

Top London theatre company, Frantic Assembly in Kuala Lumpur

Equine Park, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia: 24 March 2010... Twenty Drama students from the Alice Smith School, Secondary Campus had the opportunity to learn and work with members of the top London theatre company 'Frantic Assembly' recently.

The company produces thrilling, energetic and uncompromising theatre. Described by both 'The Guardian' and 'The Independent' newspapers as 'The Future of British Theatre,' the philosophy of Frantic Assembly is very much one of openness, sharing and encouraging appreciation and understanding of their work. They are one of the only leading theatre companies to have such an extensive educational programme, designed to challenge and develop the skills of students studying Drama at a higher level and to introduce the unique performance techniques of the company.

With only 5 days to create a show, the piece entitled ***Growing Younger*** was devised around the concept of aging and time. Whilst the piece was directed and facilitated by the Frantic team, Neil Bettles and Imogen Knight - both highly experienced directors, choreographers and performers, the voices and ideas within it were very much the students'. The project has been set up to develop physical theatre skills and training for these students and to promote drama in Malaysian education.

"I'm very proud of the students and loved the work they've created. Every student rise to every challenge set and the final performance was fantastic", adds Melissa Bicknell, Drama teacher at the Alice Smith School.

The Drama department of the Alice Smith School has been participating in a wide variety of Federation of British International Schools in South East Asia (FOBISSEA) and ISTA (International Schools Theatre Association) events throughout South East Asia. This is the second year that the students have had the opportunity to work with such a renowned theatre company.



Students are being taught the right 'lifting' technique



Having a well deserved break during practice



Rehearsing one of the scenes