

PROFESSOR JAMES TOMPKINS is Professor Emeritus in Theatre Arts at the University of Louisville where he taught from 1981-2012. During his academic career he taught courses on acting, clown technique, performing art, movement, audition technique, and drama.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION: Professor Tompkins has been professionally associated with the following:

The Academy of Dramatic Art, Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan (1973-1977)
The Drama Studio, London, England (1977-1979)
Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio (1979-1981)
The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, London, England (1978-1979)
The Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art, London, England (1977-1978)
Arts Educational Schools, London, England (1978)
The Central School of Speech and Drama, London, England (1979)
The National School of Drama, New Delhi, India (March 1996)
Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan (2004)
The National Academy of Performing Arts (Karachi) and the National College of Arts (Lahore, Rawalpindi) in Pakistan (2005 and 2006)

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING:

Instructor, Acting and combat, Project Upward Bound, Oakland University, Oakland, Michigan (1974);
Instructor, Clown Technique, Act One Company, Detroit, Michigan (1977);
Instructor, Mime, Theatre School, Birmingham, Michigan (1978);
Instructor, Movement, The Attic Theatre, Detroit, Michigan, and The Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan (1979);
Special Instructor and Chair of Movement Department, Audition Technique, Oakland University (1973-1979);
Instructor, Chair of Movement Department, The Drama Studio of London (1977-1979);
Instructor, Improvisation and Movement, The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (1977-1979);
Instructor, Improvisation and Movement, The Webber Douglas Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, London (1977-1978);
Instructor, Acting, City Literary Institute of London (1978); Instructor, Acting, City Literary Institute of London (1978);
Instructor, Movement, Arts Educational, London (1979);
Assistant Professor and Chair of Movement Department, Acting, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio (1979-1981);
Instructor, Combat, Ursuline School of Music and Drama, Louisville, 1994;

Instructor, Acting for Dancers Dance Academy, University of Louisville (1994-1996);
Instructor, Period Dance & Movement (Humanities in the Classroom), Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, Louisville (1994, 1996-1999, 2000);
Visiting Professor, Movement, National School of Drama, Delhi, India (March 1996); Instructor, Senior Audition Class in Shakespeare, Youth Performing Arts School, Louisville (1996);
Instructor, Commedia dell'Arte, The Collegiate School, Louisville (1997);
Instructor, Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, Louisville (1998);
Master Class Instructor, Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, Louisville, (2000);
Instructor, Master Class in Neutral Mask, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan (2004);
Associate Professor of Theatre Arts, University of Louisville (1981-2012)

Professor Tompkins taught one class at the National School of Drama (New Delhi, India, March 1996). He taught two classes at the National Academy of Performing Arts (Karachi, Pakistan, 2005, 2006), and the National College of Arts (Lahore, Rawalpindi, Pakistan, March 2006)

PROFESSIONAL ACTING: With reference to Professional acting, Professor Tompkins has been associated with: Meadow Brook Theatre (Rochester, Michigan), The Oregon Shakespeare Festival (Ashland, Oregon), A Contemporary Theatre (Seattle, Washington), The Provincetown Playhouse (Provincetown, Massachusetts), Stage One: The Louisville Children's Theatre (Louisville, Kentucky), and Classic Melodies Performance Institute (CMPI) (Hillview, Kentucky) (Directed: "*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*", "*The Importance of Being Earnest*", "*Crimes of the Heart*", "*All in the Timing*", and assisted with "*Midsummer Night's Dream*"); and the Upward Bound Program for underserved African American high schoolers (summers of 1974, 1975).

CHOREOGRAPHY: Ohio State University (Columbus, Ohio), The Academy of Dramatic Arts (London), Kalamazoo College (Kalamazoo, Michigan), The Louisville Ballet Apprentices (Louisville), The Kentucky Opera (Louisville) and other companies in the Michigan and Louisville areas (1968-1994)

PROFESSIONAL DIRECTING: Numerous plays at: The Kentucky Shakespeare Festival (Louisville), The Academy of Dramatic Art (London), The Drama Studio of London; Kalamazoo College, (Kalamazoo, Michigan), The Louisville Repertory Theatre (Louisville), and The University of Louisville (1974 to 2012).

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING, CHOREOGRAPHY AND DIRECTING: Professor Tompkins was engaged in teaching, choreographing and directing three original Commedia dell'Arte productions at the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, University of Louisville, and CMPI. "*The Seven Labors of Arlecchino*" was presented at the SETC in Lexington, Kentucky (2010). It was performed during 2009-2013 for the University of Louisville Repertory Company which traveled to schools, local colleges, prisons and groups that requested it. "*Pantalone's Examination*"

and “*Pantalone’s Challenge*” were performed at the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival in 1993 and 1994, respectively.

PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS: Professor Tompkins conducted Workshops on “*Tompkins Technique*,” and “*The Truth of The Monologue*” at the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival (1993-1998, 2000) and at Southeastern Theatre Conferences (SETC): at Atlanta, Georgia (2007), at Chattanooga, Tennessee (2008), at Lexington, Kentucky (2010), at Atlanta, Georgia (2011), and at Chattanooga, Tennessee (2012). He taught the Workshop participants and also answered questions at the end.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS: Actors’ Equity Association (professional actors’ union), Screen Actors’ Guild (professional film actors’ union), Kentucky Theatre Association, South-Eastern Theatre Association.

GRANT: French Government Grant to study at the Ecole Jacques LeCoq in Paris, France, 1971-1973

OTHER AFFILIATIONS: Participation in The Transcendental Meditation Program (1988 to present) including the Siddha Program and the Science of Creative Intelligence Program.

DELEGATE IN A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE PROGRAM: In 2005, Professor Tompkins accompanied Professor Riffat Hassan, as a member of a delegation of U.S. teachers, preachers, and community activists for peace-making who traveled to Pakistan, India, and Bangladesh on an exchange program called “*Islamic Life in the U. S.*” sponsored by the U. S. Department of State through a grant to the University of Louisville. He participated in numerous meetings with state officials including General Parvez Musharraf, President of Pakistan, diplomats, religious leaders, educators, journalists, peace-activists, and various community groups. The main purpose of this visit was for the American delegation to meet, and have personal interaction with their Muslim counterparts in the three South Asian countries which have the largest concentration of Muslims in the world. During his visit to Islamabad, Professor Tompkins also had an interactive meeting with theatre students who were interested in learning from him.

