



Visioni di futuro, Visioni di teatro...

International Festival of Performing Arts and Culture for Early Years

7 > 17

march 2025

**Teatro
Testoni
Ragazzi
Festival
programme
by activities**

The 22nd of Visioni di futuro, visioni di teatro... International Festival of Performing Arts and Culture for Early Years will be held from the 7th to the 17th of March at the Testoni Ragazzi Theater and in the crèches and the kindergartens in the City and Municipalities of Bologna
A calendar of events and insights to reflect together on the relationship between art and education and the cultural citizenship of childhood.

The festival includes:

- **Shows for the 0/6 years:**
 - 22 titles**
 - 20 Italian and international companies**
 - 53 performances for schools and families**
- **Performances in Crèches**
- **A performance with educators and teachers**
- **The Valeria Frabetti Award**
- **Meetings**
- **Presentation of two books**
- **A conference**
- **Workshops**

Festival supported by BABEL – The Art of Listening in Theatre for Young Audiences, a project co-funded by the European Union programme Creative Europe (2023-2025).



Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union



BABEL
The Art of Listening
in Theatre for
Young Audiences

Shows

Friday 7 March, h 9.45
Wednesday 12 March, h 9.45
Sunday 16 March, h 11.00
La Baracca – Testoni Ragazzi
LA PAPPÀ DEL PANDA
(Panda's food)
1+

Friday 7 March, h 10.30 and 17.30
Catalyst | Giangreco | Nardin (Italy)
OH! GLI STRAORDINARI
RACCONTI DI UN GRANDE LIBRO
BIANCO
(The extraordinary tales of a big white book)
3+

Saturday 8 March, h 10.00
Friday 14 March, h 9.45
Monday 17 March, h 10.30
La Baracca – Testoni Ragazzi
STORIE QUASI IMPOSSIBILI
(Almost impossible stories)
2+

Saturday 8 March, h 11.00 and 16.30
Sunday 9 March, h 11.30
Artefactos Bascos (Brasil)
B A T U
3+

Saturday 8 March, h 18.30
Sunday 9 March, h 10.30
Tian Gombau Companyia de teatre (Spain)
SABATES NOVES (New shoes)
3+

Sunday 9 March, h 9.45
Monday 10 March, h 11.30
Living Space Theatre (Poland)
KSZTAŁTY (Shapes)
2+

Sunday 9 March, h 18.00
Monday 10 March, h 9.45
Compagnia del Sole (Italy)
STORIA DI SU (Story of Up)
1+

Monday 10 March, h 10.30
Thursday, 13 March, h 17.30
Sunday, 16 March, h 16.30
La Baracca – Testoni Ragazzi
A UN METRO DA TE
(One metre away from you)
2+

Monday 10 March, h 17.30
Tuesday 11 March, h 9.45
Officine della Cultura –
Noidellescarpediverse (Italy)
LA NOTTE IN TASCA
(The night in the pocket)
1+

Monday 10 March, h 18.00
Tuesday 11 March, h 10.15
Hetpaleis (Belgium)
FeL (Bright)
2+

Tuesday 11 March, h 10.30 and 14.30
En attendant la marée! (France)
MULTICOLORE (Multicolour)
2+

Tuesday 11 March, h 17.30
mercoledì 12 marzo, ore 11.30
Pandemonium Teatro (Italy)
C'È UN CAVALLO NELL'ARMADIO
(There's a horse in the closet...)
3+

Tuesday 11 March, h 18.30
Wednesday 12 March, h 10.30
Ceren Oran & Moving Borders (Germany)
SPIEL IM SPIEL (A game in the game)
2+

Wednesday 12 March, h 17.30
Thursday 13 March, h 9.45
Elsinor (Italy)
MERAVIGLIA! (Amazing!)
1+

Wednesday 12 March, h 18.30
Thursday 13 March, h 10.30
Ingrid Olterman Dans (Sweden)
BLUDDERBLAD (Babbleleaves)
3+

Thursday 13 March, h 18.30
Friday 14 March, h 11.30
Compagnia Melarancio (Italy)
ABCD'Emozioni
(The ABC of Emotions)
3+

Thursday 13 March, h 20.30
Friday 14 March, h 10.30
Théâtre de la Guimbarde (Belgium)
LISIÈRES (Boundaries)
4+

Friday 14 March, h 17.30
Saturday 15 March, h 16.30
Theatre Madam Bach (Denmark)
GRO (Grow)
2+

