

ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN THEATER STUDIOS

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Abstract: This article discusses the activities of foreign theater studios, their role in social life, and their significance in today's world. It analyzes the activities of theater studios that have established their place on a global scale.

Keywords: foreign theater studios, actor, repertoire, director, playwright, artist, performance.

The art of theater has long held a special place in human culture. As a means of shaping social consciousness, promoting aesthetic education, and transmitting spiritual values, it has significantly influenced the development of society. Today, alongside professional theaters, theater studios also play an important role in popularizing art and nurturing talent.

Let us now consider the essence of theater studios in social life and their activities in the modern era.

A theater studio—unlike a professional theater school—is an institution where creative experimentation takes place and young people are introduced to the secrets of art. Its key characteristics are a free creative environment, the testing of new styles, and opportunities to work with young talents [1].

Many researchers emphasize that theater studios perform two primary functions: first, they train actors and directors for professional theaters; second, they meet the aesthetic needs of the wider public. In this regard, theater studios face several important tasks.

Main functions of modern theater studios:

1. Creative training – nurturing new talents for professional theater and cinema.
2. Moral and educational development – cultivating young people loyal to national and universal values with refined aesthetic taste.
3. Popularization of art – bringing theater closer to youth and the general public, broadening their cultural worldview.
4. Innovative research – introducing new stage technologies and acting methods into practice.
5. Social integration – uniting young people from various backgrounds into creative collectives and increasing their social activity [3].

In the era of globalization, the importance of theater studios in society continues to grow. Their relevance is expressed in the following aspects:

Preservation and promotion of cultural heritage – strengthening national identity through the staging of classical dramatic works [6].

Development of creative thinking – enhancing critical and creative abilities through stage art.

Application of modern technologies – integrating multimedia tools, innovative lighting, and stage effects into performances.

International cooperation – promoting national culture globally through participation in theater festivals and joint projects [7].

Analysis of prominent international theater studios

Moscow Art Theatre Studio (MXAT, Russia)

Founded in 1898 by Konstantin Sergeyevich Stanislavski and Vladimir Nemirovich-Danchenko, the Moscow Art Theatre marked a turning point in world theater history. The studio became famous for its stage approach, acting techniques based on psychological analysis, and dramaturgical principles closely connected with real life.

Stanislavski's "system" created a scientific school of acting in which the actor expresses a character not through external actions, but through internal psychological processes and genuine emotional experiences. The actor's personal life experience, memory, and emotions play a vital role in this creative process.

The "art of experiencing" formed the core of Stanislavski's system. Productions based on this approach—such as Chekhov's "The Seagull," "Uncle Vanya," "Three Sisters," and "The Cherry Orchard"—introduced new psychological depth and realism to theater art.

MXAT stood out for presenting social issues through aesthetic means. Its greatest achievement was elevating acting to a scientifically grounded system.

Stanislavski's method later evolved in the United States into "Method Acting." The Moscow Art Theatre served as a laboratory for theatrical pedagogy.

Actors Studio (USA, New York)

Founded in 1947 by Elia Kazan, Cheryl Crawford, and Robert Lewis, the Actors Studio centers its practice on Stanislavski's "Method Acting." This approach relies on an actor's personal experiences and emotional memories, requiring complete immersion into the character and natural, believable performance. In the second half of the 20th century, the Actors Studio revolutionized American theater and cinema. Legendary actors such as Marlon Brando, Al Pacino, Robert De Niro, and Meryl Streep trained here. Method Acting brought psychological depth to both stage and screen performance.

As a creative laboratory rather than a classical "repertoire theater," the Actors Studio focuses on experimentation, improvisation, and psychological exploration. Its repertoire typically includes:

Plays rooted in Stanislavski's dramaturgy and Russian realism;

American dramas by playwrights such as Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller, and Clifford Odets;

Experimental works serving as exercises and testing grounds for actors.

Key productions include:

Tennessee Williams: *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*;

Arthur Miller: *Death of a Salesman*, *The Crucible*;

Clifford Odets: *Awake and Sing!*, *Golden Boy*.

These plays align with Method Acting principles by exploring human suffering, social injustice, and psychological conflict. The Studio's greatest achievement lies in its synthesis of theater and cinema—many of its stage productions were successfully adapted for film.

Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA, United Kingdom)

Established in London in 1904, RADA is one of Britain's most prestigious institutions for dramatic education. It combines classical English dramaturgy with modern theatrical pedagogy. Shakespeare's works form the foundation of its curriculum.



RADA's programs integrate speech training, stage movement, acting psychology, and contemporary methods. Among its world-renowned graduates are Anthony Hopkins, Ralph Fiennes, and Alan Rickman, whose careers reflect RADA's global influence.

The academy has developed theater pedagogy on a scientific basis, supported by phonetic laboratories, studies in acting psychology, and theater history courses.

Conclusion The Moscow Art Theatre Studio, the Actors Studio, and RADA represent three great schools of world theater. Each introduced new methodologies, psychological analysis, and aesthetic perspectives into theatrical art. MXAT developed psychological realism. Actors Studio advanced Method Acting; RADA enriched classical dramaturgy and speech culture.

Today, these studios remain significant both scientifically and artistically, influencing global theater education and performance. In conclusion, modern theater studios act as a strong bridge between art and society. They not only cultivate artistic talent and aesthetic taste but also contribute to the development and international promotion of national culture. Therefore, supporting and developing theater studios should be considered a key direction of state cultural policy.

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