



## INTRODUCTION



ADI BEERI, ISRAEL

**Israel Theatre Prizes for Children and Youth**

The Ceremony of the Israel Theatre Prizes for Children and Youth was held for the ninth time this past August at the Habimah National Theatre in Tel Aviv.

Adi -Berri



Today this event has become a tradition and a source of pride for our theatres and the artists who work with us. For many years, this kind of competition was only held for adults and we were forced to try and prove that theatre for children was also worthy of this recognition and also deserving of a ceremony that awards excellence in a similar way that it does for adults.

After many years of this struggle, and searching for the proper format and venue suited to all of our theatres, we attained a respectable and fully accomplished festival and ceremony. It is important to note that we constantly improve our format based on feedback from all the participants that are involved in this annual festival and awards ceremony.

The prizes awarded for Best Production and for artists in their various capacities, are the culmination of a three-week festival where the best of the productions for children and youth produced in the previous year are presented by the different theatres.

The ceremony itself is a summation and declaration of the best productions and the artists involved in them. Prizes are awarded in the categories of playwrights, actors, directors, designers, and best production, as recognition of their quality.

Last summer we experienced a very difficult period, in the midst of attacks, difficult days filled with fear, days of unrest and unsettlement, during which the entire country was extremely and understandably tense. Despite this, we were amazed to see that theatre conquered and carried on. Adults and children filled the halls of Israel's national theatre to watch the plays and attend the ceremony.

Looking back over the past nine years, we are pleased and proud of this important event.

Through these awards we maintain and strengthen the place theatre for children and youth holds publicly and in our artists.

The moment we were given financial support from our Ministry of Culture, the importance Children's' Theatre has in our national culture was also given official recognition.

This festival gives voice to a wide array of artistic genres and expressions. There is the best innovative and quality work that provides the young audiences with presentations that are imaginative and magical.

The awards are governed by a committee formed from both theatre managers and artists.

Theatres and Artists are summoned to choose their most worthy work of the previous year and submit it to be judged along with the respective categories of playwriting, directing, acting, set lighting, costume design, and music.

The best production awards are divided into categories of age -

toddlers to age 8 and from age 9 to 18, as well as a special category for multi-disciplinary theatre. The committee divides them into these categories for the judges to choose.

The judges assign a number between 1-5 and the one with the highest points will win in each respective category.

The judicial process is orderly and well organized by the committee and a production team, resulting in a three-week celebration of the highest quality theatre for children and youth attended by enthusiastic children and their parents.

We are very proud of these awards and encourage other countries to award prizes for excellence in theatre for children and youth which could be given official national recognition.

The prizes awarded to the artists are cash prizes with trophies, whereas to the theatres the awards are trophies and the respect that comes with them. For many years the theatre artists of our country preferred to create theatre for adults but in the recent years we witness many artists who have chosen to dedicate their artistic pursuits for children. The awards are a source of pride for us all.

## ASSITEJ NEWS



### WDT LOGO TOOLKIT RELEASED

#### WDT Logo Toolkit Released

LOGO-ASSITEJ3\_tb



**How are you planning to celebrate World Day of Theatre for Children and Young People, next year? Let us know! And remember to download the logo from our website.**

The logo for the World Day of Theater 2015 is available for communication purposes about this event. It can be downloaded in 2 versions :

[Vertical 412 x 1247](#)

[Banner 1755 x 528](#)

To adapt the logo to your own language and country, a toolkit is also available, including a blank EPS version of the logo, and the font used for text :

[Toolkit \(zip archive\)](#)

### MAGAZINE 2015

#### ASSITEJ Magazine 2015 - Call for Submissions

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Dear ASSITEJ members,

We have started working on the next issue of ASSITEJ Magazine that will be launched at the next ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering in Berlin April 2015 during the Augenblick mal! Festival.

This year the Magazine will have approximately double the amount of pages and consist of two themes:

**The 50th Anniversary of ASSITEJ**

**One Step Beyond: Inter-Generational exchange**, the theme of the festival and the ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering

To represent our global community for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the magazine will be published in two languages: English and the original language of the author of each contribution (as much as the printing house can manage).

We would like to encourage you all to contribute.

If you want to consult previous issues 2012 Facing the Society, 2013 Facing the Artist and 2014 Facing the Audience, please turn to our web site ( [www.assitej-international.org/archive/assitej-s-magazine](http://www.assitej-international.org/archive/assitej-s-magazine)).

