

## **Mikko Bredenberg**

Doctoral Student

Theatre Academy of the University of the Arts Helsinki,  
the Performing Arts Research Center, Helsinki (Finland)

### **Scenic Imagination - actor/performer's body as a scenic element** (Lecture-demonstration-workshop)

In my doctoral artistic research "Scenic Imagination", I have explored and tried to define a phenomenon I call scenic imagination. What happens when I enter into a psycho-physical mode of scenic imagining? In my lecture-demonstration-workshop, I will suggest two different kinds of approaches to enter into a mode of scenic imagining. I will start the session by describing scenic appearing. I will suggest that scenic appearing is a certain intentional relation to the object and this relation is defined by a certain kind of dynamics. I will then suggest two different techniques to enter into a mode of scenic imagining. My hypothesis is that when we are in the presence of scenic mental picture, our bodies become an element of that scene. This relation can be explored from two different perspectives: from the perspective of an actor/performer and from the perspective of a spectator. But what does it mean to be a scenic element? What kind of challenges will I face as an actor/performer, when I'm considering my body as one of the elements of a scene? This is a participatory artistic research workshop. I kindly ask the participants to consider themselves as performer- researchers during the session. In order to explore the questions mentioned above, we all have to become actors in a certain sense. In my presentation, I will also try to elaborate on how my artistic practice as an actor/performer has been the vessel of my research. Participants need no prior acting, dance or movement training, but they should be ready to move and share sensations, thoughts, and experiences. Participants should wear soft clothes for easy movement.

**Mikko Bredenberg** (23.4.1977) is an actor, theatre director and pedagogue. His doctoral artistic research deals with the psycho-physical processes of acting and scenic imagination. In Bredenberg's artistic research, scenic imagination is approached from both artistic performances and phenomenological research.