scenica per il teatro Off-Off Broadway

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Abstract

Attempts to Escape from the Method: A new training for the Off-Off Broadway theatrical style

At the beginning of the 1960s the Off-Off Broadway movement grew in New York City, creating a distinctive approach to thinking about and doing theatre. A new dramaturgical style emerged to address not only the challenges associated with American social conditions but also the unique characteristics of the venues where the performances took place. Small coffee houses, basements and lofts hosted one-act plays in a space shared with the audience seated at coffee tables. A context that imposed a vibrant and physical acting style to catch the attention of the spectators in a short time. The article presents the case of two artists, Tom O'Horgan and Joseph Chaikin who, inspired by European masters such as Jerzy Grotowski and Eugenio Barba, developed their research for a new actor training as an answer to the need for a new performative style and to help overcome the Actors Studio Method, no longer suitable for the experimental scene. The experience of the two directors also highlights how the mutual influence that occurred between the American and European Avant-garde contributed to the definition of new approaches to the scene.

Keywords: Off-Off Broadway; actor's training; Tom O'Horgan; Joseph Chaikin; Jerzy Grotowski.