[Read more...](#)

## **ASSITEJ Magazine 2015 - Call for Advertisements**

ASSITEJ has begun hard work on the 2015 ASSITEJ Magazine. This issue will be a very special one, since in 2015 ASSITEJ will celebrate its Jubilee, 50th Anniversary

We are glad to offer you an opportunity in our magazine that will help in making your work more visible for the global community!

- A special section of the magazine will be devoted to the Anniversary. We will be celebrating with engaging articles and pictures.
- The other section of the magazine will be dedicated to the theme of this year's Artistic Gathering: One Step Beyond Generations.

All the articles will be published in English as well as in their original language (as much as the printing house can manage with the different languages).

We are glad to offer you an opportunity in our magazine that will help in making your work more visible for the global community!

[Read more...](#)

### MEMBERSHIP FEES

Dear members, we kindly invite you to pay your 2014 membership fees before the year ends. Thank you.

#### **Reminder :**

Our new bank account data are:

Account name: ASSITEJ International Association of Theatre for children and young people

Bank: Banca Popolare di Milano

Address: via di Corticella 184/3 40128 Bologna, Italy

Cod. IBAN: IT50 I 05584 02412 000000000700

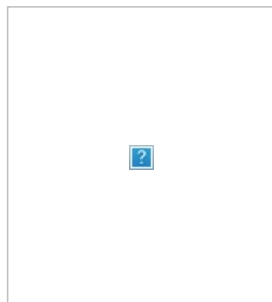
Cod. BIC SWIFT: BPMIITM1209

To pay to Pay Pal with your credit card, please follow this link: [https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=DK28S23ENPS2E](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=DK28S23ENPS2E)

(the system might ask you to turn on the cookies of your browser)

If you have a Pay Pal account, you can make the payment to [assitejtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:assitejtreasurer@gmail.com)

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ASSITEJ!**



Ping Pong is an exchange program between young audience places in the world. It covers all the professionals dedicated to performing arts for children and youth, regardless of their profession : creation, diffusion, administration, mediation.

Created by Assitej France, at the occasion of the *Belle season with children and youth*, the French national season for TYA, it is supported by the Assitej International, and its 80 national centers. Its goals are to create lasting relationships between French and foreign structures of performing arts for young audiences, and to give as many people as possible the opportunity to compare their practices *in situ*.

It is based on the same principles as scholar correspondents :

- A special relationship between two peers
- Immersion in a structure in a foreign country
- Reciprocity

To participate in Ping Pong, you must, therefore, be a professional practitioner in connection with a company, a theater, a festival, association, or other permanent structure devolved to young audiences, with or without a matching French structure.

If you already have a partner structure, Assitej France will accompany your project. If you do not, your application will be promoted through Assitej's France network, and we will try to offer you the best possible exchange, depending on your goals.

An agreement will be signed between French and foreign partners, structures and individuals, before any departure. Its purpose is to set the scope of each exchange and obligations of each partner in terms of reception, respect for labor law , and experience feedback.

Supported by the Ministry of Culture and Communication, as part of the Belle saison, Assitej France will promote the achievement of certain exchanges, by awarding mobility grants.

We now invite you to connect to Ping Pong's website, <http://pingpong.assitejfrance.fr/> and to fill out [the registration form](#).

We wish you a pleasant journey!



### **Generations in Dialogue**

April 21-26, 2015 in Berlin

ASSITEJ Germany and the Children's and Young People's Theatre Centre in the Federal Republic of Germany (KJTZ) are thrilled to host next years' Artistic Gathering at Augenblick mal! Festival 2015 in Berlin, in cooperation with ASSITEJ International, THEATER AN DER PARKAUE and GRIPS

Theater Berlin.

The organizing team is looking forward to receiving guests from all over the world!

The selected productions of the festival Augenblick mal! 2015 are now [online!](#)

The Call for Application Next Generation at AAG15 is still running: All necessary information and application form on [www.augenblickmal.de](http://www.augenblickmal.de)

The complete programme of Augenblick mal! and ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering 2015 will be published on 20<sup>th</sup> of January, 2015.

Registration and ticket sales will start on 2<sup>nd</sup> of February.

For real time up-to-date information about the festival, please register for the newsletter on [www.augenblickmal.de](http://www.augenblickmal.de)

If you have any questions about the ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering (AAG15), please contact Anne Herwanger ([a.herwanger@augenblickmal.de](mailto:a.herwanger@augenblickmal.de)).

