

# JOIN THE CRADLE OF CREATIVITY !

## The 19th ASSITEJ World Congress and Festival newsletter



CRADLE OF CREATIVITY

Share the Cradle of Creativity !



It's the second week of March and our festival tickets are about to go live! We are putting the final touches on our ticket-server Computicket and are very excited to open up our sales to the general public.

Do keep your eyes on your inbox this week; as our dear subscribers, you will be the first to know when ticketing opens.

While we eagerly await festival bookings to open, we thought we would take a moment to celebrate some of the key stakeholders that make everything possible. ASSITEJ South Africa has created partnerships with more than 40 arts organisations to in the run up to The Cradle of Creativity and this week we focus on Swiss Arts Council "Pro Helvetia". (For a full list of supporters please visit our [website](#)).

**Pro Helvetia** promotes Swiss theatre, with a focus on diversity as well as on national and international appeal. It supports the creation of theatre productions, the dissemination of Swiss theatre abroad, cultural exchange within Switzerland and audience outreach of theatre. As a national institution, Pro Helvetia supplements the promotional activities of Swiss cantons and municipalities and supports only projects that are cross-nationally or internationally recognised.

As part of Pro Helvetia Johannesburg's mandate to support and disseminate Swiss arts and culture in Southern Africa, Pro Helvetia promotes cultural exchange, develop and nurture long-term partnerships and support residencies and have allowed us to increase participation of delegates and artists from the Southern African regions. As a result, Pro Helvetia has been responsible for supporting not just a Swiss production (Zick Zack Puff) to come to the festival, but are also behind several African productions and supporting our African Next Generation group as well as some sponsored African delegates. See below for two of the African productions made possible through the generous support of Pro Helvetia.

***Remember: TICKETS FOR FESTIVAL SHOWS OPEN SOON. You will be receiving your delegate registration code this week, along with some handy tips to consider when booking. Use the code on Computicket to book your seats. This will entitle you to pay only a small admin fee for each ticket as opposed to full price. You may also pay additional tickets over and above your allocation.***

## The Festival

Celebrating inter-cultural connections with Pro Helvetia! Bookings will be opening soon through **Computicket**.



### From Zambia

Panali Panali

[See details](#)



### From Zimbabwe

My Culture, My Strength, My Identity

[See details](#)

## New Productions Added to Festival Programme since Launch!



### A Mano

From Spain

[See details](#)



### Animal Farm

From South Africa

[See details](#)

## Who will be in Cape Town?

No Congress is complete without its delegates. Already we have had a registrations bookings from all four corners of our round planet. We have delegates arriving from more than 30 different countries with the Japanese, Danish and German flags flying the highest.

**ASSITEJ International has more than 80 member nations and an increasing number of member-nations in their infancy before becoming full member-nations. This is a combined total of more than 90 nations**, representing nearly half the world's nations.

We are extremely excited to have delegates from the Phillipines where there is currently no national ASSITEJ centre. We hope these delegates will be so inspired by the gutzpah of Cradle of Creativity that they will return home and start a centre there.

Please do remind your friends who ought to be here to register. We are not planning on sending any "Wish you were here" postcards!

[Register here](#)

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## Next Generation - Mthokozisi Zulu

I am so grateful to be part of the Next Generation Workspace (a residency in 3 phases working with the Starke Stücke Festival in Frankfurt). What I have learnt and experienced the last 4 days has really transformed me and this is only the beginning! On the first day, we had to place ourselves on a world scale in relation to where we come from. It was interesting to see how far we are all spread, all over the world. The interest is fed daily, as I learn how fellow artists do things in their countries. We have watched a lot of diverse productions created for the youth at this festival and the part I love the most is that we have been given a chance to discuss all of these productions. Some of the productions I have seen, I had never imagined possible! In one production, we basically played a series of games, literally. I even forgot that I was actually attending a performance and was reminded when during a certain stage of the game, theatre specials-lights lit certain section. As diverse and as wide as the world is, so is the possibility of theatre and art as a whole!

A few days ago, we attend the Assitej Yearbook Presentation and there was a lady called Luis Rist. She works with refugees, creating theatre. She has written a book based on the experience, a film and a few theatre productions working with the youth refugees. She said something that stuck out to me. She said, "I wish it would one day stop being called Theatre with Refugees and just be called: Theatre". I had a chat with her after the presentation, discussing how possible it is for arts to make a difference in the society. The whole time, I kept thinking about the Xenophobic attacks back in South Africa. Maybe we should create work that will actually encourage South Africans to treat our fellow brothers and sister as that! Brothers and Sisters. Europe is taking in people who don't belong on the land, as politics may have it. We on the other hand, are killing people that DO belong on the land. We are all Africans. Anyway, it was good to be advised and encouraged to continue using my art to make a difference

*Mtho will be one of the alumni leading the Next Generation Residency 2017 at the Cradle of Creativity.*

[www.ASSITEJ2017.org.za](http://www.ASSITEJ2017.org.za)

**ASSITEJ South Africa | Vrygrond Avenue, Cape Town**

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