**Theatre of the Poor – Jerzy Grotowski**

*Acting in the style relying on physical skill of the performer with heavy focus on object transformation used for symbols and significance*

**Movement and Gesture:**

* Physical movement was a key component

**Space and Actor-Audience Relationship:**

* Traditional theatre spaces were ignored in preference for rooms and buildings
* Intense exploration of relationship between participant and spectator
* Aim was to eliminate division between actor and audience, creating a communion
* Spectators on many sides

**Stagecraft:**

* Acting area typically bare with few props and no set
* Object transformation was key, often symbolic and of great significance
* Lighting flooded with no use of spotlights or focus area
* If used at all, costumes were anonymous, not identifying character

**Acting and Characterisation:**

* The actor and his or her skill as at the core
* Sometimes no ‘real’ props used, but employed actors as props instead
* Actor training was long and intense
* Actors with ego had no place
* Aim was for authenticity akin to that of Stanislavski, but more physical
* Stanislavski’s ‘emotional memory’ was used

**Scripts:**

* Experimentation with classic works in contemporary settings