

### International Theatre Institute ITI World Organization for the Performing Arts

### **ITI Newsletter**

Editorial



Dear members and friends of ITI, dear readers

The Celebration of World Theatre Day online was a great success. Shahid Nadeem, Pakistani playwright and World Theatre Day Message Author 2020 sent us a video with him reading his message. ITI Centres and friends of ITI sent us videos with extraordinary people reading the message in the Centre 's or friend 's country language. You find it on <u>www.world-theatre-</u> <u>day.org</u>

The Italian Centre reported that the online activities they organized for the members of the theatre community in Italy had strong participation and was very well received. Myself, I have sent a "Happy World Theatre Day 2020 message picture" to over 200 persons over social media and received an avalanche of answers from all parts of the world.

Moreover, the "Call to Share One's Voice for Love, Encouragement and Support" that Chen Zhongwen and the General Secretariat team organized for all ITI members and friends were very well received and touching answers were and are secured and are shared on the website of ITI - <u>www.iti-worldwide.org</u>

There are much more ideas around that we need to share and projects that are in the pipeline that we can share with the performing arts communities all over the world.

One project I love to recommend to educators: It is the "Live Discussion with Global Theatre Academies" that you find below.

Some ideas we are publishing here, more plans from you will be put in the Newsletter in the future.

Then I also would like to recommend to look at the "The Tightrope", fantastic film

showing two exercises of Peter Brook, presented by Peter Brook and filmed by Simon Brook. Members of ITI and Subscribers of this ITI Newsletter can do it for free for a limited time – from now to Tuesday, 14 April, morning. It is available in English and French. Simon Brook is offering this to you due to the current situation all over the world.

At the end of this month, 29 April, we are celebrating International Dance Day online. A great opportunity of including the dance and performing arts community locally and globally.

The Covid-19 is a pandemic that touches people all over the world. ITI Centres and ITI can play an important role to ease the fate of people, the performing artists and performing arts in a country.

Please join the initiatives of ITI for the sake of artists and people alike. And please send us your suggestions and best practice for the days we are living now.

I am sending my very best wishes to all of you. Please stay safe, stay home, stay in good health.

Tobias BIANCONE Director General International Theatre Institute ITI

PS. Send your ideas to <u>news@iti-worldwide.org</u>. But also any news of your Centre, institution, your community that is of interest for the worldwide performing arts community.

#### ITI/UNESCO Network for Higher Education in the Performing Arts

It is great pleasure for ITI to present a very important project for performing arts educators from all over the world that The Hong Kong Academy for the Performing Arts – a Member of the ITI/UNESCO Network for Higher Education - is organizing very soon: Monday, 13 April.



The School of Drama of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts and Hong Kong Dramatists invite to participate in:

### **Live Discussion with Global Theatre Academies** Monday, 13 April, 21:00 (Hong Kong Time, UCT +8 hours)

It's not an easy time for all of us global citizens. It's a challenging time for us theatre teachers and academies to sustain teaching and learning activities for our students.

It's especially challenging for us teachers to conduct quality teaching and arrange assessment through new mediums while taking care of our vulnerable families and communities, not to mention our own selves.

When most of the academies switched to online teaching and learning platforms like

Zoom, Webex or Google classroom, are there methodologies and experiences that could be shared to enable global learning and unlearning for us theatre teachers? While enjoying all the free online programmes generously offered by world-renowned theatre companies, is virtual activities the solution to theatre teaching and learning in view of the pandemic?

We believe theatre art shall not be confined by the pandemic. Together we shall continue to live a theatre life with compassion. Together we shall create theatre art with love. Together we shall overcome with joy. Following the Global Dialogue with Theatre Artists on World Theatre Day 2020, The School of Drama, The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts and Hong Kong Dramatists are hosting an online global dialogue with theatre academies to connect theatre educators around the world, to share the situation of theatre academies in different countries, to support each other in solidarity, and to look forward to what theatre teaching and learning means to us human and nature.

Theatre educators from every corner of the world are all welcome to join the dialogue.

