

Max Reinhardt il pedagogo

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Abstract

The Pedagogue Max Reinhardt

This article aims to capture and illustrate the development of Max Reinhardt's (1873-1943) pedagogical activity. One of the least explored facets of the Austrian actor, director, and impresario's extensive and diverse career is his establishment of renowned schools and workshops in the U.S., where he sought refuge as a Jewish refugee from the Nazi Anschluss in 1938. Remarkably, these institutions, though without any formal methods or systems, played a pivotal role in nurturing some of the most exceptional talents in 20th-century theatre and cinema. As the great maestro he was, Reinhardt recognized the essence of his theatre, which placed the talent, depth and charm of the actor's personality at its core. No school could endow it to those who did not already have it, but finding and developing it, wherever possible, was an immense enrichment. On these bases, he founded the Berlin School of the Deutsches Theatre in 1905 and in 1929 the Vienna-Schönbrunn School, both of which are the subject of this article.

Keywords: theatre; pedagogy; acting; Austria; Germany.