## **A successful Frankfurt Playwrights' Forum for TYA**

The Frankfurt Playwrights Forum for TYA is a highlight in the year program of Children's and Young People's Theatre Centre and ASSITEJ Germany? Since 1989 this event is of great importance not only to playwrights but also to all those who are interested in the field of dramatic literature, like dramaturges, agents and directors. Up to 130 theatre experts from Germany and abroad are visiting the Forum every year in the first days of December.

This years edition of the Forum, which took place from December 4th to 6th, was a special one. The Children's and Young People's Theatre Centre and ASSITEJ Germany celebrated the 25th anniversary of their unique institution. The Centre started its work with the 1st Playwrights' Forum in December 1989, 3 weeks after the fall of the Berlin Wall. This was the starting point for a successful German-German development in TYA. Now, 25 years later, Gerd Taube, director of the Centre, and Wolfgang Schneider, chair of ASSITEJ Germany, published a book about the role of the Centre in the history of this movement. It is titled Kinder und Jugendtheaterzentrum in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland - Forum for Meetings, Platform for Discussions and Place for Discourses.

Beside this celebrations the 26th Forum gave opportunity for the presentation of new and awarded plays and of a prestigious European Playwrights project. In "Theatre Café", established in 2004 by Company of Angels in London, new scripts from Europe are being discussed and presented. Now, ten years later, Adam Barnard from London, Eirik Fauske from Oslo and Roel Adam from Amsterdam where talking on the Forum about their new scripts. The readings of the plays were held by actors from Grips Theatre, Berlin. The participation of "Theatre Café" in the Frankfurt Playwright's Forum demonstrates the importance of an European repertoire in TYA in Germany. Regarding this international context, it made sense to end the Playwright's Forum with a discussion about inter cultural exchange and translation of scripts. This discussion must be continued, e.g. at the ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering in April 2015 in Berlin. Next Playwright's Forum will be held from November 5th to 7th, 2015. Save the date!

Henning Fangauf

PLATFORM SHIFT+ and SMALL SIZE, PERFORMING ARTS FOR THE EARLY YEARS - for the next 4 years, through Creative Europe, the new European Commission's framework programme for support to the culture and audiovisual sectors.

### **Small Size - Performing Arts for the Early Years**

The purpose of the project is to spread the exchange of ideas on performing arts for early years (0-6 years of age) in Europe, through a networking activity able to create new knowledge and awareness in Europe and abroad.

In the upcoming 5-yearlong cooperation we are going to participate together with 15 European partner theatres.

### **Platform shift+**

Platform shift+ is an international network, created to meet the new challenges of producing theatre for young people in the digital age. Platform shift+ consists of 11 partners from 9 countries: ten long-established theatres with a special focus on young audiences and the Norwegian University of Agder, as an expert in cultural education and monitoring. Together we have identified the urgent need to engage fully with digital technology in order to understand the reality of our target audience.

The project will create a platform to shift theatre for young Europeans today and secure theatre's role in the Europe of tomorrow.

## **Preparation for the annual ASSITEJ meeting**



The Hungarian Centre of ASSITEJ is going to host their annual meeting in January 2015. The re-election of the members of presidency and the selection committee of the International ASSITEJ Biennale of Theatres for Children and Youth at Kaposvár will also take place within the framework of the meeting.

### **ASSITEJ ITALY**

### **ASSITEJ Italia : Educational Meetings 2015**

The ASSITEJ Italia General Meeting - held in Bologna on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 at Teatro Testoni Ragazzi - highlighted the strong need to network different professional competences, knowledge and resources about themes and projects in Theatre for Young Audiences. For this, an explicit request emerged for educational meetings to be organized for ASSITEJ members.

Therefore, ASSITEJ received interesting proposals and indications : national organizations are willing to make available places, periods and ideas. With this, it is now possible to schedule a first meeting itinerary between March and June 2015. This first attempt represents an important experiment that we can call :

#### **INTERNATIONAL PROJECT MAKING**

Ideas, places, people and actions

The meeting's plan focuses on a specific, vast and complex theme : international projects; that's to say the meeting and the mutual comparison of different people and cultures in order to create events and educational opportunities in Theatre for Young Audiences. In fact, we are deeply convinced that mutual exchange of different experiences and points of view represents a source of cultural - and sometimes even

economica l- richness.

These meetings will allow - with different timing and methods - to face the idea of "making projects" in Europe and in the world : what does it mean to start, promote, coordinate and take part in an international project?

The presence of foreign professionals in National Festivals will offer an important contribution to a confrontation on the themes proposed during the meetings. There will be seminars, workshops and debates that will give anyone the possibility to "take home" a small but important baggage of knowledge. Knowledge meant to be useful to everyone's professional needs and experiences. Moreover, such an exchange will help the confrontation - nowadays unfortunately quite absent - inside the world of Italian Theatre for Young Audiences.

