

## PIPPO DELBONO

### BIOGRAPHY (\*translated to English from Italian)

Pippo Delbono, author, actor, director, is one of Italy's most unconventional and distinctive theatre artists.

He began his studies of dramatic art in a traditional school that he left in research for a new theatrical language. He decided to study the principles of eastern theatre, where is central a detailed and strict work of the actor on the body and on the voice, where theatre and dance meet and merge.

At the beginning of the Eighties, he founded Pippo Delbono Company with whom he represented all his performances, from *Il tempo degli assassini* (1987) to *La Menzogna* (2008). They are not representations of theatrical texts but entire creations where the actors are part of a stable core that grows up through the time.

The meeting with people coming from emarginated areas of society brings a turning in his poetical research. From this encounter came out *Barboni* (1997). Some of these actors, for example Bobò, a deaf-and-dumb person met in the mental hospital of Aversa after 45 years spent there, strengthened their work inside the company and are today a basic part of the experience.

The performances - *La rabbia*, dedicated to Pasolini, *Guerra*, *Esodo*, *Gente di plastica*, *Urlo*, *Il silenzio*, *Questo Buio Feroce* and the other already mentioned- have been represented in more than 50 countries.

The experience of Pippo Delbono Company has been hosted in a lot of different theatrical International festivals, between them Avignon Festival which welcomed the company three times, coproduced the performance *Urlo* and hosted "*La Menzogna*", the last theatrical production, in July 2009. A lot of theatres dedicated a retrospective to Pippo Delbono work, one of these the Théâtre du Rond Point in Paris.

*Enrico V*, the only creation based on a theatrical text- the historic drama by Shakespeare – has been represented – as the only Italian performance - at the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Since a lot of years Pippo Delbono made researches on the language of cinema. In 2003 after the tournée in Israel/Palestine, he has shoot the film *Guerra*, presented at Mostra del Cinema di Venezia, and got the award David of Donatello as Best Documentary. His second film, *Grido* (2006), has been presented at Festa del Cinema in Roma. He made his third film, "La Paura", with a mobile phone and later edited in 35mm. "La Paura" has been presented with an entire retrospective of his films at the Locarno Film Festival. As an actor he co-starred with Tilda Swinton and Marisa Berenson the film "I am Love" directed by Luca Guadagnino. For Music and Opera he realized the opera *Studio per Opra Maestra* for the Experimental Theatre of Spoleto. Actually he is working on the direction of a new Opera in Catania, and on his new theatre creation, among other artistic and cultural projects.

For the publishing industry, he published *Barboni – Il teatro di Pippo Delbono* with Ubulibri; *Mon théâtre*, edited by Actes Sud; *Le corps de l'acteur*, edited by Les Solitaires Intempestifs; *El teatro de la rabia*, edited by Punto Aparte; *Récits de juin*, edited by Actes Sud; *Racconti di giugno*, edited by Garzanti; *Ecrivains de plateau*, by Bruno Tackels published by Les Solitaires Intempestifs; *Teatrul Meu*, edited by „Fundatia Culturala Camil Petrescu“ and "Corpi senza menzogna" with Leonetta Bentivoglio and edited by Barbes.

As theatre director he won the Ubu special prize for the performance “Barboni”, the Olympic prizes for theatrical innovation with the performances “Gente di Plastca” and “Urlo”, the Critic prize for “Guerra” and the Europa Prize for the New Theatre in 2009 and on the same year he has been guest of honor at the Locarno Film Festival.

On 2010 he participates with Tilda Swinton at the film “I’m love” directed by Luca Guadagnino. He is now working on a new creation which will open at the Opera House of Catania (Sicily) on March 2011.

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