



Photo: Danny Braverman



Beijing 2018
Kristiansand 2019
Tokyo 2020

COMPANY-MA (AND AUDIENCE):
MEMORY IN THE BAG

TOWARDS THE UNKNOWN CONFRONTING THE PRESENT



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Photo: Kilden theatre and concert hall



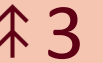
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THE NORWEGIAN ASSITEJ FESTIVAL

BACKGROUND



The Norwegian Assitej Festival is the most important meeting point between the Norwegian and the international field of theatre for young audiences.

The festival has been held in Kristiansand since 1993, for the most part as a biennale. The festival is owned and organized by Assitej Norway. In 2015, the festival was renamed SAND Festival and became an annual festival. In 2021, we are returning to the old name: The Norwegian Assitej Festival.

AAG2019: TOWARDS THE UNKNOWN – CONFRONTING THE PRESENT

AAG2019 was part of the theme *towards the unknown*, that started in Beijing in 2018 and ends in Tokyo with the next world congress in 2021 (postponed a year because of Covid-19).

With the subtheme *confronting the present*, AAG2019 aimed to present an artistic program with productions from all continents, and a professional program that would reflect the most important challenges our field are facing in our time.



Photo: Royal Swedish Opera Stockholm



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TWO VENUES, TWO PROGRAMS: MAIN VENUE AND NORDIC VENUE

VENUES

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Nearly all program events took place in one of two buildings in the heart of Kristiansand, a five minutes walk from each other. Kilden theatre and concert hall was the main venue. Kilden housed the festival hub, ticket office, main venue shows professional program and ceremonies. The Main Venue program was selected by an artistic council in collaboration with the festival team and the board of Assitej Norway. Link to Kilden: www.kilden.com

The Nordic Venue program was located at a venue called Teateret. The Nordic Venue program was created in collaboration with the Nordic-Baltic Assitej Network and featured one production from each of the countries plus Sápmi and Greenland, ten productions in total, and professional events. The Nordic Venue was also the base for the Youth Delegate Program. Link to Teateret: www.teateret.no



Photo: Kilden theatre and concert hall



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563 DELEGATES REPRESENTING 45 COUNTRIES

Argentina	Hungary	Portugal
Australia	Iceland	Russia
Belgium	Ireland	Scotland
Botswana	Israel	Serbia
Brazil	Italy	Singapore
Canada	Japan	South Africa
Chile	Korea	Spain
China	Latvia	Sweden
Colombia	Liechtenstein	Switzerland
Croatia	Lithuania	Turkey
Cuba	Mozambique	United Kingdom
Czech Republic	Netherlands	United States
Denmark	Nigeria	
Estonia	Norway	
Finland	Northern Ireland	
France	Poland	
Germany		

SCHOOLS

3281 children and young people
from 29 schools in and
around Kristiansand

231 children from nearby
kindergartens

ATTENDANCE

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Photo: Dalia Milkoliūnaitė



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THE FESTIVAL TEAM

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General manager of Assitej Norway – Ketil Kolstad

Festival producer – Theis Irgens

Nordic Venue producer – Harald Stensland

Festival coordinator – Sunniva Solheim

Host manager – Stina Riebe Thygesen

Project manager at Kilden – Tor Anders Aadalen

Technical stage manager at Kilden – Kai Vidar Bech

Audience manager at Kilden – Roger Aaslie

Students from the University of Agder



Photo: Sunniva Solheim



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- The Swedish Royal Opera/Dalija A Thelander (S): “Myriads of worlds”
- Teater Refleksion (DK)/Andy Manley (UK): “Night Light»
- IELTXU ORTUETA (ARTEFACTOS BASCOS) (BR): “FLOU!”
- New International Encounter (N): “The Girl with the Ugly Face”
- Windmill Theatre Co. (AU)/Imagine (UK)
by Christine Johnston, Rosemary Myers and Shona Reppe: “Baba Yaga”
- Barrowland Ballet (UK): “Tiger Tale» / «Playful Tiger»
- Tuning People/BRONKS (BE): “Rita”
- Cirka Teater/Turnteatret i Trøndelag (N): «Garage»
- Company ma (JP): “Memory in the bag”
- Kilden Theatre and Concert Hall (N): «PEER GYNT Teaterkonsert»
- Tefo Paya/Maitisong (BW): “Morwa – the rising son” (Cancelled, and replaced with) Wolley Nchabeleng (BW): “Mother Africa & her melodies”



