

The field of my study is situated at the intersection of theatre, film, and cultural studies. My main research interest is theory and history of acting, with a special emphasis on the transmission of Russian acting system (Stanislavski's System) into the American ground and its transformation into its American version, Method acting. The aim of my studies is to give us a greater understanding of how the American theatre and movie culture is rooted in the European traditions and to help us to identify the factors which enabled American practitioners to transform and adapt these traditions so effectively that the style of acting they established has come to be identified as quintessentially American and – yet – the most influential and powerful in shaping the mainstream of the popular culture.

Therefore, the main research objectives of my project are:

- to study the main concepts of Stanislavski's and his American followers' teaching legacy,
- to investigate the methods of actor training applied in American studios and theatre schools created at the consecutive levels of the System's development, focusing mainly on The American Laboratory Theatre (institution in which Richard Boleslavsky and Maria Ouspenskaya were passing on their knowledge about the system – gained directly from work with Stanislavsky) to the next generations of American practitioners) and The Group Theatre (created mainly by students of RB and MO),
- to determine the cultural and sociological conditions that enabled adapting Stanislavski's System in America,
- to examine the factors which resulted in selectiveness and fragmentariness of the above processes,
- * to investigate, how particular methods of actor training influenced the acting style of selected actors (acting analysis).

I will conduct my research mainly with the use of archival queries and comparative analysis of the different kinds of the actor training applied in the studios and schools created at the consecutive levels of the System's development. In order to investigate in what way those kinds of actor training influenced the acting style of American actors, I will analyze selected Hollywood movies from the perspective of the applied means of actor's expression.