



## Course Details – January 2018

### 3-week Orientation and Training Course

#### Professional Training

THE SPIRIT OF THE WORD SCHOOL is a Professional Training Course in the Performing Arts, for the speaking of poetry, acting and storytelling, based on the work of Rudolf Steiner and the origins of drama in the Mystery Schools, particularly of ancient Greece, which guided people on an inner path of spiritual development. Through this work, a new way of using our voice and breath and the sounds of language can be discovered, for a powerful narrative, effective dramatic and sensitive lyrical style of speaking and acting.

#### Professional Development

This School for Creative Speech and the Art of Drama also offers an opportunity for those who use speech as a tool in their profession. A Certificate of Attendance is provided.

#### Personal Development

A third aspect of the Spirit of the Word School is Personal Development, using the transformative power of speech to realise our creative potential. Through working with the 'Creative Word', we can develop from 'who we are now' to 'who we can become'.

#### The Orientation Course\*

THE 3-WEEK INTRODUCTORY and ORIENTATION COURSE are two Stand-Alone-Courses – open to all levels of interest.

It is also the beginning of the Professional Training, with Advanced Levels running parallel. Part of the day is common to all students, with separate sessions daily for different levels.

The main emphasis of the Orientation Course is on developing the technique of speaking epic (narrative) poetry, which involves Body, Soul and Spirit in a holistic form of expression. The course also gives insight into and practical experience of the various aspects of the training.

\* See separate information sheet and poster for the **Introductory Course**.

#### Activities of the day

- **Movement Play, Greek Gymnastics and Eurythmy**, as daily disciplines, will lead us into a deeper experience of *Colour, Form and Dynamic* of Language, and the *Gestures* of the individual sounds
- **Speaking in Chorus**, a substantial part of the daily routine, helps in developing our ear for poetry and experience the power of Creative Speech
- **Individual Tuition in Small Groups** gives daily support for personal practice at each level
- **Talks and Study** give the opportunity each week, for learning and discussing the basic background material to Rudolf Steiner's approach to speech and drama, as well as literature.
- **Daily practice, reflection and journaling** will be part of each day

## Introducing the Main Subjects

**The Art of Creative Speech** allows spiritual forces to manifest in the individual gestures of the consonants and vowels of language, when poetry and story are spoken on the enlivened breath stream

**The Art of Drama**, when the actor enters fully into these spiritual qualities of language, then ‘...acting becomes a service ...whereby the spiritual is carried into the world of the physical.’ – from the ‘Speech and Drama Course’ 1924, by Rudolf Steiner

**Eurythmy**, as a new art of movement, makes speech, also music, visible through movement. This awakens a sensitivity for sound qualities and movement of language, enlivening both speaking and acting

**Greek Gymnastics** – the Greek Pentathlon of running, jumping wrestling, discus and javelin-throwing – is used in an artistic, non-competitive way, to sensitise the body for stage movement and expression



## Details

The Orientation Course\* will start at 5 pm on Sunday, 9th July with registration and the Opening, including a shared dinner, which will be provided. Course ending will be lunch time on Friday, 28th July.

Each day will go from 8.30 am until 5 pm, with a generous lunch break, allowing time for practice and processing. Please keep the evenings open for possible events to be decided, and perhaps arising spontaneously.

THE TUTORS ON THE COURSE have had many years of experience teaching, performing and directing internationally. They will be taking you *into the world of Poetry and of Story* through *Imagination, Inspiration and Intuition, as a gradual transformative process of movement, colour, form and sound.*

\* See separate information sheet and poster for the **Introductory Course**.

## Optional recommended reading:

*Creative Speech* – R. Steiner

*Speech and Drama* – R. Steiner

*To the Actor* – Michael Chekhov

*The Art of Acting* – Dawn Langman



- ★ **Tutors:** Speech and Drama – Penelope Snowdon-Lait, Astrid Anderson, Norbert Mulholland (other tutors to be confirmed)  
Eurythmy – to be confirmed  
Talks/Study – to be confirmed
- ★ **Dates:** Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January 5 pm – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2018, lunch time
- ★ **Cost:** \$1500 – Early Bird concession by 15th December 2017: \$1300;  
or: NZ\$600 for 1st week (two weeks: \$1100) Concession: \$550: 1st wk/ \$1000: 2 wks
- ★ **Venue:** Rudolf Steiner Centre, 500 N Nelson, Cnr Whitehead Rd, Hastings / HB, NZ
- ★ **Contact:** Astrid – starguide@slingshot.co.nz; Ph: +64 6 857 7113  
Penelope – penelope.snowdon.lait@gmail.com; Ph: +64 3 384 9768

For enrolment and further information, see: <https://spiritofthewordschool.wordpress.com>  
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