The Live Discussion will be held on Monday, **13 April 2020 at 21:00 (UTC +8, Hong Kong Time).** 

Here is the link for the dialogue participation in the Live Discussion. Please let us also know a bit about yourself. Link <a href="https://forms.gle/QNVH3YirELFzwoms5">https://forms.gle/QNVH3YirELFzwoms5</a>

To coordinate your participation please check in a Time Zone Converter what time it is at your place when it is 21:00 (9 pm) in Hong Kong. A simple one you find here: <u>https://www.thetimezoneconverter.com</u>

Should you have any question, please contact our faculty Janice POON, Senior Lecturer in Playwriting and Dramaturgy at <u>janicepoon@hkapa.edu</u>. Let's connect!

Wai-Sum POON Dean of School of Drama



# Call for the 10th Shanghai International Experimental Theatre Festival, 19 to 30 October 2020

The Secretariat of the ITI/UNESCO Network is delighted to inform you that the

ITI/UNESCO Network Member, the Shanghai Theatre Academy, will host the 10<sup>th</sup> Shanghai International Experimental Theatre Festival from 19 to 30 October 2020. An international academic seminar will be held at the end of the event. All of the members of the ITI/UNESCO Network are welcome to bring a production to participate in the event.

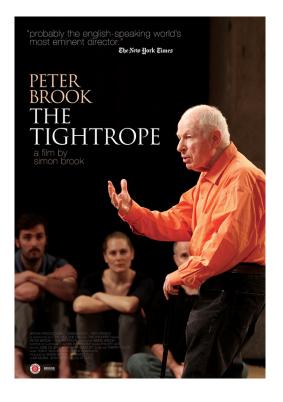
Shanghai International Experimental Theatre Festival was founded by Shanghai Theatre Academy in 1998. Since then it has developed into a regular biennial event. The participating groups will present the performance for two times and conduct a workshop during the twelve days of the festival. The organizing committee will cover the local transportation and accommodation of the group (up to 9 persons, a single room for the team leader and four double rooms for the others), an honorarium for the group (100 RMB per person per day) during their stay in Shanghai, and provide the performance venue and technical support.

#### >>For more info, please click here.

The deadline for application is **30 May 2020**. If you are interested in taking part in this event, please send your production to <u>secretariat@iti-unesco-network.org</u>.



### An Easter Gift for the Members and Friends of ITI and Readers of the Newsletter



#### Limited Free Screening of "The Tightrope" by Peter Brook, filmed by Simon Brook

In "The Tightrope", Peter Brook, one of the world's most revered directors, reveals for any theatre professional how he works with actresses and actors. The two exercises that are shown in this documentary, created by Simon Brook open the curtain and give us a look at how much work it takes for an actor to look like he is not working, and how much a difference a sensitive stage director can make. But the best is watching this precious film yourself. Over Easter, you can stream it for free (until Tuesday, 14 April 2020, morning.). It is available for you in English and French.

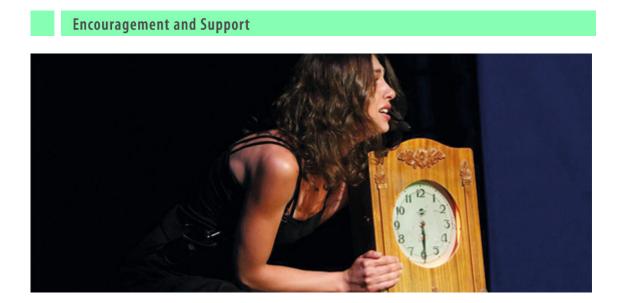
ITI would like to express its gratitude to Simon Brook for offering this possibility the members and friends of ITI and the readers of the Newsletter to offer.

The links are here: Trailer: <u>vimeo.com/simonbrook/tightropetrailer</u> English: "The Tightrope" streaming <u>vimeo.com/simonbrook/thetightropeinternational</u> Password: lovelovelove (all in lower case) French: "Sur un Fil" streaming <u>vimeo.com/simonbrook/surunfil</u> Password: lovelovelove (all in lower case) The video only can be streamed, not downloaded. Streaming possible until Tuesday, 14 April 2020, morning

#### Contact: <u>contact@simonbrook.com</u>



Photo Credit: Simon Brook



# Call for Best Practice during the time of Confinement - to Share with Other Artists

How can we keep the show on the road? How can we reach out to others with our art? How can we uplift the spirit of our colleagues? How can we bring joy to those who need it most –the people serving the ill in the hospitals and homes, and the elderly and lost people?