## **PLANNING**

### **Times, places and themes**

#### **1) 2-5 March - Festival Visioni di Futuro, Bologna**

- STOP FOR A MOMENT - A BREAK FOR AN ARTISTIC REFLECTION

March 2 and 3 (14:30 - 17:30) "Writings of the theater". A theoretical / practical workshop about Theatre for Young Audiences, addressed to directors and playwrights. Theoretical / practical seminar with deepening on a working method that will develop throughout four years. Possibility of methodological contaminations.

A two-day seminar with Gerd Taube, director of Kinder und Jugendtheaterzentrum (Frankfurt-Germany).

- IT'S NOT JUST AN ARTISTIC MATTER

4 March (15:00 - 17:00) "To imagine, to create, to live a European project." For theatre professionals. European projects. Three different experiences of European projects, considered from three different points of view: coordination (La Baracca-Teatro Testoni), promoters and achievers (Michele Losi/Scarlattine) and partners (Elsinor). Informal talk about three different ways to be part of European projects.

With Judith Mingucci of Elsinore, Michele Losi of Scarlattine Theatre and Anna Bags and Roberto Frabetti de La Baracca-Testoni Ragazzi.

- MOMENTS OF SHARING

5 March (14:30-17:30. "Sounds and meanings." An opportunity to share experiences.

Theater workshop for artists led by Carole Karemera, co-founder and director dell'ISHYO Arts Centre (Kigali - Rwanda).

#### **2) 18 April - Festival GiocaTeatro, Torino**

The Child as an author: two countries and two cultures comparing playwriting for young audiences, with the participation of Bruno Tognolini (author for children) and Florshuz & Dohoner (Theatre Company from Berlin).

#### **3) 10-15 May - Festival Maggio all'Infanzia - Naples**

Cantiere d'arte e spettacolo - European project. A meeting/seminar on the art for children in the Mediterranean culture, with Augusto Masiello (Teatro Kismet Opera) and Fabio Naggi (As.T.Ra. - Associazione Teatro Ragazzi).

#### **4) 11 June - Festival Il Giardino delle Esperidi -**

## **Campsirago (Lecco)**

Around The Odissy : A workshop proposed by Scarlattine Teatro in connection to the European Project called "Meeting the Odissy" (2014-2017). In the occasion of its Italian stages (between May and June 2015) and of the opening of Il Giardino delle Esperidi Festival 2015 - special edition.

For: ASSITEJ members

When: Thursday 11 June, 14:30 - 17:30

Where: Merate, Villa Sommi

Duration: 3 hours

Participation: free, with application

Around the Odissy will allow the participants to deepen their knowledge of the Meeting the Odissy project from the point of view of the production, with a focus on :

- The differences between instant and main performances
- The specific elements of the theatre direction : the overall one, but also the direction of every single small by-production (in fact every single small production must put together different visions and ideas).
- The different specific characters of a big cast of this sort, which is also heterogeneous and multicultural.

The meeting will have a frontal and interactive structure and will include the confrontation to other partners of Meeting the Odyssey and to some artists and theatre professionals. During the meeting, a specific project will also be simulated, together with the participants.

Last but not least, it is important to highlight the presence at the meeting of the Danish Theatre Company Asterion Hus, which not only takes part in the Meeting the Odyssey project, but also works specifically in the area of childhood. The Company will present at Il Giardino delle Esperidi - as a National Première - its new show dedicated to the "Iliad". Together with Scarlattine Teatro's new production *Odissea Piccola*, the show of Asterion Hus will offer a further start to reflections and an open confrontation about how to propose ancient Greek myths and literary treasures to children.

### **5) 18 May - 6 June - Partiture per l'Ombra - Piacenza :**

In the occasion of the 4th International Workshop on the Shadow and the Shadow - Theatre called *Partiture per l'Ombra*, Teatro Gioco Vita will offer a scholarship for young artists, which will allow the free participation to the workshop. ASSITEJ will select among the received curricula.

## **ASSITEJ Italia - 25th Anniversary of the Card of Children's Rights: Events**

BRESCIA November 22 - Teatro Telaio - Teatro Telaio Company offered, like every year, a show at the City Jail (one year to the male prison, and one year to the female prison) seen by prisoners with their children who went to visit them.

