

## Burkina Faso Centre / Centre Burkinabé



### Jean-Pierre GUINGANÉ

Education :

PhD in Communication, specialization in theatre (university of Bordeaux).

Professional Activities:

Actor. Director. Playwright.

Former Minister of Culture of Burkina Faso.

Since 1998 Director of REFAT (African Festivals Network). Initiator of the International Theatre meetings of African Theatre (RITA). Director of FITMO (Festival International de Theatre et de Marionnettes) one of the most important regular festivals in the region. Prof. and Chair of Theatrology at the Ouagadougou University. Dean of the Department of Languages, Arts, Human and Social Science. –1994 (introduced drama courses and founded a department of Arts and Communication at the University).

Founder and president of the Union of Theatre Companies of Ouagadougou (UNEDO), and founder of the Fraternity Theatre which has participated in numerous festivals and international co-productions (Limoges, Mantes, Oslo).

Awards and distinctions:

2007: Order of Arts and Letters (France)

2004: "Insigne des Palmes Académiques" (tribute of academic excellence), awarded by the government of Burkina Faso

2001: Order of Arts and Letters (France 2001 and Burkina Faso 2000)

1999: "Insigne des Palmes Académiques" (tribute of academic excellence awarded by the government of Burkina Faso, Burkina Faso 1999 and France 1998)

1997: Ebony Crown for Theatre (Cameroon)

1995: Peoples ' Artist, Theatre (highest distinction for an artist in Burkina Faso)

1985: 1st Prize, Theatre, National Culture Week.

### CENTER'S ACTIVITIES 2006-2008

- Reception, host and organization of the Regional Office of Africa at the Espace Culturel Gambidi
- Organization of the Drama Internships "Résidences d'Écritures" and "Créations Théâtrales" (RECRATRALES)
- Founder : Etienne Minoungou, President of the Burkina Faso Centre ITI
- The edition of 2008 takes place during six month. The first part took place in February / March (Quarantaine) and the second - from September to November
- All the corpus of different theatre professions of Central-Africa and West were unified by their most well-known representatives
- Special event in Africa
- Organization of the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of FITMO / Festival of Arts of Burkina (2007)
- This edition took place in every capital of the country's twelve regions. It was opened to all art forms by keeping a special place for theatre and puppet theatre
- Most of the famous artists of Burkina have been present and also the representatives of 12 other countries (2 from Europe and 1 from the Caraïbes) to conserve the international character of this event
- At present, the FITMO/Festival of Arts of Burkina is the largest and the most professional theatre festival in the French-speaking parts of Africa

### Finnish Workshop:

- The Burkina Faso Centre of the ITI has hosted in Ouagadougou (26 September - 20 October 2007) the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the International Working Group of theatre's social intervention, organized by the Regional Office of Africa and the Finnish Centre of ITI
- Twenty-five young practitioners of eleven countries stayed in Ouagadougou for three weeks to participate in this training program
- The next 3<sup>rd</sup> Session will take place in November 2008