



# The Knowing Body: Yat Malmgren's Acting Technique

By JANYS HAYES

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Little has been written of Yat Malmgren's acting technique, despite its international influence in mainstream western actor training. Yat Malmgren (1916 - 2002) was a colleague of Rudolf Laban's and in 1954 received Laban's final papers on his theory of 'Movement Psychology'. Yat Malmgren devoted the latter half of his life interpreting and expanding Rudolf Laban's movement theories into a precise and practical method for actors in their development of realistic characters for stage and screen performance. The Drama Centre London became the hub for Yat Malmgren's technique of 'Character Analysis'. In this doctoral work, Dr Janys Hayes analyses Yat Malmgren's contribution to a wider field of knowledge of embodiment, expression and agency for actors. She places Yat Malmgren's acting technique as a systematic, contemporary and revelatory means for the exploration of performed action.

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#### **About the Author**

Dr Janys Hayes is a theatre director, actor and teacher of acting. She trained at the Drama Centre, London, specialising in Yat Malmgren's acting technique. B.Science(Hons),University of Melbourne. Dip.Acting,Drama Centre London. Master of Creative Arts,University of Wollongong. Doctor of Philosophy,University of Western Sydney.

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