MILAN November 23 - Theatre Space 89 - In the listings of the children's theatre "Tiny Tiny Theatre", a coloring sheet of the Card of Children's Rights was distributed to the audience at the end of the show TINY TALES FOR TEA.

TRENTO November 22 and 23 - Centro Servizi Culturali S. Chiara - In the listings of the children's theatre Anch'io a teatro con mamma e papà, during the spectacle, the theatre distributed the Card of the Children's Rights on Art and Culture to the audience.



TURIN November 20 - Casa del Teatro Ragazzi e Giovani - Fondazione TRG Onlus hosted the show "Senza Francobollo" by the company Schedia Teatro, loosely based on "Oscar et la dame rose" by Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt. This show is part of a project realized by Casa del Teatro in collaboration with Fondazione PAIDEIA Onlus, an organization dedicated to help families and children experiencing difficulties.

## IX edition of Segni d'Infanzia

Segni



The IX edition of Segni d'Infanzia ended in an extraordinary and positive way!

Speaking of numbers ....

5 days  
200 events  
10 000 tickets sold  
20 000 people!

A great goal that allows us to look to the next edition with optimism and with the knowledge that Segni d'Infanzia is growing up!

In short, all pictures of the festivals will be available for download on [www.segnidinfanzia.org](http://www.segnidinfanzia.org).

If this year you could not be with us in Mantua ... don't worry

...

... THE X EDITION OF SEGNI D'INFANZIA AWAITS YOU AT MANTUA

from October 28 to November 1, 2015!

DO NOT TAKE ENGAGEMENTS... COME!

## Cooperation Project / Creative Europe

Teatro -del -Buratto



We wish to inform you that Teatro del Buratto, historical Puppet Theater Company located in Milan, wants to participate in a Cooperation Project / Creative Europe (Ref. EAC S17 2013) with a deadline on February 16, 2015, of the European Community Culture Program 2014-2020. The opening date of the notice is December 13, 2014.

The project we propose provides as primary action "*Artifex. European platform for the sponsorship, the promotions and the safekeeping of Puppet and Visual Theater in Europe*" (provisionally) regarding the deepening of the different artistic expressions, artistic training and circulation of performances.

### Objectives

- Promote the development of emerging talent and stimulate the transnational mobility of culture, and the circulation of works ... and to have lasting effects.
- Help increase the prestige and visibility of artists and creators strongly committed in terms of European programming through communication and a brand strategy, including, where appropriate, the creation of a European quality mark.
- Promote mobility and visibility of creators, artists and emerging talent without international visibility.

We want to underline that the project intends to be a first step of exchange and synergy to provide a basis for future collaborations and / or possible co-productions.

Each of our artistic realities produces research in a highly original manner, and that will ensure a strongly stimulating exchange for the possible hybridization ways.

The peculiarity of Teatro del Buratto is a research on theater on black, a manner partly inherited from Black Theater of Prague and from Bunraku of Japan but with the development of a specific artistic form that has led us to the recognition of important awards from some productions in both sections of Youth and Adult Theater.

We think it is the first time that some theaters and/or companies of Puppet Theater can confront and create a sort of "international school for a new generation of artists" that, starting from their own specificities in artistic research, can achieve an "open territory" to artistic exchange, mobility of artists and operators, and place themselves in a strategic way to ensure sustainability to the new generations that will identify "the form of art" more appropriate to their artistic dimension in Puppet Theater.

Teatro del Buratto organizes since 2007/2008, the IF - The International Festival of Puppet and Visual Theatre. The aim of the IF - Festival is to give the public a panoramic view of the best international puppet productions, giving visibility to both languages of innovation and tradition of visual and puppet theatre.

### Invitation

This communication / project is an invitation for your theater to participate as a co-organizer to the European Culture Program in terms we can discuss in the future, or we may also share an existing network that participates in this European tender.

Thanking you for your kind attention, waiting for your reply, I send to you my best regards.

Referent for the project : Giordano Sangiovanni [foreign@teatrodelburatto.it](mailto:foreign@teatrodelburatto.it)

Website: [www.teatrodelburatto.it](http://www.teatrodelburatto.it)

Bandeau -ital



TYA IRELAND

### Great gathering in Galway

TYAIRL-Large



TYA Ireland held a great 'gathering' on October 17<sup>th</sup> 2014 in Galway as part of Baboró International Arts Festival for Children where we had a review of the association and a look to the future.

Veronica Coburn, a writer, director and performer with considerable facilitation skills and experience facilitated an in depth review of the association. On the day we looked at the considerable work and achievements to date of the association and looked at the areas where further work was required. We looked at the association both in terms of our National and International profile and the requirements of members around these areas.

