

Playing Shakespeare

May 5-7 at the BMO Studio Theatre, 112 Princess Street

Friday May 5th (7-10pm) / Saturday May 6 (10-3pm) / Sunday May 7 (10-5pm)

The Power Of Live Performance. A weekend workshop with Ben Stone. Using unconventional methods to discover and unlock new and vibrant performances of old, wordy and astonishing plays!

A bit more about the weekend:

The common assessment of those two words “playing Shakespeare” is to give special weight or respect to the second word, Shakespeare. This is incorrect. To do so is a disservice to The Bard himself. The phenomenon of the power of live performance existed before Shakespeare and continues to this day, regardless of his involvement. Shakespeare created his plays in order that they be ignited by the power of live performance. This will be the foundation of our workshop.

The individual spark that each actor brings to the stage, the current that pulses between that actor and the audience and expanding that current to run between scene partners to the audience to the entire ensemble and the audience. Once we have established the electrical current, we will look at ways of conducting that electricity with Shakespeare's text. We want the text to conduct like copper, not plastic. The electricity is primary, Shakespeare is secondary. If you lose the charge, you do an injustice to Shakespeare and spit on his grave!

How can the electricity inherent in live performance ignite the text? Using unconventional methods (games) we will discover and unlock new, alive and vibrant performances of old, wordy and astonishing plays. Keep in mind these plays were once actually performed in a contemporary context that was raw and vital. No one was putting on Elizabethan airs, no one had ever heard of “Playing Shakespeare” they were just making plays, and being awesome. Never mind playing Shakespeare, let's make theatre.

Fee: \$85 / Worked with us in the past? A SJTC member discount is available (visit www.ticketpro.ca for details).

To register:

Visit www.ticketpro.ca or call 1-888-311-9090

For more information please call 506-652-7582