

Sudanese Centre / Centre soudanais



Ali MAHDI

Born: Khartoum, 1952. Studies all levels in Khartoum. Graduated from the Institute of Music and Drama. Actor, director, culture consultant, writer, festival organizer, etc.

Positions:

- Ministry of Culture & Information, Cultural Administration, Executive Director
- Work in the Secretariat of the 1st session of Culture Festival, work in Cinema State Council
- Founder of National Group of Puppet Theatre
- Chairperson of the National Al-Bugaa Theatre
- President of the Actors Union since 1987
- Member of the Executive Council of the ITI, President of the CIDC, since 2006
- General Secretary, Arab Union, since 1997
- Actor, director, with many works in Radio Drama, TV, Theatre and Cinema
- Present works abroad: Tunisia, Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Algeria, Paris, Cairo, Germany; member of juries in Egypt and Kuwait

Membership and International Organizations:

- Consultant of Fujairah Information & Media Authority and the Ministry of Culture of Sudan, Member of the Board of Consultants, Sudan Cabinet; Consultant of the Board of Sudan Radio & TV Cooperation
- ITI Executive Council (EC) member: attended all EC meetings 2006-2008 (France, Bangladesh, Korea); Participated in all EC Working Group meetings: Strategy Working Group of the ITI, World Theatre Day Massage Working Group, Advisory Board of the Sheikh Sultan Al-Qasimi Fund
- Represented the EC in the General Assembly of the Mexican Centre of the ITI
- Participated in the celebration of World Theatre Day in Paris 2007
- Participated in the symposium on Theatre and Democracy held by UNESCO
- Participated in the General Assembly of UNESCO, Paris
- Met the General Director of the WIPO as a representative of the ITI EC

Activities internationally:

- Founder of the Sudan Centre for Theatre in Conflict Zones, 2005
- Supervised international training courses between Sudan and Germany
- Founded the Arabic/African festival in Sudan, since 2000
- International Performances: hosted three international symposia in Sudan, 2005, 2007, 2008 with participation from the Netherlands, South Africa, Uganda, Kenya, Egypt, USA, England, Jordan, Nigeria, Germany, Morocco and India.

CENTER'S ACTIVITIES 2006-2008

- March 2006: ITI Sudan and ITI Germany, and the new Centre for Theatre in Conflict Zones, shared with Albugaa National Theatre; Activities: celebration of World Theatre Day during Albugaa Theatre Days Festival, at which the three ITI Centres held a forum with international participation
- July 2006: The Centre participated in the Turkish Festival, in Istanbul
- Nov. 2006: The third international workshop was held by Barbara Santos in the field of Forum Theatre, which ended by presentations presented at the College of Music and Drama, National Theatre, Omdurman, and the German Cultural Centre in Khartoum
- Dec. 2006: Established a branch centre for theatre in conflict zones in Darfur, Niyala; this centre held two workshops for practitioners, using theatre for peace promotion in a conflict-rigged area. In Dec. 2006 the Centre sent a group jointly with Albugaa National Theatre to perform in Niyala, Fashir, Kas and in camps where they received a very positive response from the people.
- March-April 2007: The Centre (jointly with Albugaa Theatre) held a workshop in Brechtian Theater with methods designed by Alexander Stillmark.
- April 2007: The Centre has completed two workshops jointly with DED Germany for the people of Nuba Mountain in Hajr-Sultan and Umbada; the workshops took place in April 2007, one in Umbada, the other in Nuba Mountains, and ended with presentations
- June 2007: A presentation held at German Cultural Centre Khartoum. The Centre travelled and participated in the Sicilian Festival in Byton, Poland.
- July 2007: The Centre travelled to North Sudan and performed in Atbara.
- March 2008: The Centre held an international workshop in Physical Theatre by Hilke Diemer, besides the international workshop in the Dramaturgy by Mieke Kolk from Amsterdam University.
- June 2008: The Centre held an international workshop in Forum Theatre with Surti Balala from India/Amsterdam