The Gathering was attended by a majority of the association's members and was open to other interested organisations and individuals and we had quite a few new members join the organisation at the end of the day. Colleagues from Northern Ireland attended and Steve Ball from Birmingham Rep dropped in to give an overview of the ON THE EDGE festival to be held in Birmingham in 2016.

The Gathering finished with the voting of a new committee, the new committee is an energetic group of nine members who between them represent the types of membership from funded production companies, to venues, to individual artists, festivals and programmers.

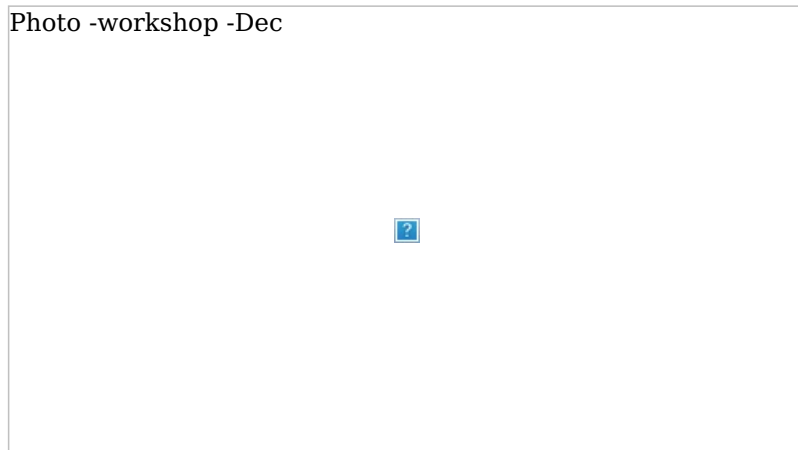
Plans are at an advanced stage for the ASSITEJ International Meeting or Artistic Gathering in Birmingham in 2016 which will be co-hosted by TYA UK and TYAI. We are delighted to have an ASSITEJ Congress or International Meeting in this 'region'. TYA Ireland has particular responsibility for the Symposia Strand in Birmingham and Philip Hardy and Emelie Fitzgibbon are working hard on behalf of TYA Ireland to manage this strand and have submitted a draft plan to the steering committee.

ON THE EDGE : Birmingham 2016 promises to be a wonderful event and we are looking forward to working with our colleagues in the UK to deliver a festival to remember.

 ASSITEJ KOREA

### **The 11th ASSITEJ Korea Winter Festival**

Photo -workshop -Dec



### **Showcase and Workshop of The 11th ASSITEJ Korea Winter Festival, Seoul 2015 January 8 to 17, 2015**

In order to expand the art market function of the Winter Festival, the showcase will be organized on January 11, 2015. Four Korean theatre companies are scheduled to present a 20-minute highlight of their representative pieces, and to have a meeting after the performance with the international guests such as directors of theatre companies, programmers of arts centers, presenters of festivals, etc.

Approximately 30 delegates from France, Italy and several Asian countries such as Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, China and Taiwan, will participate in the Festival for the invitation of Korean pieces, and for future collaboration. Among them, the two delegates from National Arts Council (NAC) in Singapore plan to seek the possibility for a partnership between NAC and ASSITEJ Korea, and more specifically, to find out management of the Seoul Children's Theatre Awards organized by ASSITEJ Korea.

Also, the Drama in Education Workshop will be organized for four days in order to provide training opportunities for TYA facilitators, and to develop recognition of "playfulness" in child audiences. The workshop leader Mr. Ken Nakajima, of Kazenoko Kyushu Theatre Company in Japan, is a well-known director in Asia for his unique approach to theatre with "play."

Detailed information about the pieces and festival schedule can

be found on ASSITEJ Korea website: <http://assitejkorea.org>



 ASSITEJ LITHUANIA

## JEGA! Festival Lithuania 1- 5th December 2014

Lth \_1



The Assitej Lithuania International Jega! Festival has just finished in Kaunas and what an eventful week it was! It is a huge honour for Lithuania to have hosted professional companies from no less than seven EU countries this time - Latvia, Estonia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Ireland and the Czech Republic!

The festival Opening Ceremony was hosted by the Kaunas City Council and all international and Lithuanian performers were given a certificate of appreciation from the Mayor of Kaunas City. A lovely touch indeed. Most remarkable was the showcase of local talent which clearly demonstrated how important culture and the arts are in the lives of young Lithuanian citizens today.

