

Butoh Workshop Wales 2025: Becoming and Encounters

**Sunday JUNE 22nd (arrive) to Saturday June 28th (depart)
2025**

**DALE AND MARLOES
IN PEMBROKESHIRE NATIONAL COAST PATHS.**

LED BY MARIE-GABRIELLE ROTIE AND NICK PARKIN

www.butohuk.com





Location

We are based in the outstanding natural beauty of the South Pembrokeshire National Parks Coastline between Dale, Marloes and St Martins Haven. Our location allows access to different terrain, rich in geological and archaeological history as well as access to a large indoor studio-hall in the centre of Dale Village to enable us to continue working in all weathers. The area we are working in comprises coastline around the lighthouses on St Annes Head, the stunning black rock formations on Marloes beach, and the moderately challenging circular coast path walks. The whole coastline is rich in bird, marine and seal life and is an area of outstanding natural beauty.



For those who may find daily walking to challenging, you are able to drive to all locations and meet us there.

The workshops each year attract a range of ages from 20 to over 60, and diverse backgrounds including therapists, performers, students, artists, and anyone with an interest in movement. .

Drawing upon over 30 years experience of Butoh, combined with expertise in voice, bodywork and soft martial arts, we search for the body of *becoming*.

Daily Training incorporates techniques from Eastern and Western practices such as mindful and silent walking, bodywork drawing upon energy work such as chi-kung, stretching and basic somatic work, and Butoh. We also engage in drawing sound and visual/images scores for movement practice.

What does it mean to ‘become something other?’ How can we understand the body as not a fixed or separate entity, and instead surrender, listen, melt, breathe and move with the different pulses, energy and memories of plant, stone, sky, sea, rock, seaweed, lichen, limpets, earth?

Eroded surfaces, tides washing away imprints, become metaphors for our body as a palimpsest, exploring the state of constant change within and outside the body, and affirming the cycles of existence that connect us, in both the vastness of creation and in the microscopic world of plants and insects. Place and Time are seen as interconnected entities—as we slow down we enter into geological time, the time of nature with the endless cycles of growth and decay.

Participants are encouraged to record their daily experiences in notebooks, sketchbooks, photographs and film and we culminate in the final days in the development of solo or group presentations. We have arranged special talks with local geologists and marine experts for some evenings.

In terms of daily structure, we work for around eight hours and beach access is planned around the tides.

Each day will divide time between working indoors on body and Butoh training and techniques, and then working outside.

Each day we will integrate walking into our routine, and this is integral to our daily practice.



T ravel

Arrive Sunday June 22nd and depart Saturday June 28th

If you are traveling by train the nearest stations are either Haverfordwest or Milford Haven. We recommend arriving into Haverfordwest. We are able to pick you up, at agreed times, by car or taxi to take you to your accommodation.

If you are traveling by Car, then roads are very accessible and there is very cheap or free parking in the village. In previous years those driving from London or environs have offered car share services.

A ccommodation

Participants are paying for the workshop teaching only and are responsible for securing their own food, travel and accommodation. Participants might want to share accommodation to significantly reduce their costs and holiday cottages are quite reasonable at this time of year. We can put you in touch with other participants by email. Early booking of accommodation is recommended. Some holiday cottage companies offer staggered payments or very low deposits.

These are just a few links and there are loads more on google. Nearby villages to search for include Marloes, Dale, St Ishmaels. If you are with a car then further afield is possible.

Camping and Shepherds Huts - <https://www.pointfarmdale.co.uk>

Bookings for cottages in Marloes or St Ishmaels - <https://www.sykescottages.co.uk>

Bookings for other cottages and information about Dale -

<https://www.dalevillage.co.uk/accommodation/>

<https://www.airbnb.co.uk>

Dale Fort Field Centre has very cheap shared accommodation (35 pounds a night per person) <https://www.visitwales.com/accommodation/group-hostel/dale-fort-1470476>



Pay in one go - Total fee of 330 pounds:

For payments made in full in one transfer, cancellations need to be made by May 1st and full refund can be given. Cancellations after that date are non-refundable but 50% of the value, minus any paypal fees incurred, can be used towards another Butoh UK workshop.

