



Christoph HAERING

Born 1958 in Basel, Switzerland

After his high school diploma, he studied German, Romance and English Literature in Basel, Switzerland. He started working as director's assistant in Basel, then continued in Frankfurt and Berlin before becoming a director himself at different theatres in Switzerland and Germany.

He worked as dramatic advisor, professor of improvisation at the Conservatory of Arts in Zurich and as advertising spot-designer at the radio.

In 1995, he started working at the Federation of Migros Cooperatives in the department of Cultural and Social Affairs. Since 1998 he has been the head of the department of "Performing Arts and Literature". His department produces and supports cultural events in the field of dance, theatre, performing arts and literature. The most important project is Steps, a biennial international dance festival (Haering is the project's director).

Beside others, Christoph Haering studied the development of organizations.

Since the end of 2006 Christoph Haering has been the president of the Swiss Centre of ITI.

He is married, with one son and lives in Basel.

CENTER'S ACTIVITIES 2006-2008

Priorities and Main Goals of SuisseTHEATRE ITI

The financial basis of SuisseTHEATRE ITI has been drastically cut by the Swiss Government, (nearly all cultural institutions suffer from a similar reduction). Own projects are hardly possible; therefore SuisseTHEATRE ITI had to change its strategy.

Establishing a national Platform for theatre people, cultural institutions, public authorities and the media with the help and active participation of the members of SuisseTHEATRE ITI. Striving for better visibility of its goals, stronger media presence in the public and the political stage and distributing a printed flyer informing about the goals of SuisseTHEATRE ITI (in German and French).

Building a stronger Lobbying position for Swiss theatre in the public: Promoting the message of World Theatre Day and its celebration with special events in theatres and Theatre Academies. There is still a lack of acceptance of the celebration of World Theatre Day within theatres and the media. Promotion of the message of the International Dance Day. The public is more aware of the celebration of International Dance Day.

The Centre's Secretariat moved from Zürich to Basel. Christoph Haering became the new President in 2006 and Ursula Werdenberg became the new Secretary General in 2007. After a vote of the Swiss ITI members at the end of 2006, the Centre's name has been changed from Centre Suisse into SuisseTHEATRE ITI. The Centre's powerful motivation lies in renewed international communication and its engagement for the International work of the ITI.

List of Events and Main Activities

- Summer Academy (July/August 2006) in Zürich: A workshop for theatre professionals (actors, directors, singers, dancers) was organized by the Centre with international well known teachers for voice, acting and moving theatre. 56 national and international artists worked in the workshops of Jana Niklas, Yoshi Oida, Nigel Charnak and Kristin Linklater. For many years this event has been artistically and financially very successful. The four National Academies for Performing Arts will probably take over in summer 2009.
- World Theatre Day with an additional Swiss writer's message and International Dance Day with celebrations all over Switzerland.
- Symposium „All the World's on Stage - Cultural Diversity and Globalization“: January 2007 there was a Symposium with some international speakers and about 30 theatre creators and members of cultural institutions organized in Romainmôtier. In March 2007 there was second meeting and discussion in the theatre of Biel. The main subject was the ratification of UNESCO Conventions 2003/2005 and the effect of globalization in the present landscape of theatres in Switzerland (GATS).
- Masterclass MC6: The third edition of this project for young playwrights 2006/07 had its final presentation in spring 2007 in the theatre in Basel. John Duffel was the Master for four Swiss playwrights during several workshops in 2006. All the plays have been staged in Swiss and German theatres.
- Publication: Documentation of the Symposium in the journal MIMOS
- Print and distribution of a flyer with information about SuisseTHEATRE ITI in German and French.
- Providing the national article for the World of Theatre and providing/updating the entry of the World Theatre Directory.