

ITI Newsletter #01 - January 2017

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International Theatre Institute ITI

World Organization for the Performing Arts

Newsletter for ITI Members

Editorial

We are now sending two ITI newsletters, one for English speakers and one for French speakers. If you wish to receive the newsletter in French, or if you didn't get the chance to choose your language on the last ITI newsletter, [please click here](#).

The ITI Team wish you all the best for 2017!

Warm regards,

Tobias BIANCONE
Director General of ITI

Malory DOMECCYN
ITI Communication Officer

World Theatre Day

The Executive Council and the General Secretariat of ITI are happy to announce that the French theatre and cinema actress **Isabelle Huppert**, will be the author of the message for the World Theater Day 2017. She will be present at the main celebration at **UNESCO hall, in Paris on 27 March**, and will read her message onstage. Moreover, in order to celebrate this day, the International Theatre Institute plans to create an artistic programme with local and international performances, as well as brief speeches.

News

- The African Regional Council became a member of the Executive Board of the Regional Centre of Performing Art in Africa (CERAV/Africa). This nomination shows the role of ITI in the promotion of the performing arts in Africa. This is an important partnership that puts ITI at the heart of cultural action in all African countries via the African Regional Council of ITI.
- The first session of the Executive Board of the Regional Centre of Performing Art in Africa (CERAV/Africa) was held from 7 to 12 November at Bobo-Dioulasso (Burkina Faso)



- AKT-ZENT has now become the World Theatre Training Institute AKT-ZENT. An International Institute dedicated to the theory and practice of theatre training. For more information please contact: [akt.zent\(at\)berlin.de](mailto:akt.zent(at)berlin.de) or visit www.theatre-culture.org.
- ITI Germany's yearbook 2016 "Wer ist Europa - Who is Europe" is now online, you can read it at : http://issuu.com/itigermany/docs/iti_jahrbuch_2016_issuu



- Number 14 (December, 2016) of the web journal Critical Stages/Scènes critiques (critical-stages.org) is now online!
- The Italian Centre of ITI is very glad to give you information on the international project *Theatrum Mundi*, supported by the EU program 'Creative Europe', promoted by Astragali Teatro (member of ITI Italian Centre) and including among its partners: ITI Italian Centre, the Maison d'Europe et d'Orient (Cooperating Member of ITI), and the ITI General Secretariat as an associated partner.

Activities will happen in Italy, the Netherlands, Greece, and France. From 3 to 21 January the core activity will take place: an international artistic residency in Lecce (Italy), bringing together more than 20 actors, actresses, and theatre experts from Italy, Greece, France, the Netherlands, Bulgaria, Latvia, Turkey and Burkina Faso. The residency is committed to the realisation of a performance that will be presented to the audience on 21st January at Astragali Teatro, directed by Fabio Tolledi. [>>For more information please click here](#)



- During the last Executive council meeting, four new Centres of ITI have been approved;
 - Syrian Centre of ITI
 - Yemen Centre of ITI
 - Mauritanian Centre of ITI
 - Kuwait Centre of ITI

All the Centres are the fruit of the Arab Regional Council and its leaders, namely Mohamed AL-AFKHAM, Ali MAHDI NOURI, Ibrahim ASSIRY and Hessa AL-FALASI (from the Fujairah UAE Centre).

Events

- From 7 to 31 January, the 29th National Encounter of Theatre Lovers will take place at Jiménez Rueda Theatre in Mexico. 36 theatre companies from Mexico are participating and more than 25,000 spectators are expected. There will be performances for adults, children and young people. The entrance is free. [>>For more information about the programme please click here](#)



- From 29 April to 30 June 2017, the Da Nang International Fireworks Festival is taking place in the city of Da Nang, Vietnam. The theme is "Shining Five Basic Element Mountains" - inspired by Da Nang's famous local heritage of the Five Element Mountains. The programme will consist of five firework displays and artistic nights and six parallel programmes organized to take place over eight weeks. Participating countries are: Vietnam, Austria, UK, Italy, Australia, Japan, Switzerland and China.
- From 10 to 13 June 2017 the International Sea Festival 2017 will take place in Nha Trang. The theme for this year is "Opening the Friendly Arms". The Opening Ceremony is scheduled on 10 June with international performances from Sweden, Spain, Brazil and Fujairah.

Call for Participation

- Applications for the **International artistic cooperation for the Performing Arts** run by the German Centre of ITI together with the Robert Bosch Foundation are now open. The German Centre is looking for cooperation projects that address prevailing social themes and change and manifest them in a joint artistic response. Applications can be submitted until 15 February 2017 online in German and English. Partners from North African or Eastern European countries should submit their application together with a partner from the German-speaking world. [>>For more information please click here](#)
- **18th International Translators' Workshop, Mülheim:** Together with Mülheim's "Stücke" festival, the International Theatre Institute (ITI Germany) is inviting translators of German plays to a workshop during the festival in Mülheim from 12 to 21 May 2017. Please send your application (in German) via

e-mail with a bibliography and information about your professional background before February 10 to [a.zagorski\(at\)iti-germany.de](mailto:a.zagorski@iti-germany.de) [>>For more information please click here](#)

Obituary

Refik Erduran (1928 – 2017)

On 7 January 2017, the playwright, writer, columnist, president of the Turkish Centre of ITI and former president of the International Playwrights' Forum of ITI passed away, at the age of 88. Refik Erduran was a strong voice for ITI and the Turkish Centre. He was educated in Istanbul and in the United States. He entered compulsory military service as a reserve officer and served during the Korean War as an interpreter. In 1951 Refik Erduran helped Nazim Hikmet, the legendary Turkish poet, to flee his country, by ferrying him across the Black Sea to Romania. Nazim Hikmet finally lived and died in Moscow.