The venues and hospitality centres of the JEGA! Festival are all within walking distance of each other and this meant that a great feeling of camaraderie between artists, international guests, volunteers and the Lithuanian Assitej team developed over the course of the week. JEGA! achieved its goal of showcasing Lithuanian hospitality, the new wave of movement in the theatre for young audiences sector and the lovely sense of community within the Baltic region in this regard.

The Festival programme also included a Nordic-Baltic regional meeting. It was an action-packed programme over two days with visits to performances, long discussions and many new ideas, a brief visit to a local heritage building and lots of opportunity for informal networking. Watch this space in the future!!! Assitej Lithuania would like to thank those who attended this meeting and their huge support of our efforts to develop our sector as a region.

We hope to see you all at the next edition of JEGA! Festival in Lithuania!

*Violeta, Dalia, Ginte and Cliodhna*

 ASSITEJ  
LUXEMBOURG

## Chrëschtdeeg am Theater Festival

20141227\_lechantdesballes \_04\_Philippe Cibille



From December 17 to January 3, Carré Rotondes and the Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg welcome young and old to

the theatre for a Christmas special. CHRËSCHTDEEG AM THEATER ("Christmas at the theatre") is a common initiative which offers a selection of six national and international shows that range from circus and puppet theater to classic storytelling.

<http://rotondes.lu/agenda/details/event/chreschtdeeg-am-theater-1/>

Logo\_TVL



## ? ASSITEJ NORWAY

### Fresh funding for ASSITEJ Norway!

We are very happy to announce that ASSITEJ Norway has been granted a substantial raise in its funding from the Norwegian state. This became clear as the Standing Committee on Family and Cultural Affairs submitted their recommendation to the Storting (Norwegian Parliament) for the National Budget for 2015 on December 3rd.

ASSITEJ Norway is grateful for the opportunity to make a great leap forwards. We are particularly pleased to be able to strengthen our ties with the rest of the international ASSITEJ community, aiming to create opportunities for our members in Norway and friends worldwide.

Our main goal for 2015 is to create an outstanding international ASSITEJ Festival in Kristiansand on October 6-10. Save the dates!

Read about our plans and process for the festival on :  
[http://assitej.no/?page\\_id=678](http://assitej.no/?page_id=678)

## ? ASSITEJ SERBIA

### Autumn highlights

**"Ecology of the soul", art in closed institutions, borders treated in different ways, all these are themes that were thought and dealt with this Autumn in part of the artistic community in theatre , especially theatre that deals with young people.**

It is interesting in what ways theatre makers in Serbia, in spite of complicated social and economic conditions, succeed in establishing new practices. Even though with the abundant problems and needs the processes of artists, slowed down by the lack of systematic support, still manage to change the perceptive of about the significance, meaning and different ways of participation of performing art in the realm of culture, education, care and work with children and youth is evidently visible and slowly but constantly the number of ones that are involved and apply in their work principles of theatre art.

From 4 Festivals, that have by now been supported by ASSITEJ Serbia, this year only two have been realized : International TIBA Festival and the regional Theatre Zvezdarište have not. Because of a very difficult financial situation and the lack of the amount of state grants that are enough to cover main costs and fees of the employees in theatres founded by the state, the main childrens theatres had to give up a jumber of premiers on yearly level, so every premier is considered a heroic deed.

Theatres out of institutions and theatre groups are faced with new laws that find it hard to access schools, and schools have new measures that find any form of organized travel to organized artistic programs hard. In a society in which a new frame of creating culture is still not formed, it is hard to accomplish a continuity and realization of bigger steps involving years ahead.

Still in our area there was always a number of extraordinary

and progressive artists and individuals and valuable artistic achievements created with quality that went beyond the expected ways and institutional theatre scene.

What is especially valuable is the consciousness and persistence of certain artists that address the young audience considering it is a vulnerable population, and in the artistic engagement that has not been respected enough in many parts of society, so it asks for more effort and requires support of every kind. So in this case we want to stress three events that have been realized by three members of ASSITEJ Serbia: Sanja Krsmanović Tasić (Mater Terra Festival), Aleksandra Jelić (Parol) and Boris Čakširan (Off Frame).

The pilot Festival Mater Terra that has been conceived and realized by Sanja Krsmanović Tasić has gathered drama groups that work in schools and use drama techniques, instantly gathered a lot of interest. "Ecology of the soul" is a new expression, conceived for the Festival Mater Terra, and that for its team means healthy and developed human relationships, openness and acceptance of the other or different, development of empathy and activation of solidarity and support. The festival is not competitive, but is conceived as a place for support and exchange between drama groups and studios, a place where expert advice can be given and experiences exchanged with different groups and schools. The festival was realized in co-production of DAH Theatre Research Centre and CEDEUM/ Centre for drama/theatre in education and art, and the team of experts invited to give advice and support consisted of three members: Ljubica Beljanski Ristić, Diana Kržanić Tepavac and Boris Čakširan.

