

**Candidate For The Executive Committee : Entrada # 376****Name of Centre/Network:**

Internationalsal Theaatre for Young Audiences Research Network (ITYARN)

**Name of Candidate:**

Prof. Dr. Manon van de Water

**Presentation of candidate:**

Manon van de Water (Phd in Theatre, Arizona State University; Doctorandus in Slavic Languages and Literature, University of Leiden, The Netherlands) is the Vilas-Phipps Distinguished Achievement Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison

Van de Water is a founding member and past chair of ITYARN (2006-2014), the International Theatre for Young Audiences Research Network of ASSITEJ, for which she edited *Context and Ambiguity* (Assitej 2011) and *TYA, Culture, Society: International Essays in Theatre for Young Audiences* (Peter Lang 2012). The latter, a publication of ITYARN and ASSITEJ, is also translated in Spanish as *Teatro para públicos jóvenes: Perspectivas internacionales* (Mexico: Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes and Ediciones El Milagro, 2012). In addition, she has edited several issues of the main research journal in theater for youth in North America, *Youth Theatre Journal*.

From the beginning of her work within ITYARN Manon van de Water arose as a highly engaged and at all levels integrating person: She is a theatre scholar who always connects theory and practice. She was born in Europe (Netherlands), has worked and lived in the United States of America for many years and researches and publishes on theatre for young audiences in Russia and other countries all over the world. Manon van de Water is open-hearted but not afraid to stand and fight for her ideas. Since May 2014, she serves on the Executive Committe of ASSITEJ International. In this position Manon van de Water has contributed to a close connection of the Assitej EC and the Assitej networks.

As a known scholar in the field Manon van de Water has published widely on theatre, drama education, and theatre for young audiences in national and international journals and she is the author of *Moscow Theatres for Young People: A Cultural History of Ideological Coercion and Artistic Innovation, 1917-2000* (2006); *Dutch Theatre for Children* (2008/ 2009), and *Theatre, Youth, and Culture: A Critical and Historical Exploration* (2012), for which she received the 2013 American Alliance for Theatre and Education (AATE) Distinguished Book Award. Her latest publication is a textbook *Drama and Education: Performance Methodologies for Teaching and Learning*, which she co-wrote with University of Wisconsin-Madison alumni Mary McAvoy and Kristin Hunt (Routledge 2015) and which is based on her teaching of drama for the past 20 years. Aside from research activities, Professor van de Water has given numerous national and international workshops on theatre/drama education, and has been invited as a jury member to international TYA festivals. Her next project is a biography of Natalia Sats (1903-1993), a major player in the creation of Soviet Russian Theatre for children and youth.