Photo: Clara Hermans



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- Tiu Fingur (IS): "Life – a Mudpie"
- Red Nose Company (FI): "The Emperor`s New Clothes"
- Åarjelhsaemien Teatere (South Sami Theatre): "Staaloe – to Fight a Giant"
- Stars Well Dance Company (LV): "About Shadows"
- Greenland National Theatre: "A-I-U"
- Kuressaare City Theatre (EE): "Persona"
- Pantomimteatern (SE): "Leap of Faith – for I Survived"
- Table Theatre (LT): "Stork`s Gift"
- Gunilla Lind Danseteater (DK): "Vanity of Modern Panic"
- Mine & Gjengen (NO): "Asfaltpuls – paranoia som faen i solnedgang"
- Erler Kompani (NO): "Into the Unknown"



Photo: Kasper Nybo



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YOUTH DELEGATE PROGRAM

In collaboration with the Nordic Baltic Assitej Network.

2 young delegates from each of the countries together with three classes of drama students from Agder, 36 in all.

The program combined exclusive workshops and social program with joining general delegates in the professional program.

NEXT GENERATION PROGRAM

In collaboration with the Executive committee and Next generation alumni.

22 participants in total, from 20 countries.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

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Photo: Maeve MacGregor



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**MAIN VENUE
PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM**

- Artistic Encounters
- Focus day: International Inclusivity Arts Network
- Norwegian Wood: How to navigate Norwegian TYA
- Workshop: Nurturing National Centres
- Elaine Faull (UK): Talk: Children`s memory of performance: discovery, rediscovery and recreation
- Pernille Welent Sørensen (DK): Talk: Children as audience and co-researchers
- Stef de Paepe (BE): Talk: Imagining the future by using new technologies and new contents in the visual theatre in TYA
- Assitej France, Assitej Spain and Assitej Italy: Symposium: Migration and TYA
- Dalijia Acin Thelander (S) and Ellie Griffiths (UK): Symposium: Sensorial practices in performing arts for babies and neuro- diverse audience - a critical perspective
- Mariken Lauvstad (N): Talk: Alternative dramaturgies for cross cultural productions and productions which represent the so-called "other"
- Young Dance Network: Kick-off!
- Small Size network: Seminar: Early years around the world
- Sharon Gavreliov (IL): Talk: "Safe place" – Theatre festival for children on the autistic spectrum
- Lise Hovik (N): Talk: Nordic Childhoods and Theatre for the very young
- Teater Joker (N)/Passpartout Theatre Production (DK)/Unga Malmö Stadsteater (S): Intercultural workshop: PROSPERO
- Assitej Germany and Theater Strahl (DE): Talk: WALLS
- Isabelle Verlaine (BE): Roundtable and workshop: Playing a child as an adult
- Artist talk by Tony Reekie: Barrowland Ballet
- Carolina Quintana (CL): Workshop: From bully to ally
- Lise Hovik (N): Workshop: Animalium
- Scenekunstbruket og PAHN (N): Seminar: Can the Norwegian model inspire a direction for the future of presenting professional arts to young people?
- Gunhild Bjørnsgård (N): Debate: Art is a free voice?
- Next Generation Program: Workshop presentation
- Ceren Oran (TR): Workshop: Soundpainting
- Rasheedah Liman (NGA): Workshop: An Empty Space and the Performer: Opportunities and Challenges



Photo: Scenes d'enfance



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**NORDIC VENUE
PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM**

