

Lessons to Teachers

LESSON XVIII

ATMOSPHERE
COLOR

Goethe
Dr. Rudolf Steiner

ATMOSPHERE:

Before you start to try to understand what the atmosphere is around a certain thing or in a certain room, you must have a very clear feeling and understanding of what atmosphere is. Atmosphere is something which fills and penetrates the room like light or air. Before you can have a feeling for a particular atmosphere, you must have a feeling for the atmosphere. Try to imagine that the room is full of atmosphere - it doesn't matter what atmosphere. You must get accustomed to feeling that you are moving through the atmosphere as you are going through the air, the space, and the light. Radio is an example of something [sound] which has always existed in the air, but we have only just begun to contact it. We must do this with the atmosphere. Our first step is to realize the atmosphere of every object, every person, every room, every thing.

Imagine you are in a room - an old church, for instance, very old and very famous and full of atmosphere. Try to concentrate yourself on this atmosphere and be in the atmosphere. Try to create some pictures in your mind's eye which

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could be suitable for this atmosphere. For example, how the church looks inside. First you must create a certain atmosphere, and then you must create some concrete pictures under the influence of this atmosphere. Such pictures or images will help you to hold and increase the images, and the images will help you to create the atmosphere.

To come into the atmosphere, to feel the atmosphere, and to create in the atmosphere, if an actor has such an understanding of atmosphere, how much better he can act! To move and to speak in an atmosphere which you imagine or visualize from an image such as a church, or from a sound, or from a color. These are all lessons in how to get the atmosphere, to keep it, to radiate it, and to move and speak in it.

Our theatre atmosphere is always full of colors, and it is very important to be very competent in colors, to love colors, and to understand how to use them. We will have some ways with colors, not as a means to the atmosphere, but as colors themselves. We will see how interesting the language of colors is. We will find many things from Goethe and Rudolf Steiner, who lived very deeply with colors, and who have left us very interesting things about them. We will see how our inside world and our outside world will be enlarged and how speaking the world of colors will be on the stage. The colors for costumes and settings will be very important for us - not like the inharmonious color combinations that we

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see on the stage today. We shall really study the question
of colors.