If you have done actions with theatre, dance or any part of the performing arts that were well received and that others could do as well? Please let us know about it. If you have started an action that could include other people from the performing arts community that is valuable, please let us offer it to others over the ITI Newsletter.

If the Covid-19 tells us to change our habits and daily life, let's find other ways to reach out to others – without any danger in it.

Whoever would like to write to the General Secretariat is welcome to do it. Please send us an email to <u>info@iti-worldwide.org</u>

Photo Credit: Fujairah Monodrama Festival



# Tobias Biancone interviewed by The Stage UK: Isolation is never the answer to anything. Never give up!

Tobias Biancone, Director General of ITI, has been interviewed for the prestigious UK journal The Stage by Nick Awde, Co-President of the UK Centre of ITI and culture journalist. >>To have access to the complete interview, please click here.





The feedback that we received from the Centres, Cooperating Members, Partner Organizations and friends of ITI was like an avalanche of passion for theatre, for theatre artists – for all those who dedicate their life for the work on stage. On behalf of ITI and all its entities – I would like to send everybody a heartfelt, strong thank you.

All the contribution to World Theatre Day can be found on the website <u>www.world-theatre-day.org</u>. Just click on the link and check <u>https://www.world-theatre-day.org/mainevent.html</u>

A fantastic amount of translations, messages, information, happy world theatre messages that we received are uplifting our spirit and empowering us. Please have a look.

(If something is missing, please let us know: wtd(at)iti-worldwide.org and we put it on the website.)

Let's continue to create a positive effect and encourage our colleagues and friends all over the world.



Gregory Vuyani MAQOMA, dancer, choreographer & educator from South Africa is the International Dance Day Message Author for 2020

Celebrate International Dance Day 2020 with translating the message into your country's languages and sending us a VIDEO of your country's version of Gregory MAQOMA's message

#### International Dance Day

Dear friend, dear colleague, dear dance lover

2020 is a year with even more challenges for the performing arts community all over the world.

Almost all the Centres of ITI are not able to celebrate **International Dance Day** with an event because of the outbreak of the Covid-19 virus. Therefore, the General Secretariat Team of ITI initiates that all the members and friends **celebrate International Dance Day 2020 - online.** 

We encourage all the Centres, Cooperating Members, any members and friends of ITI to send a video (preferably in MP4-Format) to CHEN Simin of the General Secretariat of ITI as soon as possible. Her email address is <u>chen.simin@iti-worldwide.org</u>.

The content of the video may vary:

- Someone reading the message in the country's language; a short dance fragment for the International Dance Day message, or any creative performance which appropriately interpreted the message for IDD.
- Or: Simply "Happy International Dance Day" short self-video to share your enthusiasm, your wish for the future of dance or any kind of message that bring light and joy that we need in these difficult times.

The General Secretariat of ITI will collect your videos, edit them (if necessary) and share them to the world on the IDD website. Additionally, the General Secretariat will promote your videos in the more frequently published Newsletter.

After formatting, we will send you the edited video and the link so that you can send it to all your members in your country and put it the link on your institution's website.

Let's be especially active in this particular period. Let's share the beautiful message by **Gregory Maqoma**. Let's show everybody that we can celebrate dance and their value and that no virus can stop us from doing this.

Let's be united in this action for the benefit of each and everybody who loves dance and shares our values for a culturally rich and peaceful world.

We look forward to receiving your video(s)!

Best regards

The General Secretariat Team of ITI

Attached is the message Gregory Maqoma in English and French. International Dance Day Message 2020 by Gregory MAQOMA in English (original) in PDF and Word Message de la Journée Internationale de la Danse 2020 de Gregory MAQOMA en français (traduction) en PDF et Word Biography Gregory MAQOMA in English as PDF and Word Biographie Gregory MAQOMA en français (traduction) en PDF et Word Photo Gregory MAQOMA (jpg) How to Celebrate International Dance Day in English in PDF Comment célébrer la Journée Internationale de la Danse en français en PDF

Photo Credit: Alon Skuy

**Indian Centre of ITI** 



#### **IAPAR International Theatre Festival 2020 - Application Deadline Extended**

As the IAPAR International Theatre Festival enters into its fifth year, the thrust to keep the 'Actor at the Centre', has been infinitely rewarding. In the current socio-political-cultural situation worldwide, there are many voices which need a representation, hence the decision to focus the festival on 'Marginalised Narratives'.