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- Jaana Taskinen (Finland): Artistic Practice Workshop
- Toomas Tross (Estonia): Clown and Comedy Workshop
- Teens Across Europe - Scenekunstbruket (Norway)/Teatercentrum (Denmark): Kitchen Table and Co-Curation
- Aita Vaher (Estonia): Free Voice Impro Workshop
- Lars Werner Thomsen (Denmark): Outreach Inclusivity Workshop
- Anette Therese Pettersen (Norway): Performative Review – The Effect of a Performance, a Writing Workshop
- Anette Therese Pettersen: Artist Talk: Kuressarre City Theatre
- Anette Therese Pettersen: Panel Talk About Child/Youth Involvement and Participatory Methods
- Katrina Albuze (Latvia): Workshop in Movement
- Assitej Sweden/ Barnteaterakademien (Sweden): Seminar: New Dramatic Scripts from the NB Region for 2-5 Year Old Children



Photo: Henrietta Hodgson



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Main Venue program

Own income

ASSITEJ Norway (see page 14)	NOK	1 647 425
Festival passes	NOK	311 950
Box office (single tickets and groups)	NOK	261 750

Public funding

Municipality of Kristiansand	NOK	260 000
County of Vest-Agder	NOK	230 000
County of Aust-Agder	NOK	25 000
University of Agder	NOK	90 000
Donor matching scheme (Dep. Of Culture)	NOK	117 688

Foundations

Fritt Ord	NOK	60 000
Sparebanken SØR	NOK	50 000

Other income

ASSITEJ International - magazine support	NOK	58 000
Sponsors and other income	NOK	175 791

Total income Main Venue **NOK 3 287 604**

Nordic Venue program

Own income

ASSITEJ Norway (see page 14)	NOK	150 607
Box office (single tickets and groups)	NOK	97 900

Public funding

Nordic Culture point	NOK	330 608
Nordic Culture Fund	NOK	192 792

Other income

Kulturtanken	NOK	50 000
Total income Nordic Venue	NOK	821 907

Total income **NOK 4 109 511**

FINANCIAL REPORT INCOME

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FINANCIAL REPORT EXPENSES

Main Venue program

Personnel	NOK	931 077
Fees to contributors	NOK	824 652
Travel costs	NOK	726 414
Tech and venue costs	NOK	188 286
Meetings	NOK	60 556
Advertising, marketing, documentation	NOK	353 659
ASSITEJ Magazine	NOK	148 053
Accounting and Audit fees	NOK	54 063
Other expences	NOK	844
Total expences Main Venue	NOK	3 287 604

Nordic Venue program

Personnel	NOK	105 780
Fees to contributors	NOK	368 980
Travel costs	NOK	192 182
Tech and venue costs	NOK	129 518
Meetings	NOK	3 822
Accounting and Audit fees	NOK	21 625
Total expences Nordic Venue	NOK	821 907
Total Expences	NOK	4 109 511



Photo : Bebé De Soares



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In 2019, Assitej Norway received a grant of NOK 1 615 000 from the Norwegian Dept of Culture. In our budget, Assitej Norway allocated part of the grant to cover festival costs; NOK 1 265 000. A combination of fewer delegate passes sold and higher expenses than budgeted resulted in a need to allocate a higher sum; NOK 1 798 031. As a result, Assitej Norway lost its equity, and had a small deficit for 2019.

As a direct result of the deficit, Assitej Norway decided to wait until September 2021 to host the next Norwegian Assitej Festival. Despite the negative financial result, Assitej Norway is proud to have hosted the ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering in 2019. We are already seeing results of AAG2019 in our work on a national, Nordic-Baltic and international level.



Photo: Chris Blois-Brooke

widerøe

Scenekunst Sør



NORDISK
KULTURFOND



KRISTIANSAND
KOMMUNE



KILDEN
TEATER OG
KONSERTHUS



AUST-AGDER
FYLKESKOMMUNE



SPAREBANKEN
SØR

A BIG THANKS TO ALL OUR
PARTNERS AND FUNDERS!

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Photo: Dalia Mikoliūnaitė



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ASSITEJ
NORGE

Empowering performing
arts for young audiences



Assitej Norway
www.assitej.no
theis.irgens@assitej.no
Tel: +47 480 27 606



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