Friday 14 March, h 18.30
Saturday 15 March, h 10.00
Junge Württembergische Landesbühne
Esslingen (Germany)
EINE MINUTE (One minute)
3+

Friday 14 March, h 20.30
Saturday 15 March, h 11.00
Teatrul Ion Creangă (Romania)
LA UN METRU DE TINE
(One metre away from you)
2+

Saturday 15 March, h 18.00
Sunday 16 March, h 10.00
Compagnia Teatrale Petra / Compagnia
teatrale L'Albero (Italy)
ONDE (Waves)
1+

Sunday 16 March, h 17.30
Monday 17 March, h 9.45
Drak Theatre and The International
Institute of Figurative Theatre
(Czech Republic)
TICHOHOŘÍ GUMÁK
(Mont St Gumboot)
1+

all shows on festival.testoniragazzi.it

Andar per nidi

Thanks to the "ZeroThreeSix... Theatre" Protocol, the shows presented in the crèches have been opened to a limited number of professionals as an occasion to experience a performance close to very young children.

Monday 10 March,
h 10.00
Officine della cultura/
Noidellescarpediverse
(Italy)
LA NOTTE IN
TASCA
(The night in the
pocket)
1+

Tuesday 11 March,
h 10.00
Compagnia del Sole
(Italy)
STORIA DI SU
(Story of Up)
1+

Wednesday 12 March,
h 10.00
Elsinor (Italy)
MERAVIGLIA!
(Amazing!)
1+

Thursday 13 March,
h 10.00
La Baracca – Testoni
Ragazzi
STORIA DI
UN CORPO
(Story of a Body)
1+

Friday 14 March,
h 10.00
La Baracca – Testoni
Ragazzi
CASA
(Home)
1+

Performance

Sunday 9 March, h 17.00 (duration: 60')

IN CERCA DEL TEMPO (SEARCHING FOR TIME)

by La Baracca - Testoni Ragazzi

At the start of the festival, we will host a performance dedicated to a mixed audience of families, theatre professionals, and educators.

The performance will be the culmination of a three-day training and artistic research programme. We will share the final moment of this intensive journey, which will feature 50 educators and teachers from various parts of Italy and the world.

Time will be the protagonist of the journey: lost time, time to seek... time we can walk alongside with, time we can flow with, at its pace, not rushing.

The present time flows through spaces and people, inhabits different places but is here, now, embracing everything. Time as desire, as the pursuit of the impossible.

Past, present, future.

Time can be imperfect for human beings and their decisions: in a minute, everything can change, or one can spend a lifetime leaving everything as it is. If we listen closely, we can feel time flowing, but for once, we would like it to stop and listen to this story.

Books Presentation

Tuesday 11 March, h 15.30 (duration: 90')

TALES OF THEATRICAL EXPERIENCES

(in Italian)

with

Carlo Presotto, dramaturg, actor, director and artistic director of La Piccionaia (Vicenza)

Roberto Frabetti, author, director and trainer at La Baracca – Testoni Ragazzi

On this occasion, we will present two new publications revolving around the relationship between Theatre and Education:

SULL'ONDA DELLA PASSIONE.../GUIDED BY PASSION...

by Roberto Frabetti

published by Pendragon

The book recounts the experience of the Group "Cime Tempestose" ("Wuthering Heights") – a group of teachers who, back in 1998, started a visionary project that lasted 14 years.

A human, educational, and artistic journey centred on passion, supported with determination by the teachers who created it, involving institutions and finding resources to keep it alive and evolving.

STELLE/STARS

Children's and young people's wish-maps after Covid-19

by Carlo Presotto

published by Pensa Multimedia

The publication is about the need to return to desire, within a social context marked by indifference and passive adaptation. In 2010, the 44th Report on the social situation of the country highlighted the loss of moral and psychological trust in the system, noting frequent cynical and disoriented attitudes along with those "trapped by media influences". Returning to desire is only possible if desire can come to life, through true stories capable of conveying its generative power.

Valeria Frabetti Award

Wednesday 12 March, h 20.30

AWARD CEREMONY (in English and Italian)

VALERIA FRABETTI AWARD

The Award is dedicated to those who have promoted the development and diffusion of performing arts for very young children (0-3 years old) in Bologna and in the world.

The award aims to:

- Promote the recognition of very young children as complete individuals, capable of understanding, emotion, and expressiveness, and interested in entering into a shared artistic relationship with artists, other children, and the adults accompanying them, such as parents and educators;
- Value nurseries as essential educational and cultural institutions for the personal and social growth of children;
- Support the full cultural citizenship of very young children and their right to enjoy Art and Culture.