Wars and dissent, political hegemony, migration and instability, smothering of expression and artistic endeavours and many such agencies, are making ours a polarised world. No ready answers and solutions are available, to vent the unrest and dichotomy of thoughts that is thrown up.

The least, then, that can be expected, is to make available a platform to express these concerns and lend an ear to these 'stories'. By this attempt we hope to lead up a new path, while definitely creating a fruitful ambience, to be heard and seen.

The IAPAR international Festival 2020 invites applications under the umbrella of 'Marginalised Narratives'.

Art has a reputation of being created in the midst of difficulty.

In light of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis worldwide, please note that our original deadline for application has been extended to 15 April 2020.

We understand that this crisis has put everyone around the world at high risk and caused major and minor problems or inconveniences. It is our sincere wish that this extension eases pressure on those interested in sending applications. We look forward to receiving your entry and would also like to appreciate your dedication in continuing to work for art in these difficult times. We hope that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy.

For more details about the festival, you may visit www.festival.iapar.in

Send us an email on <u>iapar.festival@gmail.com</u> for the detailed application form or call on +91 77750 52719 to know more.

As we gear up while social distancing, we look forward to a festival of good art and enduring spirit this November. Until then, please take care and stay safe!

Warm regards, IAPAR International Theatre Festival, Indian Centre of ITI & International Association for Performing Arts and Research (IAPAR)

African Regional Council of ITI - African Centres of ITI



#### Call for Applications 2nd Edition "Emerging Scenes in Africa"

The African Regional Council of the International Theatre Institute (CRAIIT) and the Ghanaian Centre of ITI are launching the second edition of the "Emerging Scenes in Africa", which will take place in Accra (Ghana), from **18 to 27 September 2020.** 

This second edition will offer seven (07) training workshops which will be open to 100 professional participants, young practitioners, students, in the arts, both men and women.

These seven workshops are: physical theatre, Chinese theatre, choreographic creation, sound creation, lighting creation, visual arts, and scenography.

This edition will also feature a round table on the theme "Market for the Performing Arts: How to Sell the African Live Performance", a master class on artificial intelligence, and performances of shows.

>>To apply for this call for applications, please click here

Application deadline: 30 April 2020

Contact: <a href="mailto:scenesemergentes@gmail.com">scenesemergentes@gmail.com</a>



#### Theater für Zuhause (Theatre for Staying at Home) – Offered by Thalia Theater Hamburg

At the moment, all of us miss a lot – social life, the real contact with people, the experience of culture, true theatre. To ease this the Thalia Theater of Hamburg, member of the German Centre, shows new forms and pre-recorded performances, every evening from 7 pm. Each performance is available for 24 hours. You will find current performances as highlights from the past. Most of the performances may be in German, but check it yourself:

Main link: <u>https://www.thalia-theater.de/startseite/thaliadigital-therestismissing/</u> Website Thalia Theater: <u>https://www.thalia-theater.de</u> Easter 2020 Programme:

- Saturday, 11 April: Die Tragödie von Romeo und Julia, Regie Jette Steckel, 2 hours
- Sunday, 12 April: **Faust I** Johann Wolfgang von Goethe Regie Nicolas Stemann, 3 hours
- Monday, 13 April; Faust II Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Regie Nicolas Stemann 3:55 hours



#### Theater der Welt – Theatre of the World: Postponed to 2021

The German Centre of ITI informs us that the international Festival "Theater der Welt" and all its activities from 14 to 31 May 2020 in Düsseldorf have been cancelled due to the outbreak of Covid-19. The event has been postponed to June 2021. Artistic Director Stefan Schmidtke: "We have a duty to our international artists and are glad to be able to offer all the participants this view forward. Now we are approaching a 2021 festival with optimism."

