

JOHNNY MELVILLE WORKSHOPS

"Acting is all about honesty. If you can fake that you've got it made." -
George Burns

Johnny Melville's academic qualifications complement 45 years of a huge range of theatrical and film experience across all five continents, in more than 40 countries.

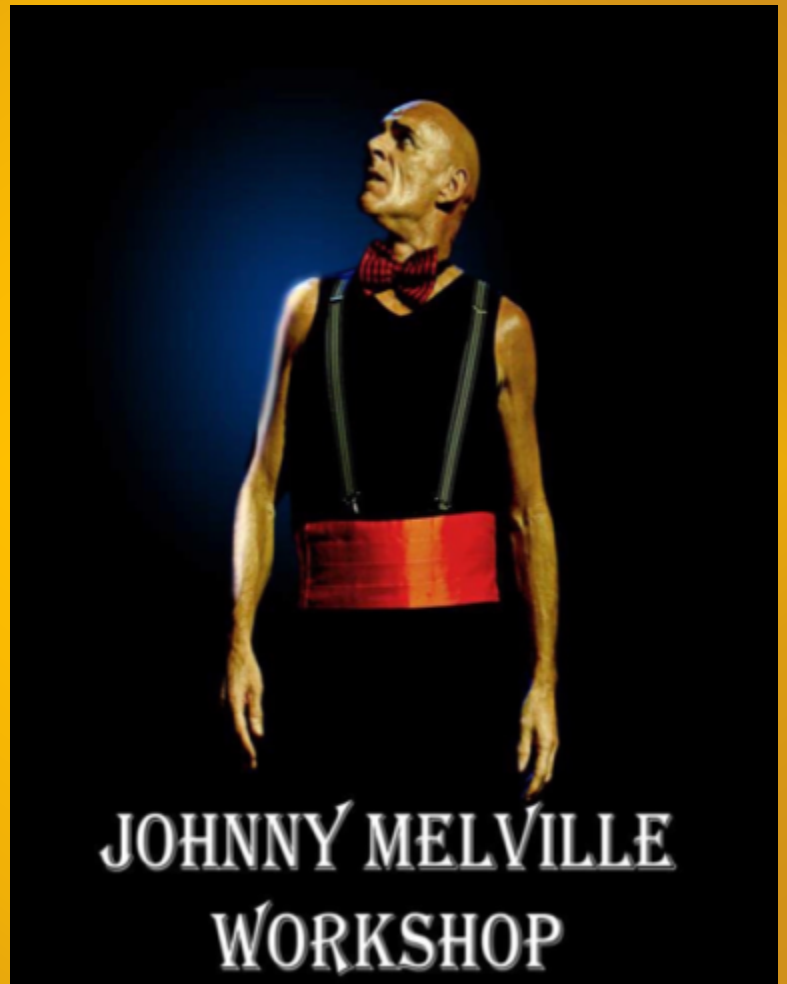
At home as mime, singer, actor, clown, director and writer he has been called *Comic Superma* (*Zurich Tages Anzeiger*) *L'enfant terrible of the Fools movement* (*Berti Hahn, German theatre manager*), and even

Funniest guy in the World (*Danish radio*)

Known for performing a series of one man shows, recently he has been making and appearing in films at

times winning prizes for both best actor and best director at film festivals in Spain, Russia and the USA.

(<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0578485>)



Workshop Description

A workshop with Johnny Melville is an intensive & delightfully physical course of comic theatre specializing in mimicry, improvisation, spontaneity, and the understanding of energy - in fact how to live the *nouveau - clown*. The course features a potpourri of training disciplines taken from martial arts (aikido, Tai Chi, Chi-Gong, Kalari), mime, clown, acrobatics, dance and the world of the chimpanzee, whose agility and flexibility can lead the actor to function better with breath and relaxation. Johnny uses a variety of games to inspire imagination and play, at the same time bringing awareness to transform the student's negative programming into his/her sovereign potential. Children's games, trust exercises, group sensitivity-work together with improvisation and character development all integrate with the physical study freeing the actor from mechanical responses and therefore able to step more easily into genuine creativity. Each workshop culminates with Johnny leading the group in an improvised street performance.



Themes

- Group building and sensitivity exercises
- Energy in spontaneity, performance dynamics and improvisation
- Falling, stage fighting and comedy acrobatics
- Character study
- Mime and the theory of spatial relation
- Street performance
- Individual sketch development
- Group sketch development
- The Church of YES



Various techniques used in class

- Introduction to body disciplines - *aikido, tai chi, chi gong, kalaripayattu & yoga*
- Breathing as a tool for relaxation
- Relaxation in relation to energy – chimpanzee training - an ideal tool for the actor
- Exercises taken from children's games, theatre lab, mime and various modes of improvisation (Influences - *Carlos Castaneda, Joseph Chaikin, Meyerhold's bio-mechanics, Keith Johnstone, Eugenio Barba, The Liverpool George St Project, etc.*)
- Negative resistance of the ego
- Positive resistance and how to utilize it as a form of expression
- Body and inner mental work in character building
- Clown techniques in dance, acrobatics, falls



Workshop requirements

- A room that is warm, and with sufficient natural light
- A wooden floor is the ideal
- Acrobatic mats
- Any actor in training should have loose clothes for physical work.
- Students should be fragrance-free of chemical detergents, both them and their clothing.