Meetings e Presentations

Wednesday 12 March, h. 14.00 (180')

Thursday 13 March, h. 11.30 (120')

RESEARCH WORK IN EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

(in Italian)

In collaboration with

Lo Sguardo Altrove, the pedagogical "observation centre" of the festival, is a group co-ordinated by Marina Manferrari. Its main "job" is to observe and investigate – rather than interpret – the participation of young audience in artistic events.

with

Roberto Frabetti, author, director and trainer at La Baracca – Testoni Ragazzi

Marina Manferrari, scientific consultant of "Zero-ThreeSix... Theatre" Protocol (Municipality of Bologna).

Before producing, we need to take a moment to reflect and share ideas. Children's theatre operates in the constant dimension of needing to produce for self-sustainability. However, especially when embarking on new creative paths, it is essential to take some time to consider. It is crucial to advance by trial and error, and to engage with the children before the performance reaches its final form. They can provide fresh ideas, unfiltered feedback, unexpected reactions that can positively shape each artist's research journey. In these two meetings, we will take a peek behind the scenes of a new proposal from La Baracca, still under development, and of two companies that have taken part in the project "0/3 Chiamata Italia". The first one, Elsinor, returns to this year's festival with their performance in its final form; the second one, Principio Attivo, has just begun its research phase.

Thursday 13 March, h. 14.30 (duration: 150')

CHILDREN AS AGENTS IN TYA

(in English and Italian)

With

Pawel Galkowski, researcher and member of the Small Size Network Board (Poland)

Michal Wendland, professor at Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań (Poland)

Coordinated by

Anna Sacchetti, Vice-President of the Small Size Network Board

How are young children (0-3) perceived?

In the first part of our research, we will use tools taken from social philosophy and cultural history, aiming to conceptualise the ideas about early childhood known on both a scientific and everyday level. By analysing surveys and interviews with artists and professionals in the field, we will then focus on the perception of early childhood within the international artistic community. In this study, we will aim to map who the professionals in theatre for early childhood are, and how their different positions, their grounding in local parenting and educational contexts, and their views on the behaviour of children and parents in performances, shape the way they perceive and work with their audience.

Research curated by the Small size Association in the framework of Assitej International's project "Theatre & Performing Arts for Young Audiences". Building Collective Resilience.

Friday 14 March, h. 15.30 (duration: 90')

MEETING AT THE THEATRE, WHERE ART AND EDUCATION BECOME POLITICS: A PROTOCOL FOR THEATRE FOR EARLY YEARS

(in Italian)

With

Roberto Frabetti, author, director and trainer at La Baracca – Testoni Ragazzi

Marina Manferrari, scientific consultant of "Zero-ThreeSix... Theatre" Protocol (Municipality of Bologna)

A meeting to present the issue related to the ZeroTre-Sei Protocol...Theater published in October 2024. This is a unique initiative at a national level, that formalises the ongoing collaboration between the Municipality of Bologna (a public entity) and La Baracca (a private artistic organisation).

We will gather at the theatre to reintroduce this valuable document and broaden the discussion to include other national entities. We will engage in dialogue about the possibility of the protocol – currently a fortunate exception – to become a model for other theatrical and local organisations to draw inspiration from, fostering the intertwining of Art and Education on a national scale. Is this a utopia or a project to be built?

Friday 14 March, h. 19.15 (duration: 45')

TALES OF CO-DESIGNING

(in English and Italian)

With

Andrea Buzzetti, director and artistic director of Visioni at La Baracca – Testoni Ragazzi

Bruno Frabetti, artistic director of Visioni at La Baracca – Testoni Ragazzi

Alexandra Mihăilă, head of the show organization department of Teatrul Ion Creangă (Romania)

Among the most interesting opportunities offered by European projects, there certainly is the chance to meet someone who is geographically distant from you, structurally different, but with similar design ideas and visions that can generate parallel projects, either in partnership or each in their own location. What we will briefly share is the co-design journey undertaken in collaboration with Teatrul Ion Creangă, now enriched after five years of Mapping partnership. Large-scale projects can become a sort of open window for artists, but they are also an opportunity to plan research work and training activities. Teatrul Ion Creangă has been collaborating steadily with La Baracca since 2006, as part of the Small Size Big, Citizens project, and this collaboration is bound to continue regardless of the outcomes of European projects. In 2017, under the direction of Andrea Buzzetti and artists from Ion Creangă, La un metru de tine was produced, a show Visioni hosted in 2018 and that will return in this edition, accompanied by a new Baracca production, A un metru da te. This is not simply a replica of a show; it is a new version, certainly inspired by the original, but interweaving many other paths that have entwined in the years since, including a workshop for Italian and Romanian artists that took place in the summer of 2018 in Bucharest. In an hour of conversation before the performance of La un metru de tine, we will try to share all of this, blending memories of the past with ideas for the present and the future.

