EUROPEAN THEATRE AND FILM INSTITUTE

ETFI is a research and education centre which was formed by a group of like-minded theatre and film producers, researchers, educators, actors and directors in September 2017 with the goal of creating international research and education modules for theatre and cinema, musical theatre and opera.

Projects 2018-2023

“EurAsia Theatre Campuses”

Eurasia is the largest continent on Earth. The area is 54.3 million km², which is 36% of the land area. The population is 5.132 billion people, which is more than 70% of the world’s population.

We, Belgians, Chinese, Germans, Mongols, Norwegians, Vietnamese, French, Uzbeks etc etc - we live on the same continent. We are Euro-Asians. We can reach each other by land, by bicycle, by train. We are Neighbours.

But our ”continental" thinking, unfortunately, is not yet so developed that we cease to treat each other as outsiders. And this applies not only to politics and diplomatic obstacles, but also to culture, theater, cinema, art and education.
The mission of the project is to connect the art universities of different countries of Eurasia in Brussels for regular joint theater workshops.

Starting from the autumn of 2018, we are beginning cooperation in this direction. Dozens of universities submit their applications, many theaters and festivals in Europe and Asia show interest in partnerships, more than 30 private schools are waiting in line to qualify for participation in the project.

**Disciplines that we cover are:**
- Acting skills
- Theatre Directing
- Playwriting
- Scenography
- Film Directing
- Film Production
- Scriptwriting
- Opera art
- Musical
- Performance
- Composition
- Music

**And also parallel disciplines:**
- Psychology
- Journalism
- Philosophy
- Communication
- Marketing
- Computer science
- Architecture

**Our workshops are built around three “multi”- prefixes:**
- Multicultural
- Multilingual
- Multidiscipline

The educational committee of our institute will carefully study the profile of partners, their interests, their strengths and weaknesses, their requests sent to us and will arrange a program of 1-2-3-4 weeks duration campuses for the period 2018-2019-2020-2022.
According to initial estimates and feedback from existing partners, the program is structured to following directions (TBC)

#1
“STYLE AND GENRE” - Cooperation between directing and acting schools. Subject: developing directors and actors skills on working in different Styles and Genres, based on scenes of Moliere, Shakespeare, Brecht and Chekhov (TBC)
(Open to more participants)

#2
“Atelier on DEVELOPMENT OF NEW THEATRE LANGUAGE” based on principles of "Bande dessinée"- working in conjunction with acting schools on one hand, and Schools of stage design on the other hand.
(Open to more participants)

#3
"Meyerhold and Eisenstein's Montage of Attractions"
(Open to theatre and film directing departments, stage design departments and acting academies)

#4
“CHARACTER WORKSHOP” - The physical embodiment of the character and the actor’s work on the style. The unique method based on a combination of -the theatrical techniques (such as "Character and characterization" of Michael Chekhov, "Study on unique style and form" of Evgeny Vakhtangov, "Paradox of the actor" of Denis Diderot) -brilliant discoveries of psychology of the XX century ("Theory of Attitude and Set" of Uznadze, "Psychodrama" of Jacob L. Moreno, "The Art of Loving" of Erich Fromm) -application of Fine Art analyze while creating a style of performance
(Open to more participants)

#5
“INTELLECTUAL MUSICAL” - workshop in conjunction between Musical Academies and Drama Academies to create new content for contemporary musical and learn how to make performance in Musical as deep as in Dramatic play.
(Open to more participants)

#6
“Fun OF THE OPERA” - together with Opera Academies of Asia, and several European Conservatories in conjunction with schools of music, stage design, circus, performing arts and dance we will research on new ways to make the ancient art more vivant and contemporary.
"RAP the REP" - several Repertory theatres of Europe and Asia will be working together on short workshops throughout the year to allow actors occupied day after day in the repertoire of the theatre to experiment and learn new things. They will be given an opportunity not only to meet and cowork with colleagues from another part of the continent, but also to receive tuition in some unusual performing skills.

"Shakespeare-exit" - Within this action we would like to include Theatre schools from UK into partnership for our EurASIA theatre campuses in Brussels. We believe that theatre cooperation can not be affected by political changes. Values such as Shakespeare's dramaturgy can not and will never correspond to the "slogan of the current moment". Therefore, it is unrealistic for the obstacles built by political "blows" to somehow weaken the "flow" of theater cooperation with any region on our continent.

"feelM" - film schools cooperation: acting, directing, script writing, cinematography, film producing departments unite to research for new content, new forms, new message, new approach to contemporary movie making.

"NEIGHBOURS" - interdisciplinary workshops. Theatre, Music, Film, Dance, Opera, Circus are the neighbouring disciplines. But they still rarely coexist. How much richer could be orchestra performance if the theatre directors and acting coaches could be part of it and give it another form of existence. Who said that the classical music has to be performed by musician with indifferent boring face, why this can not be a performance in full meaning of this word. And vice-versa. Theatre performance so much need to be filled by eccentricism of circus, perfection of ballet, voice of opera artist, life music of orchestra. How much we need each other!

"Documentary theater" - cooperation for students of the following disciplines: acting, performance arts, directing, drama, film, theatre pedagogy. After a series of observations in the real space of multicultural Brussels, students will create monologues and dialogues reflecting real characters of modern society. This project will be created in cooperation with European Parliament, EU, the famous center Le Petit-Château Hoofdzetel Fedasil and other social structures of Brussels.
#12
“The healing power of theatre” Workshop - use of drama in Medical Education
At first glance, the theatre and health seem to be totally unconnected. However, our ancestors thought differently. Ancient civilizations considered drama as a powerful means of relieving emotional stress, creating mental harmony and achieving mental and physical health. Workshops for students of acting-directing schools and for students of schools of medicine.

#13
“Active Stage Designer” Workshop for students of Stage Design schools and schools of Acting-Directing. Before delving into the author's world and create a unique design on stage, the stage designer can and must be able to live a role, to understand how the character feels on stage. Express course of acting skills specifically for stage designers, costume designers and makeup artists.

#14
Educational Theatre Research Project, aiming at practical analysis of the interlingual, multicultural, interdisciplinary approach in contemporary theatre making (conditional title: "Breaking the Wall!" / “Briser le Mur” /"Het doorbreken van de muur")
We believe that the multicultural aspect of Belgium is a huge and unique wealth. Very few countries in the world can boast of having three state languages, three cultures. This is certainly a wealth! And we need to develop contacts between the three cultures starting from school and university.

OUR PEDAGOGUES:

Vladimir BOUCHLER (Belgium) - acting, directing, theatre pedagogy
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vladimir_Bouchler
Lisa DALTON (USA) - acting, theatre pedagogy
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lisa_Dalton
Natasha BELOVA (Belgium) - stage design, marionettes, plastic art
http://www.belova.be/
Federica Tatulli (Italy) - acting, directing
https://bessprima.wixsite.com/euyc-copia/il-direttore-artistico

OUR PRODUCERS:
Margarita Khaskelskaia
https://www.facebook.com/margarita.khaskelskaia
Helen Ibra
https://www.facebook.com/helen.ibra
ETFI is main producer of the interdisciplinary and inter-university campuses. Our role is:
- management and coordination
- artistic leadership
- providing space for workshops and productions
- hiring teachers and experts
Language: English