



Gabriele Schafer was born and raised in Germany, educated and trained in theater in the United States. In 1981, she and co-founded and was co-artistic director of the Genet-inspired Thieves Theatre, which produced the world premiere of R.W. Fassbinder's controversial *Der Muell, die Stadt und der Tod* in New York in Gabriele's translation, among many other projects. In 2006, Thieves Theatre was renamed International Culture Lab (www.intlculturelab.org), with Gabriele and Melanie Dreyer serving as artistic directors. ICL's first major production, in which she also acted, was a commission called *Outside Inn*, which played in English and German in Pittsburgh, Stuttgart, Germany and at 59E59 Theaters in New York. She was a founding member of RAT (Regional Alternative Theater), an international coalition of theater workers dedicated to sharing resources and ways of working, for which she was lead organizer of conferences in New York, Philadelphia and Rosario, Argentina. She translates from the German, including Oliver Czeslik's *Khadaffi Rocks* for the New German Voices series at New York's Public Theater, as well as Heiner Mueller, R.W. Fassbinder and other plays and novels. As an actor, she has performed in many theaters around the country and in Germany, including at Hamburg's Thalia Theater, Theaterhaus Stuttgart, Theater Rampe Stuttgart, Pittsburgh's Charity Randall Theater and the Yale Repertory Theater. Favorite roles in New York include Gertrude and the Ghost in *Hamlet* for which the reviewer for Time Out submitted her to his editor for "remarkable performance of the year." In the fall of 2010, she will star Off-Broadway in George Hunka's one-woman show *What She Knew*, a theatre minima production in collaboration with ICL. Her ongoing exploration of physical theater methods led her to study Butoh for over six years. She was producer of the biennial CAVE New York Butoh Festival in 2005 and 2007. She holds a BA in Theater and Criminal Justice from the University of Illinois at Chicago and an MFA in acting from the Yale School of Drama.