"We must love not ourselves in art, but art in ourself." - Jerzy Grotowski
Bio

-August 11, 1933 - 14 January 1999 (aged 65)

-Polish theatre director and innovator of experimental theatre

-Influences: war, single mother (father never returned from war)
More about him

-His home country was Poland and he grew up under Nazi domination.

-He knew that fame was necessary to achieve his goals, but also believed that fame was fleeting and it would be dangerous to succumb to its intoxication.

-In 1955, Jerzy Grotowski graduated from the High Theatrical School in Kraków with a degree in acting. After his graduation he went on to Moscow to study directing at the Lunacharsky Institute of Theatre Arts.

-Most influenced by the works of Konstantin Stanislavsky-He believed that the theatre was a serious place and require discipline and immense dedication.
Early Career

- Put on many different shows that he directed
  Gods of Rain (1958)
  The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus (1964)

- This led him to “Poor Theatre”
Poor theatre

He believed that theatre should not and could not compete against the overwhelming spectacle of film and should instead focus on the very root of the act of theatre: actors in front of spectators.

He believed that theatre should establish a connection between the audience and the actors and should not rely on sets, costume, lighting and special effects.

-Direct communication between actors and audience.

-His aim was to portray real emotion rather than just fake
Common themes in his pieces included;

- Holocaust
- Minimalistic props and set
- Actors as a central part of theatre
At work with Growtowski on physical actions by Thomas Richards- Book

http://www.jbactors.com/actingreading/actingteacherbiographies/jerzygrotowski.html

http://www.slideshare.net/N0181642/jerzy-grotowski

http://www.thedramateacher.com/poor-theatre-conventions/