Contact: info@iti-germany.de



#### **IPAC - Intercultural Performing Arts Cie**



#### VoiceLAB: A Laboratory Dedicated to the Voice and the Polyphony

After the success of the **Ateliers de l'Acteur**'s training program (2018-2019), in collaboration with the Grotowski Institute and the actors of Teatr ZAR, the Intercultural Performing Arts Cie is pleased to announce a new program, focusing on the Voice, for professional actors and singers: VoiceLAB.

Between September 2020 and March 2021, a group of 20 people will take part to 6 sessions (weekends) + 1 intensive week lead by the actors-singers of the Grotowski Institute & Teatr ZAR: Aleksandra Kotecka et Tomasz Wierzbowski. The sessions will take place at the Micadanse Studio in Paris.

VoiceLAB is a laboratory of the voice. The laboratory approach allows the participants to reach deep into the nature of their own voice, not stopping on the surface that is usually set by presentation-related objectives. Deeper work with the voice lets one get to know this instrument better and gain better control over it. It allows for a calm and profound process of exploring one's voice, with its anatomy and psychology. This kind of work allows to discover its full potential.

Working with three-part material, we will aspire to a situation where each part is sung by one person. We know that this model of work is very challenging. Working with the breath, with harmony and vibration, as well as with associations and imagination, we wish to equip the participants with a subjective key to achieve objective goals.

However, VoiceLab is not a closed laboratory. We wish to confront the focused laboratory work with a formula of performative tasks: open rehearsals, work demonstrations and micro-concerts – in order to leave our comfort zones, work through whatever lays beyond them, and learn something more about the voice: how it changes when it's listened to.

Deadline for registration: 10 June 2020

Contact: <u>hello@ipac-cie.com</u>

More information: About the Laboratory: IPAC VoiceLAB Program EN & FR Leaflet Voicelab FR About IPAC (Intercultural Performing Arts Cie

**Partner Organizations** 



#### **Opera Europa – New Member of the Partner Organizations**

It is with great pleasure to announce to you the newest Partner Organization into the cohort of the organizations around the International Theatre Institute. Here is the description of Opera Europa: Opera Europa was constituted as the professional association for opera companies and festivals in Europe in 2002. Today, it encompasses 207 member theatres in 43 countries, several of them beyond Europe. It promotes regular events in different member countries to foster collaboration and share expertise, and in recent years has launched initiatives designed to advance the cultural, educational and social benefits of opera worldwide, such as the digital streaming platform OperaVision, the World Opera Forum and World Opera Day.

More information you find on their website: <u>https://opera-europa.org/home</u> <u>https://operavision.eu/en</u>

Opera Europa Events:

#### A. Opera Spring Conference Goes Virtual

28/29 May 2020 (Registration possible on this link: <u>https://opera-</u> europa.org/event/opera-europa-spring-conference-goes-virtual

# **B.** Joint Forum Meeting for AV & Digital Media, Education, Fundraising and Marketing & Communications

Following discussions with our members, and taking into account the impending travel restrictions, in agreement with Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb, we have decided to postpone our AUDIENCES joint forum meeting for the Marketing & Communication, Fundraising, Education and Audio-visual and Digital3 media forums planned later this month. Zagreb is happy to host the meeting next autumn, from **24 to 26 September 2020**.

>>For more information please click here



C. Information about World Opera Day (25 October) https://opera-europa.org/index.php/world-opera-day





#### ASSITEJ - International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People

#### Postponement of the 20th ASSITEJ World Congress & Performing Arts Festival / MIRAI 2020

We would like to express our sympathies to all those who are suffering from the new coronavirus and all those around the world whose lives have been affected by the spread of the infection.

We have been preparing for the 20th ASSITEJ World Congress scheduled for May. However, with the spread of coronavirus in many countries, and measures such as banning travel and suspension of VISAs, it has become difficult for participants such as theatre companies and researchers from around the world to travel to Japan. In a situation where global participation is physically impossible, we have no choice but to determine that it will also be impossible to hold the event as scheduled from May 14 to May 24, 2020.

