

Michael Chekhov

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EXPLORING OUR WORLD OF THE THEATRE

The Appointment of Beatrice Straight and Alan Harkness  
to the Staff

We must explore the stage as we know it and as it is not yet known. This is the work of the future. Alan is the person who will not only help us but will give us the other half of the work which I want to give you. After preparatory work during the Christmas holidays, Alan, Beatrice, and I will start this big exploration work.

What Alan has been doing with you is only flying over the problem. It is much more complicated, this problem of exploring our world of the theatre. Alan, Beatrice, and I will work on these things together. The direction in which Alan has started his work has given me many happy moments. I feel that Alan's being is more important than what he has given us. He has given us some things which he has learned and which he knows, and we must collect knowledge from different sides. But who can do this? Alan can, and that is what makes me so happy. How we will lead this work further is what we must decide during our meetings.

We must define two things: Our work must be confined exclusively to the exploration of the sun, the stars, and the earth of our world of the theatre. We must take various things from Rudolf Steiner and Jaques-Dalcroze, which I shall put before Alan and Beatrice. I am a Russian person, and I

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need their point of view.

Our School has decided to invite Miss Beatrice and Alan as members of the staff. They will appear as pupils and teachers as well.