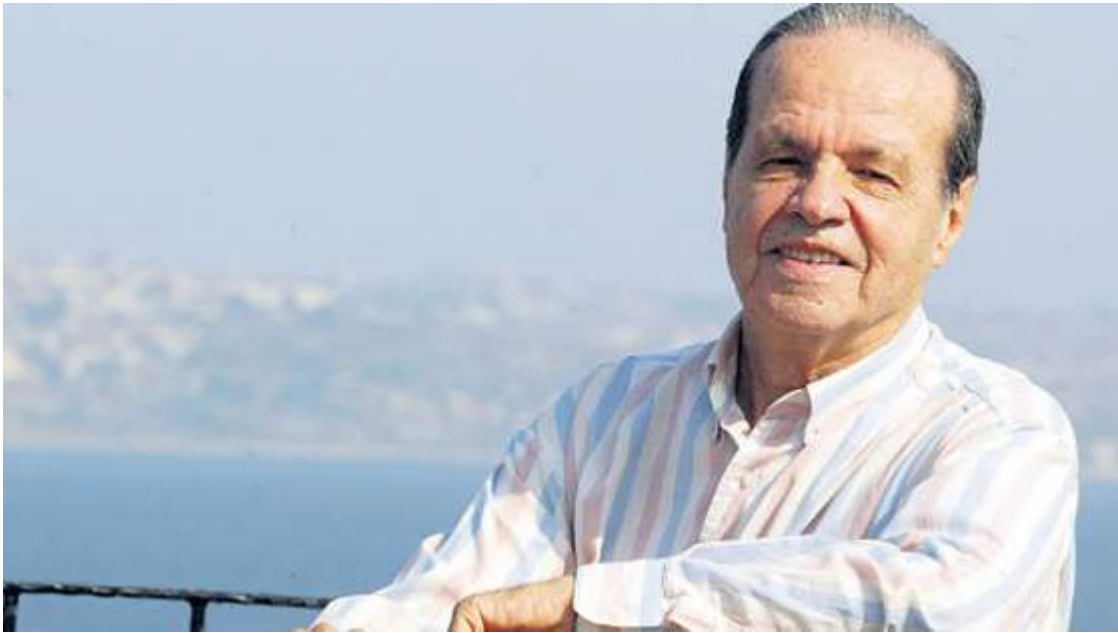
Refik Erduran wrote 30 plays, mostly written in the genre of comedy and vaudeville. They were staged in theatres in Turkey and abroad. His plays "Bir Kilo Namus" ("One Kilo Honesty") in 1958 and "Cengiz Han'ın Bisikleti" in 1959 ("The Bicycle of Genghis Khan") brought him fame.

Especially in his columns, which he wrote regularly in different newspapers, he was able to show how deeply he cared about current events, not only in Turkey, but across the world. His columns were a mirror of himself: intelligent, with humour, and direct. In 1985 he was awarded "The Most Successful Columnist" by the Turkish Journalist Association. In 1991 the Ministry of Culture of Turkey awarded him the title "The Most Successful Playwright". In 1995 he received the prestigious "Yunus Emre Award" for his play "Ramiz and Jülide".

In 1991, the Turkish Centre of ITI, under the leadership of Refik Erduran, organized the 25th ITI World Congress in Istanbul.

"Refik Erduran was a dear friend of mine. With him I was able to talk about all the aspects of life: personal life, adventures (for example the story of Nazim Hikmet), politics, religious beliefs, marriage, the atrocities of war, the craziness of governments, theatre, international collaboration, the value of ITI and so on. I experienced him as a generous, witty, charming and caring person. After a life full of adventures, Refik is en route for his last trip. Farewell my dear friend." (Tobias Biancone)

With Refik Erduran ITI loses a strong voice, a friend and a dedicated theatre Person.



Executive Council ITI

Executive Council Meeting in Segovia

The Executive Council of ITI met in Segovia for the 144th Session. The objectives of the sessions were to start to build all the necessary steps for creating a great Congress, to discuss about ongoing projects, to decide about 2018's events (the year of the 70th Anniversary of ITI), as well as to plan the future development of the Regional Councils, etc.

The team of the Spanish Centre of ITI, who will host the 35th ITI World Congress, attended one part of the meeting to discuss about the administrative, artistic and educational parts of the next World Congress, the Student Festival of the ITI/UNESCO Network for Higher Education in the Performing Arts, and the 5th International Dance Symposium (co-organized by the International Dance Committee of ITI and the Spanish Centre).

During this meeting, the Congress Task Force for the 35th ITI World Congress was decided and consists of: Ann Mari ENGEL, Emilyya CACHAPERO, Hamadou MANDÉ, Fabio TOLLEDI, LE QUY Duong, Ali MAHDI NOURI, Luis LLERENA, Tobias BIANCONE

and CHEN Zhongwen.

EC members also had the chance to visit some of the venues for the Congress.



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