



## Jonathan Kay is a 21<sup>st</sup> century Fool

Jonathan Kay is recognized as a leading performer and teacher of Fooling workshops, whose work with audiences is internationally known. He's the founder of the largest street theatre festival in the UK, and is an Honorary Fellow of The University of Winchester. He has taught in Canada/USA, Australia, Spain, Germany, Sweden, Bosnia, Jordan and the UK.

He sees this art form as inclusive, a way of including both the 'real' world of the audience and the 'imaginary' world of theatre.



*"Jonathan Kay is one of the most inspiring and free-thinking theatre practitioners I have ever met. He is a unique, genuine and natural communicator. A one off. As a teacher and a performer, he is funny, frustrating and challenging all at once. He cuts through pretension, contrivance, cliché' and ego. There was no hiding place. I learnt a lot from him. I would urge anyone to sign-up to his courses and to see his shows. He is a philosopher, a fool and a much needed voice of sanity."*

**Jeremy Stockwell, RADA**

Jonathan's stomping ground, his field of action the place where you will find him, is on the cliff between inertia and speed, encouraging participants to fly or to learn how to land, not only in their imagination but also in their purpose. He helps participants to look at those hypothetical anchors that can tie people down for a lifetime, engaging them in a compassionate, humorous and sometimes challenging way so they liberate themselves, turning what appears to be valueless into gold.

Fooling is a form of improvised theatre. The dramatic journey is as unpredictable and unknowable for the performer as it is for the audience. Foolish theatre is explicitly non-traditional and without rational considerations, because it is driven by feelings held in the Now. The act of "Thinking" is improvisational theatre's most immediate and persistent assassin. Go with Feeling, not with Thinking.

In May this year, Jonathan's feature on the BBC World News channel to a Global audience of millions was the culmination of an extremely busy period. Three successive years in the main Theatre tent at Glastonbury, Sweden's 'No Mind' festival, Shambala, Secret Garden, Wilderness, as well as performances and sold out workshops in Berlin, France, Sweden, Edinburgh, Dublin and Barcelona.



*"Not stand up, but the latest one-man shows from a performer and teacher about the Fool who could well have an influence on stand-up in the future... Highly recommended for anyone out for something different"* **Time Out**

*"Making them laugh at themselves to understand themselves. It is what a good fool is supposed to do."* **The Guardian**

*"Brilliant...he leaves the audience dizzy"* **The Independent**

*"Wickedly funny and completely unpredictable."* – **The Guardian**

## Five Day Workshop - Introduction to the Structure

In this five day workshop, Jonathan will be entering into some of seven levels of the structure of Fooling. It is a more in depth version of the popular 'Getting Out Of The Audience' weekend workshops where you 'dip your toes into the water' and find out what it means to Fool on a stage.

This way of theatre is specific to the art of improvised performance using the Fool archetype, because you could say that only a Fool would get up out of the audience, into a space with no props, set design or script and start to perform a play.

This is a fantastic chance to experience a taste of various levels of the structure at a level the weekend workshops do not allow. All of the workshops depend on the participants, and how much they are willing to give!

Some of the areas that will be covered are outlined below;

**'Look-See –Be-Fly'** allows you to work directly with the emotional landscape we all have in us to discover through short Scenarios, how to use the Stage area to weave a performance.

**'Playing in the Archetypal World'** lets you enter an added dimension that has been lost to traditional theatre, but is used to great effect in improvisation to develop and give depth to the unfolding play.

**'Flip, Twist, Fly'** deals with an increased awareness of how to Flip or change into a different voice, action, persona or to be in a particular place on the stage. Twisting is about being able to be flexible emotionally, mentally and physically.

**'Repertory Company'** is the part of the Structure that offers you an insight into your own travelling repertory company. Who are the personalities that live in you?!

**'Transitions, Play, A play, The Play'** refers to the different places in the performance space where the improvisation can take place.

**'Tableaux, Blob & Twin'** A tableaux is the movement of the performers into a 'picture' on the stage, whether this is static or moving. Blobbing is a way of moving in one space together, being as one organism, learning to listen to yourself, each other and space. The Twin effect is about discovering and uncovering your Twin, the part of you might deny, but who is always there beside you.

**'Create or Be Created'** To learn to create is a great gift to give oneself in the performance space. To Create implies power and a sense of self empowerment where as to be Created gives the opposite effect and is at it sounds.

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The best thing about the workshop, is that you don't have to have performer aspirations. This suits everyone with an interest to explore themselves and the world of the Fool within a performance space.

It can be a wonderful catalyst for change, knowledge, growth and fun.

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