

ART OF DEVISING 2026

The Safety of Wilderness

Dance/Theatre Seminar led by Sanja Krsmanović Tasić

28th of June- 5th of July 2026

Horto, Pilion, Greece

www.horto.net

We are taught to believe that wilderness is dangerous. That what is not mapped, named, or fenced will harm us. That safety lives in rules, walls, and certainty.

But what if wilderness is not the absence of safety, but in this uncertain world created by humans, is safety itself.

Wilderness does not promise comfort. It does not smooth our edges or protect us from getting lost. Yet it allows contradiction. It makes space for many ways of being at once.

In wilderness, there is no single path, only traces of those who passed before, and the possibility of leaving a mark that will disappear, just like in the ephemeral form such is theatre and dance.

Wilderness does not protect you from fear. It teaches you how to sit beside it, and let it teach you to live fully. You learn safety by paying attention: to the ground beneath your feet, to the breath of others nearby, to when to move, when to wait, when to lead, when to follow.

Just like in a physical theatre training.

For one week, we enter a shared wilderness in The Safety of Wilderness devised dance-theatre seminar, answering questions like:

What do we need to survive together? What do we need to listen to each other? What do we need to risk? Pilion and Horto are an ideal place to do so, with its wild and beautiful untouched nature.

We will build safety by listening to each other. By making room for difference. By allowing moments of uncertainty, play, failure, and care.

If safety is a shelter, then wilderness teaches us how to build it together, out of attention, responsibility, and imagination. It will remain in how we listen. In how we take risks.

In how we make space for what has not yet been named.

Starting with different exercises that warm up the body and develop the physical vocabulary of each individual, the seminar will focus on developing different materials from which a devised performance art piece can be created. The participants will together pass the process of creating physical scores based on personal inner stories, that will be later edited into scenes.

Based on techniques of Eastern European laboratory theatre, and the 20 th Century masters of contemporary theatre and dance (Grotowski, Barba, Biomechanics, physical theatre, Yoshi Oida, Carolyn Carson), different martial art techniques, and also unique theatre/dance techniques developed by Sanja Krsmanovic Tasic after 40 years of dedicated work in the realm of performing art and dance

The result of this one week intensive seminar will be in a performance presented as part of Horto Festival.

The five to seven hour daily workshop schedule will allow you enough time to explore and enjoy the beautiful beaches of Horto and Pelion, and the natural wonders of the area.

It is necessary to have comfortable clothes that allow movement, socks or soft shoes for indoor activities, sneakers or hiking shoes for outdoor activities, a big towel or shawl for lying down on the ground. Please bring a song or music that inspire you.

If you wish to join, please fill the form:

<https://forms.gle/2v8ryZBLXks3J33r9>

For more details and information please write to:

sanja.k.tasic@gmail.com

Seminar price: 200 euros per person, tuition, plus welcome dinner.

The distance from Volos to Horto is about 50 km, and you can also use the inter city bus.

Participants will provide food for themselves in the numerous Greek taverns with affordable prices, or can cook in the apartments. Horto and Milina (3 km away) have a number of food shops and bakeries.

More information about Horto and the Festival: www.horto.net

TIMETABLE:

Saturday, 27.6.2026. arrival of participants

20 h Welcome dinner (Location to be announced)

Sunday 28.6.- Friday 3.7.

9- 14/15 h workshop with coffee or light lunch break George Hadjinikos Hall

Saturday 4th of July

14-19 h General rehearsal Horto Theatre

21h Performance/presentation

Sunday 5.7.

10-12h evaluation and wrap up

About Art of Devising

The Art of Devising seminars are for actors and dancers with experience, and/or for students, teachers and creative drama pedagogues, also for anyone interested to embark with us on this journey of personal revelations and development. Through researching, creating and developing physical and vocal scores we will generate material that will be shaped into the performance itself, using creative dramaturgy of montage. There are two forms of the Seminars: the intensive one, and the one that is open for all. The intensive seminar requires a certain level of skill and knowledge, as it also gives a space for challenging personal boundaries and restraints. The one targeted for the 50 + participants has shorter daily work hours and is more gentle in approach, respecting the rhythm and ability of all participants. The seminars also include work on creative writing of texts for the performance, site-specific work and also work with

rhythm, music and song, all together to create the body of the final presentation/ performance.

The seminars are dedicated to the search of the „dance of the soul“, the harmonization of the inner world and listening to the whispers of nature, in search for the clear, true and wondrous expression of each individual.

Sanja Krsmanović Tasić (Sanja K.Tasic)

Theatre director, choreographer, actress, drama and dance pedagogue, producer. She has been formed as an artist by masters of contemporary theatre and dance Torgeir Wethal (Odin Teatret, Denmark), Yoshi Oida (Peter Brook, Japan/France), Gennady Bogdanov (Meyerhold`s Biomechanics, Russia), Rena Mirecka and Zigmunt Molik (Grotowski, Poland), Carolyn Carson (USA) , Steven Iannacone (USA), Shiro Daimond (France/Japan), Smiljana Mandukić (Serbia), Mira Sanjina (Serbia) and many others. As an acclaimed international expert in the realm of drama/theatre education, devised theatre and dance, Sanja is the author of an original methodology called “ecology of the soul”, based on developing creative potentials of each individual through an artistic process. Together with her theatre group and individually, she tours performances and conducts workshops around the globe, also giving lectures and keynotes. A core member, actress and choreographer of the first Serbian theatre laboratory DAH Teatar for more than two decades, and the Program Director of Dah Theatre Research Centre (now DAH Theatre Centre for Culture and Social Change) she was one of the leaders of the International School for Actors and Directors in Belgrade, for more than ten years. She is one of the founders and artistic director of Hleb teatar, and the umbrella association for performing arts Artistic Utopia as well as founder and director of the Children and Youth Theatre Festival Mater Terra and a dance Festival Days of Smiljana Mandukić, dedicated to one of the pioneers of contemporary dance in Yugoslavia. She is the initiator and author of various artistic and education projects, and is developing new forms in theatre, such as an “essay in movement”, and documentary dance performance. President of Centre for Drama in Education and Art-CEDEUM, and president of the International Association of Drama/Theatre and Education-IDEA.

www.hlebteatar.com

www.ideadrama.org

www.cedeum.org

Dear Nine,

I have removed your email from the Hortodia mail list. I always do the same because then I miss what is important on my mailbox!

It is a pity that again this year I have a concert with Hortodia on the 28th and after that for the following two weekends again two very beautiful music performances in Pelion.

I hope next year to impress you and invite you to Pelion for a second performance of Matthäus in the mountain!