

Presence in the Presentation

Jessica Dickey

award-winning performer and playwright & actor

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When:

- Tuesday 22 March 2022, 11:00 to 13:00 CET
- Wednesday 23 March 2022, 16:00 to 18:00 CET

Where: Scuola Superiore Meridionale, Classroom 4.

Abstract: Scientists and mathematicians must present their work to attain crucial funding and collaboration opportunities, but there is virtually zero training in this vital skill. Jessica Dickey brings her expertise as a performer and creator for television and theater to help individuals harness their natural charisma and present their ideas in a compelling way. The seminar will take place over four hours and two parts—a lecture on the pillars of effective presentation, and a practicum for participants to try the concepts on the first two minutes of their own material.

Participants will learn:

- Personalized feedback on their individual strengths and challenges with presenting
- Vocal and physical exercises to prepare for each presentation.
- A practical set of tools that each participant can carry forward to ensure optimal performance of every presentation.
- A brief exploration of how to extend these concepts to meetings and presentations conducted through online platforms.

Jessica creates a warm and safe environment deliberately separate from the typical stress and pressure of career performance. This allows participants to have fun and play—engaging new ways to communicate their ideas and connect with their audience. At the end of the seminar, participants will leave with a stronger sense of how to activate their unique Presence in their Presentations.

Bio: As an award-winning performer and playwright, every job Jessica Dickey has ever earned was achieved through presenting herself and her work. Her writing has been hailed by New

York Times as having “freshness, economy, cheeky vulgarity, with a fine measure of poetic insight”, and the New Yorker magazine as “funny, smart, deep and sad”. She recently signed a development deal with ABC and Touchstone. Jessie’s most recent play, *The Convent*, a dark comedy about a group of women who try to live like nuns in the middle ages, premiered Off-Broadway this year in a sold-out co-production with Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, Rising Phoenix and WeatherVane, and is now being developed into a series for Sarah Jessica Parker’s company *Pretty Matches*. Jessie’s play *The Rembrandt* (about a museum guard who decides to deliberately touch a Rembrandt painting) had a sold out run at Steppenwolf starring John Mahoney. Other plays have been premiered Off-Broadway in New York and produced around the country -- *The Amish Project*, about the 2006 Nickel Mines school shooting in an Amish community; then *Charles Ives Take Me Home*, about a violinist father and his basketball star daughter; and *Row After Row*, a dark comedy about Civil War re-enactors. In television, Jessie recently joined the writers room for Apple TV’s comedy “*Physical*”, starring Rose Byrne. She is also developing a show with Tom McCarthy’s company, *Slow Pony*, about young female clergy. Her next world premiere is coming up this season on the west coast: *Nan and the Lower Body* is a dark comedy about the creation of the Pap Smear and her maternal grandmother (commissioned by Manhattan Theater Club and the Sloan Foundation). As an actor Jessie has appeared on numerous television shows and theatrical productions in New York and around the country, most recently seen on *Homeland*, *Law & Order*, *Shades of Blue*, *The Big C*. Jessie is a member of the exclusive *New Dramatists* and a recipient of the prestigious *Stavis Award*.

Website: www.jessicadickey.com