Saturday 15 March, h. 20.30 (duration: 90')

AMEY

(in English and Italian)

With

Sunčica Bandić (Croatia), Robin Lamothe (France), Jeremy Leong (Singapore), Kevin Trappeniers (Belgium), Irma Unušić (Croatia), Laura Viana Mallmann (Brasil), Anna Wolszczak (Poland)

AmEY (Artists meet Early Years) is an international project for young artists (under 35) that offers the opportunity to observe the encounter and relationship between artists and children in the context of their educational communities. The young artists will have the opportunity to present their artistic proposals in a crèche or kindergarten, an experience that will help them develop their research work for young audiences. In collaboration with the Municipality of Bologna and Visioni/Comuni – Unione dei Comuni delle Valli, Reno-Lavino-Samoggia (Casalecchio di Reno, Monte San Pietro, Sasso Marconi, Valsamoggia, Zola Predosa), Distretto Savena-Idice (San Lazzaro, Loiano, Monghidoro, Monterenzio, Ozzano e Pignano).

Conference

Saturday 15 March, h. 10.00 (duration: 180')

GIVING VOICE TO OUR BODY

(in Italian)

In collaboration with

GNNI (Gruppo Nazionale Nidi e Infanzia – Kindergartens and Crèches National Group), Department of Science of Education.

with

Marco Baliani, actor, author and dramaturg

Bianca Borriello, communication expert and storyteller

(more guests to be defined)

During the conference, we will continue the collective reflection that has characterised the last two editions of the festival: listening and the body were the key elements of 2024, while Visioni 2023 began to explore the complexity of body expressiveness. The dialogue will continue in 2025, focusing on narrative voice and on the idea that words cannot be separated from the body, even when we refer to a voice outside of our body. The tone of the voice itself has a body, made of volume, intensity, and depth. In theatre, when discussing narration, the body is present and shapes the story. We will draw on the experience of those who, from the stage – be they experts in performing arts or education – can illustrate how, in a narrative context, body and voice are necessary to one another.

Workshops

The workshops of the festival are momentary experiences, short encounters (150'), windows that open up to offer the opportunity to wander and experiment. Eight workshops, 2 hours and a half each, ranging from visual art theatre to dance and illustration, poetry and literature.

Sunday 9 March, h. 14.30

KAMISHIBAI – TALES IN A SUITCASE

(in Italian)

with Mauro Speraggi, trainer at the Italian Kamishibai Association / Artebambini (Bologna)

From the book to the stage: Kamishibai is a form of Japanese theatre and storytelling, where tales are told through the use of images. A fascinating narrative tool used by storytellers to bring tales to life. During the workshop, we will explore how storytelling can transform into an engaging experience that combines reading and theatre.

What is Kamishibai? How can we fully harness its poten-

Monday 17 March, h. 11.00 (duration: 60')

BABEL CREATION WORKSHOP

(in English and Italian)

Presentation of the work done during the Babel Creation Workshop, one week of intensive artistic work led by two facilitators. Coming from different linguistic communities, the 12 performers involved in each event are carefully selected by the partners and through specific calls open to Next Generation Artists and the ASSITEJ International partner Networks: Small Size, International Inclusive Arts Network (IIAN) and Young Dance Network. The Babel Creation Workshop will be led by Alex Byrne, Co-Artistic Director of New International Encounter (NIE), and Gregory Hall, composer, sound designer, musician.

tial? With its journey to discover this extraordinary tool, the workshop is the first of its kind in Italy thanks to the work of Artebambini, which brought Kamishibai stories and workshops to our country, providing an innovative way to experience and share narratives.

Sunday 9 March, h. 14.30

FEELINGS ON OUR SKIN

(in Italian)

with Daniela Micioni, actress and directress, and Jacopo Desiato, actor and dancer at La Baracca – Testoni Ragazzi (Bologna)

First of all, contact: the body, in theatre and dance, is an

expressive vehicle. But before anything else, the body listens, perceives, receives, reacts, or simply is. The body is skin, muscles, bones. It carries sensations, exchanges them, or rediscovers them. The body lives in the relationship – with itself, with other bodies. The workshop is about rediscovering our body, reflecting on trust, listening, empathy, and respect. And feeling becomes poetic. Contact is crucial in that profound relationship of education, where we search for sensitive connections between the bodies that inhabit the same space.

