The Polish artist and director, Tadeusz Kantor, created several plays in the Theatre of Death. This discussion, which includes videos segments from productions, will look at Wielopole, Wielopole and Today’s My Birthday as the second and last of these plays.

Kantor says of theatre: ‘The first of the fine arts, theatre resides between art and life, it’s a halfway place’.

The actors on stage are, like those in the station plays of Strindberg – bodies, ghosts, and/or objects that can only come from the artist’s imagination – yet here Kantor is on stage with them. Kantor plays with concepts of perspective from the visual arts and of character from the theatre arts. Space and time are out of his control as he meets and interacts with the actors’ bodies. This is a séance: his self/portrait is being taken as it is enacted.

In this context, I am trying to explore what it releases to move from having one Kantor on stage with 15 actors in the earlier play, to three Kantors on stage with 5 actors in the last.