



**Gabriele Schafer** was born and raised in Germany, educated and trained in theater in the United States. Since 1981 she has worked with (and co-founded) the Jean 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. She was a founding member of RAT, 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 has translated authors 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 others. Most recently in New York she played Gertred and the Ghost in *Hamlet* (First Quarto), in which nytheatre.com called her performance "phenomenal" and a reviewer for Time Out New York submitted her for his editor's compilation of "remarkable performances" of the year. In Germany, she has performed at Hamburg's Thalia Theater, Theaterhaus Stuttgart, and in the fall of 2007, she performed at Theater Rampe Stuttgart and the University of Pittsburgh in *Outside Inn*, a project she also co-produced with creative partner Melanie Dreyer. Austrian playwright Andreas Jungwirth was commissioned to write the play, a murder mystery that explores cultural differences between Europeans and Americans. *Outside Inn* was performed by the same bilingual cast in both German and English in Pittsburgh and Germany and will run at 59E59 in New York in October of 2008, co-produced by Theater Rampe and International Culture Lab, a new company formed by Ms. Schafer and Ms. Dreyer. Her ongoing exploration of physical theater methods have led her to study butoh for over six years; she is producer of the biennial CAVE New York Butoh Festival. She holds a BA in Theater from the University of Illinois at Chicago and an MFA in acting from the Yale School of Drama.