Monday 10 March, h. 14.30

BODY MUSIC

(in Italian)

with Tommy Ruggero, musician and percussionist (Bologna)

A journey that transforms the body into a musical instrument, exploring its infinite sound possibilities. Participants will learn to coordinate their movements and harmonise them with those of others, enhancing mutual listening and gestural coordination. The workshop will provide an opportunity to experiment with sound techniques using fingers, hands, arms, feet, and mouth, starting with simple exercises and progressing to building complex rhythmic compositions. The workshop will culminate in a final performance, where the skills acquired will merge with personal variations, creating a collective execution.

Tuesday 11 March, h. 14.30

DANCING BOOKLET

(in Italian)

with Irma Unušić and Sunčica Bandić, dancers and choreographers (Croatia)

A workshop for teachers who wish to discover new ways to stimulate creativity and interest in dance and theatre among young children. The workshop explores the body's potential as a tool, provides information on movement and dance, and encourages new experiences as well as the discovery of new forms of expression and communication. Models and methods of creative dance will be presented for different ages, levels of knowledge, and abilities. Through these, participants will be guided in creating a bodily dialogue with children, where the space between body and movement becomes a place of exchange and learning. No prior experience is required, just the willingness to explore, play, and create new stories together with children.

Wednesday 12 March, h. 14.30

SOUNDPAINTING

(in English and Italian)

with Ceren Oran, dancer and choreographer of the group Ceren Oran & Moving Borders (Germany)

Soundpainting is the live composing sign language created in 1974 by composer Walter Thompson. At present the Soundpainting language comprises more than 1200 gestures that are signed by the composer/director, known as the Soundpainter, indicating the type of material desired of the performers. Soundpainting has grown to become an international live composing sign language used in many countries around the world both in the professional and educational arenas. It helps practice listening, understanding the group energy and improves the individual skills to improvise with voice, movement

or with a theatrical character. It has also become a fascinating tool to work with children, art students, teachers, theatre groups or choirs, children with different cultural backgrounds or special needs. Some of the benefits of a Soundpainting workshop are to practice creative thinking with an open mind, explore multiple points of view, express feelings without words, practice problem-solving skills and collaboration. A new space of creativity where children are free to explore and create, strengthening their self-esteem through their artistic development and learning to see their mistakes as a new possibility.

Saturday 15 March, h. 14.30

WRITING WITH OUR EARS

(in Italian)

with Bianca Borriello, communication expert and storyteller (Milan)

Writing with our ears is a workshop where participants listen and learn to recognise in others a narrating protagonist, their ability to sequence events and choose words to describe them. We engage with the impact of their storytelling and with our ability to fill in the missing discursive links – the parts of the narrative that the storyteller omits, which each listener completes with their own representation of the world, ultimately inventing “a whole other story”.

Sunday 16 March, h. 10.30

PLAY AS A SOURCE OF CREATION

(in English and Italian)

with Daniela Ginevro, author and directress, artist at Théâtre de la Guimbarde (Belgium)

Play, once so natural in childhood, seems to slip away from us as the years go by. Yet, the desire to play is an essential part of our being, a drive that leads us to discover new things and connect with others. Playing is not just fun; it is exploration, discovery, a way to understand and create deep bonds between people. In the movement of play, unique skills develop, new perspectives are uncovered, connections are built. We will explore the joy of play, which is a contagious force capable of inspiring and generating new forms of creativity, regardless of our age.

Sunday 16 March, h. 14.30

NATURE & STORYTELLING IN THEATRE FOR EARLY YEARS

(in English and Italian)

with Christian Schrøder, actor and musician, and Pernille Bach, actress and director of the company Madam Bach (Denmark)

The workshop explores the use of nature and storytelling when creating performances and art projects for audiences of children aged 2 to 6, a period of life when each experience becomes discovery. We will start with a short introduction to Theatre Madam Bach and our artistic practice. Then we will move on to the creative workshop. This journey is an invitation to rediscover and relive your connection with nature. To prepare for the workshop, we ask you to recall your first experience in nature and jot down the words that evoke that memory. Finally, you should bring an object that embodies or reminds you of that experience. Each element, each memory, becomes a piece of a story that is built together, transforming nature into a shared narrative.