

Doug Berky in TOLSTORIES: FROM ARISTOCRAT TO HOLY FOOL



Photographer Credit: Jeremy Fleming

<https://youtu.be/f215nj6hooY>

In May, 2020, **Doug Berky** started a tradition on his Facebook page of sharing “Stories for Troubled Times” - vignettes to escape into the moment, with messages to uplift and reflect on the challenges of our current world. In **TOLSTORIES: FROM ARISTOCRAT TO HOLY FOOL** he continues this tradition as he weaves Tolstoy’s own personal story into a collection of stories that reflects Tolstoy’s views of non-violence, peace and justice.

Shortly after publishing his second internationally acclaimed novel, Anna Karenina, Leo Tolstoy renounced his nobility, embracing radical love, non-violence, and civil disobedience. In TOLSTORIES, Doug brings to the stage works by a transformed Tolstoy reflecting his spiritual struggles with the meaning of life and his new vision for the world community. Through these simple stories, we learn much about the complex “profoundly Russian” man who wrote them, and how his stories are relevant in today's world.

“I left the theatre with a lasting smile on my face and fresh insights about what makes life precious.”
~ Dr. Jay Olney, Furman University

Doug Berky presents classic theatre arts in performances that transcend age, race and culture. Using the illusion of the mime, the antics of the clown, the transformation of the mask, the suspense of a good story and the excitement of improvisation, Doug has been creating and evolving his own brand of physical theater for over thirty years. His original performances are an intricately woven fabric of Commedia Dell’Arte, physical comedy, mime, mask theatre, clowning, circus arts, and storytelling. Doug is known internationally for his mask construction. He designs and constructs the masks for his own performances as well as creates all of the sets, choreography, scripts and many of the costumes.

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