Visit www.butohuk.com - workshops/booking page for PayPal links or email for bank transfer details.

OR

Payment Plans in Instalments by arrangement

We want everyone to be able to take part and are mindful of many artists having erratic income. Please contact to arrange a payment plan. All payments need to be settled by May 1st. For those paying in instalments by payment plans then fees are non-refundable. Please email to request an Initial Deposit invoice link of £100 towards a payment plan (this secures your place).

specific cancellation policy for Butoh Workshop Wales 2025

For payments made in full in one transfer, cancellations need to be made by May 1st and full refund can be given. Cancellations after that date are non-refundable but 50% of the value can be used towards another Butoh UK workshop.

For those paying in instalments or by payment plans then fees are non-refundable.

It is allowable for you to transfer your registration to somebody else, although it is your responsibility to identify the individual and make any financial arrangements directly with them. If an event is cancelled for any reason, a full refund shall be provided. There are NO EXCEPTIONS to this refund policy.

Biographies

Marie-Gabrielle Rotie is an international artist working within live performance. Her distinct aesthetic is informed by training as a Fine Art Painter (Wimbledon School of Art) and by an independent dance training traversing East and West aesthetics and artistic disciplines.

Since 1994 she has toured and created over 35 productions: UK touring venues include Trinity Laban who have staged/ commissioned eight stage productions since 2006, The Place Theatre for which she has staged nine productions and the Royal Opera House. She is a Lecturer in Contemporary Theatre Practice at Goldsmiths College, University of London and Academic Advisor and for BA Dance and BA Acting at Lasalle College of the Arts in Singapore.

She has studied Butoh since 1992, established Butoh UK in 1997 and has organised over 60 workshops and numerous festivals. She has collaborated with Nick Parkin for all her productions since 1994. Her work is featured in several publications on Butoh. She is the choreographer for Robert Eggers viking epic *The Northman* (2022) and *Nosferatu* (2024/5)

www.rotie.co.uk

Nick Parkin is an award-winning Composer, Musician, Artist, Director and Movement Practitioner. He is a specialist in environmental and site based sound and performance. Since 2001 he has taught Environmental and Site Specific Performance and Butoh.

Training

Nick trained in Fine Arts and Community Arts at Bradford Art College 1980 – 83 specializing in procession, masked performance and fire sculpture. He then later gained an MA in Electro-acoustic music composition at University of East Anglia 1998-1999.

Since 1984 Nicks main artistic preoccupation has been with landscape, body states, ritual, mythological and elemental themes creating performance, costume, mask, installations, painting, assemblages, photography, film, video and sound / music compositions in England, Wales, Ireland, Spain, Switzerland, Italy, and Germany.

www.parysmountain.space



Testimonials and Participant feedback

Your teaching approach is extremely supportive, responsive and always positive and your generosity with your knowledge was exceptional. The amount of information, guidance, context and historical underpinning covered was enormous in the short time, all of which was consolidated through practical exercises and experiences. Your humanity and gentle humour communicated really well through the whole week. You were both extremely approachable. The group was very supportive of each other which only enhanced the experience

(Simon)

It is a great experience for me to feel the nature and reflect my on my life in city. Also I feel like I have experienced more about the philosophical thoughts behind butoh, nature and human which actually enriches my recent project about nature and theatre! I truly appreciate your teaching and the inspiration from this workshop. (Kit)

Just wanted to say thank you so much for an amazing week of learning. Thank you everyone for being so kind and generous, I always felt welcome and safe. (Lizzie)

Thanks for all your kindness, patience and generosity during our week away and all the administration that went into it before hand and your great sensitivity and flexibility with respect to our needs. (Pauline)

I thought the workshop was executed really well, I actually really enjoyed the time indoors in the town hall as well.. it was a nice contrast to not have the distraction of the landscape/ elements for a short while to focus on movement and then take it outside. I know it defeats the purpose of a wilderness workshop to suggest being indoors, but for those people (like me) who are new to dance It was a good exercise. (Charlotte)

To book or for enquiries email
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butohuk@googlemail.com

Further information is available on

www.butohuk.com