Some student testimonials

- *'The best clown teacher I ever had'Leandre, (Catalan clown)*
- *'A holistic, electrifying workshop experience'Mareike Franz,(ex-Pina Bausch dancer/clown)*
- *'There's a 'before and after' with Johnny'Alejandro Ariel Martinez. (Argentinian theatre director)*
- *'Á fantastic clown workshop...I want to continue working with you '...Julia Kelz Bolecchi, (German TV actress)*
- *Your energy is from another world!Roland Hürlimann, (Swiss clown)*



JOHNNY MELVILLE

Workshop CV

2018 (in planning)

Festival L'Auguste Rendez-Vous, Quebec, Canada
Geneva Dome, Geneva, Switzerland
Edinburgh Clown Lab, UK
Artecle Association & University of Donsotia, Spain

2017

Teatro Museo, Valparaiso, Chile
Festival L'Auguste Rendez-Vous, Quebec, Canada
Espai studios, Barcelona, Spain
ARTmosphere, Comarca de Monegros, Spain
Tamala Centre, Konstanz, Germany
Aerial Art House, Edinburgh, Scotland
Lekeitio Festival, Spain
Geneva Dome, Geneva, Switzerland
Nouveau Clown Institute / Slava Plounin's Mounin Jaune, Paris, France
Aerial Art House, Edinburgh, UK

2016

Clown Festival, Milan, Italy
Associazione Teatro Paravento, Locarno, Switzerland
Intensivo Cia Passbaret, Vals, Spain
Clown School, DF, Mexico
Amsterdam, Netherlands
Clown Festival Tenerife, Spain
Espai studios, Barcelona

2015

Casa Circleta, Santiago, Chile
Convención de Circo, Valle D'Elqui, Chile
Coquimbo, Chile
Torino, Italy
Amsterdam, Netherlands
Evora, Portugal
Amsterdam, Netherlands



2014

Campo Grande, Brasil

Festival Rio Preto, Brasil

Convención de Payassos in Fernandopolis, Brasil

Rocinha Favela, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

Ebora Festival de Payassos, Portugal

Nablus, Palestine

Festival Hazme Reir, Mar de Plata Argentina

Cordoba, Cordoba, Argentina

2013

Festival in Convención de Circo, San Bernardo, Brazil

Festival Anos de Picadeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

Sao Paulo SESC , Brazil

Festival Rivas, España

2012

Festival Anos de Picadeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

Festival Callejero, Santiago, Chile

Master class in Reus, Spain

Centro Gallego Barcelona

Festival de Pergine, Italia

Workshop in Reus Spain

Gran Circo Teatro, Santiago, Chile

Amsterdam Maretty Organization

Vernonica Saatchi Association, Milan, Italy

Rai Teatro Barcelona, Spain

Universidad de Santiago Christiano, Chile



2011

Festival Invasion Callejeros, Valparaiso, Chile
Culture centre Santiago, Chile
Manicomicos, La Coruna, Spain
Di Cosimo centre, Rome, Italy
Festival de Pergine, Italy
Teater am Spittleberg, Vienna Austria
Nouveau Clown Institute, Barcelona, Spain
Chan Lee Centre, Madrid, Spain
Clown Clown festival, Monte San Giusto, Italy

2010

Anjos de Picadeiro festival, Rio de Janeiro
Festival Invasion Callejeros, Valparaiso, Chile
Nouveau Clown institute, Granollers Spain
Atelier Teatro Fisico, Torino, Italy

2009

Festival Mimame, Medellin, Colombia
Cliniclowns, Munchen Germany
World Fools Congress, Moscow, Russia
Cliniclowns, Vienna Austria
Nouveau Clown Institute, Barcelona, Spain
Mesa productions, Gran Canaria, Spain

2008

Clown Festival Logrono, Spain
Pamplona theatre festival, Spain
Nouveau Clown Institute, Barcelona, Spain
Nouveau Clown Institute Project, Madrid, Spain

2007

Dimitri Scuola de Teatro, Verscio, Switzerland
Manicomicos, La Coruna, Spain
Cooperativo Cultural, Grenada, Spain
Clown Group, Luxembourg
Torino street festival, Italy



1980-2006

workshop projects in Mexico City, New York, Ibiza, Madrid, San Sebastian, Bilbao, Vitoria, Araia, Grenada, Oslo, Aarhus, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Gothenburg, Amsterdam, Terschelling, Athens, Nurnberg, Erlangen, Frankfurt, Zurich, Vienna, Rome, Vercelli, Bologna, Genova, Edinburgh, Adelaide.

1974-1979 Oval House Theatre, London - resident clown teacher

Short films from Master Classes

[Paradise Tours](#)

[Bitxos & Roses](#)

[It's a Woman World](#)

Various links to workshop performances

[Johnny Melville web page](#)

[Amsterdam 2016](#)

[Valparaiso 2010](#)

[Barcelona 2009](#)

[Colombia 2009](#)

[Ibiza 2005](#)

[Oerol Festival 2004](#)

Various links to Johnny Melville in performance

[Johnny & the Clits](#)

[The EU Mass Debate](#)

[The Chair](#)

[Cabaret in Zurich](#)

[Movie Show reel Autumn 2017](#)

Short film [Upstairs neighbours](#)

Short film [The Trench](#)



PHOTO GALLERY







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