"Every impossibility gives rise to a new opportunity," says Aleksandra Jelic, Executive Director at ApsArt & ApsArt Community Theatre speaking at the Conference Do I Have a Right to Know opening ceremony.

What is the relationship between the personal and creative freedom? Does the loss of freedom of movement mean the loss of right to create? Why are artists so often peered behind the walls and those behind the walls so often resorted to art as a means of release? These questions and attempt to answer some of them dealt project PAROL which was conducted in five European countries and has been completed in Belgrade in November as conference organized by the ApsArt organization. The organization promotes and educates about the possibilities of theater in the work with vulnerable, disadvantaged and marginalized groups of children and young people. Its creator, theater director and tireless activist Aleksandra Jelic brought together representatives of various sectors, artists and representatives of organizations for human rights to cross experiences, to shed light on the obstacles / problems together and tried to find some suggestions for solutions which will provide access to the arts and the introduction of artistic disciplines and creative process in working with vulnerable groups, in institutions such as shelters, institutions, psychiatric hospitals, day care centers, ... It was a unique opportunity to exchange views in an area that is in our country not yet sufficiently developed, recognized and supported.

Let us mention also OFF FRAME FRAME FESTIVAL 2014 a Belgrade based, regional festival of socially engaged theater, which was held beginning December for the fourth time. The festival gathers authors and organizations from the domain of socially engaged theater in Serbia, the region and beyond, promoting involvement in theatrical work and giving stage time to those who are disempowered in some particular social context. Boris Čakširan whom ASSITEJ Community recognizes by its engagement in inclusive arts and active participation in a forming of IAN network, as artistic director of the Festival chose for its beginning a play for children "The Boy Who Says Yes - The Boy Who Says No" inspired by the classical Japanese drama "Taniko" (Ritual throwing into the valley), as well as Brecht's plays, "He Who Says Yes / He Who Says No" and "The

Horatians and the Curiatians" adapted by Milan Marković and directed by Anđelka Nikolić, production of Little Theatre Duško Radović. The play poses the questions if it is courage to sacrifice oneself for a higher cause? Or is true courage to oppose ancient laws and the opinion of the majority? It is a story about how there is never only one solution, never only one ending. That is thought with which we conclude this article about some events on the theater scene for children and young people in Serbia these days, events and actions that we hope will one day instead of outside flow affect the change for the better.

? ASSITEJ SRI LANKA

### Somalatha Subasinghe Felicitation Theatre Festival



The annual children's Theatre festival in Colombo, from 12th to 14th December 2014

National Centre projects :

- Creative Encounters for children during school vacation in December
- Creative activities for Children, a weekly programme for children from ages 4 to 14. Starting in January 2015.
- Theatre performances in Schools.
- Diploma programme in acting and theatre arts for adults.
- Two new theatre productions project in 2015. One for children and the other one for youth.

? TYA - USA

### One Theatre World conference

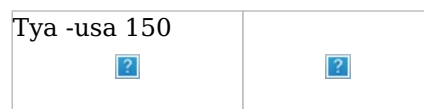
#### **TYA/USA is gearing up for the next edition of its biannual One Theatre World conference**

One Theatre World 2015 will be held May 7-9 in Chicago, Illinois, and hosted by The Theatre School at DePaul University (also home of the TYA/USA office).

This year's theme is "Dare. Dream. Do the Unexpected," and the announced programming lineup (so far) includes a slew of daring dreamers who challenge us in unexpected ways :

- Master classes by the UK's Punchdrunk and The House Theatre of Chicago's Nathan Allen;
- Events featuring the composing team of Benj Pasek and Justin Paul (*A Christmas Story, James and the Giant Peach*), playwright Suzan Zeder (*Mother Hicks, Wiley and the Hairy Man, Aviatrix*), and a panel of Chicago and New York theatre critics discussing criticism in theatre for young audiences;
- And performances by Chicago Playworks (The Theatre School at DePaul University), Adventure Stage, Chicago Children's Theatre, Emerald City Theatre Company, and Theater Unspeakable at the Chicago Humanities Festival.
- Breakout session opportunities to be announced.

More information is available at [TYAUSA.ORG](http://TYAUSA.ORG).



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