ASSITEJ International and the ASSITEJ Japan Centre have been in repeated discussions, keeping an eye on the rapidly changing situation of Japan and the world. We deeply share the belief that the event is of great significance. We are convinced it will be a great and rare opportunity to experience the fascinating productions of the invited companies from around the world, together with other audiences in the theatre, and the feeling of crossing cultural boundaries. However, the threat of the coronavirus, which has evolved into a global pandemic, is far beyond what we can imagine and respond to. Under these circumstances, what matters most is the health and safety of everyone.

Thus, we make a joint statement here that the 20th ASSITEJ World Congress & Performing Arts Festival / MIRAI will be unavoidably postponed, most likely to the second half of March 2021.

>>For full information please click here



**IATC - International Association of Theatre Critics – Congress in Bratislava** The General Secretariat of IATC has announced that their 30th Congress in May

2020, in Bratislava, Slovakia, has been cancelled due to the Covid-19 outbreak. The Congress is now planned to happen in Bratislava as well during the New Drama Festival 10 - 16 May 2021.

More information: <u>https://aict-iatc.org/en/</u> Contact: <u>contact@aict-iatc.org</u>

#### WMO – World Mime Organization



#### Invitation to all performing artists: #artistsagainstcorona

The #artistsagainstcorona initiative became a global campaign on Facebook and Instagram and other social networks. We have more and more colleagues posting free artistic content so that people around the world would spend quality time at home in (self) isolation as the only prevention from the Covid-19 virus and the pandemic we are all faced with.

Many of the theatres and theatre companies have posted videos entire theatre plays. Our campaign is being localised in different languages and we had a huge success in Serbia with the hashtag and Facebook group #umetniciprotivkorone with 2500 members in less than a week and more than 10.000 posts, comments and reactions. The #umetniciprotivkorone Facebook group has become a central point for all that want to enjoy shared free artistic content. All the national media have promoted this campaign for free.

Other localised hashtags and Facebook groups/pages: English: #artistsagainstcorona https://www.facebook.com/groups/498880847462818/ Serbian: #umetniciprotivkorone https://www.facebook.com/groups/2915161935209567/ Italian: #artisticontroilcorona https://www.facebook.com/groups/778426539229922/ Portuguese: #artistascontraocorona https://www.facebook.com/artistascontraocorona/ Indonesian: #senimanmelawancorona https://www.facebook.com/groups/208927417000684/ Polish: #artyscikontrakoronawirus https://www.facebook.com/artistsagainstcorona/

Please join this extremely valuable effort to help the uplift the spirit of people around the world so that they are able to survive during this pandemic with the help of performing and other artists. The World Mime Organisation is the initiator of this campaign in collaboration with ITI. It does not cost anything but it will bring people joy and positive thinking and also help artists be and feel useful even though artists are in a very difficult situation being without work at the moment. Please join this global online campaign!

President ITI worldwide / Tobias Biancone, Director General ITI worldwide



For more information please write to Marko Stojanović president@worldmime.org

Photo Credit: Dara Gravara Stojanović

Calls



The International Conference for Cultural Leaders



#### **Conference Communicating the Arts – The Art of Placemaking**

22 to 24 June 2020 in Lausanne/Switzerland

This year, Lausanne in Switzerland will host Agenda's leading arts conference Communicating the Arts (CTA). Taking place over three days, more than 250 of the world's leading professionals from visual and performing arts will gather at CTA from 22 to 24 June to discuss the latest trends, learnings and best practices in the cultural sector. This is a unique opportunity to meet the key decision-makers and experts in the cultural sector from all over the world.

The theme of this year's edition of CTA is the 'art of placemaking', which will be explored through a series of interactive case studies, keynotes and round table discussions. Each session is designed to help participants better understand the growing contribution that cultural organisations are making to our cities and people's everyday lives.

CTA is delighted to offer ITI members a preferred rate to attend the conference.

<u>Please register here</u> using the code CTALAU\_ITI to benefit from a 20% discount. >>To have more information and to have access to the press release click here and a >>brochure click here



# We are with you!

Did you miss an ITI Newsletter? Do you search for information that you found in an ITI Newsletter and cannot find it anymore? Well, that should not be a problem for you. There is a section on the ITI website where you can find the past ITI Newsletters: >>Here is the link to this archive



### >>If you want to receive the newsletter in French, please click here

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