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

Dear Members and Friends of ITI, dear Readers,

March is a month filled with vibrant activities celebrating World Theatre Day, observed annually on 27 March since 1962. This year, the Main Event will take place from 27 to 30 March in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The celebration, held in Brazil, showcases global performances, emphasizes artists' rights, and strengthens South America's ITI connection through workshops, panels, and discussions on theatre and cultural development.

A key highlight is the World Theatre Day Message, delivered by renowned theatre director Theodoros Terzopoulos. A teaser of the short film presentation of his message is now available, with the full video set for release on 27 March 2025.

Global Celebrations & ITI Centre Initiatives
Beyond the main event in Brazil, World Theatre Day 2025 will be celebrated globally, with events organized by the Austrian Centre, the Georgian Centre, the Luxembourg Centre, and many more, all featured on the Worldwide Celebration Map.

A Landmark ITI Production at Holland Festival 2025
As we celebrate World Theatre Day, ITI proudly marks a milestone in artistic exchange: *Star Returning*, performed by Yi ethnic artists from China and directed by Lemi Ponifasio, has been invited to Holland Festival 2025, making it the first ITI production featured at this prestigious festival. The European premiere will take place at Amare Danstheater on 25 & 26 June 2025. >> Click here to visit the official website.

Rooted in traditional rituals, dance, and song, *Star Returning* offers a profound reflection on ancestral wisdom and contemporary existence. The production embodies ITI's vision of bridging tradition and innovation, integrating ancestral rituals into contemporary theatre to inspire global dialogue and artistic exchange.

ITI members and Centres are warmly invited. For further information, please contact info@iti-worldwide.org.

We are also pleased to highlight two initiatives from ITI Centres:

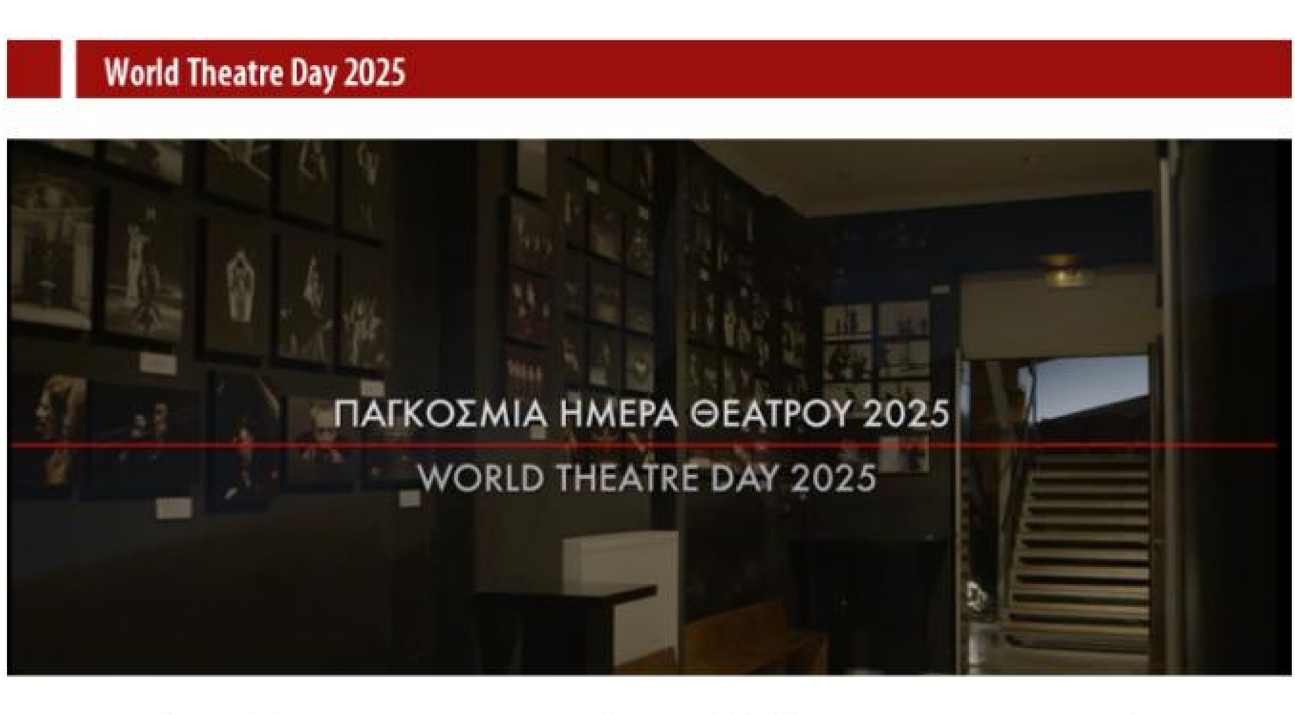
1. The 5th Edition of the PLUM'ART-Z 2025 International Theatre Competition, organized by the Congo Republic Centre of ITI.
2. The Guest House event at The Week of Slovenian Drama Festival, hosted by the Slovenian Centre of ITI.

For further inquiries, please contact info@iti-worldwide.org. To submit news, email news@iti-worldwide.org.

With warm regards,

Tobias Biancone
Director-General of ITI

World Theatre Day 2025



Teaser: Short Film Presentation of the World Theatre Day Message by Theodoros Terzopoulos

A powerful cinematic interpretation of the World Theatre Day 2025 Message, this short film captures the essence of Theodoros Terzopoulos' vision through striking imagery and evocative locations in Athens.

A co-production of the International Theatre Institute and the Cyprus Centre of the International Theatre Institute, the film immerses the audience in the profound message of World Theatre Day. The production of the short film was undertaken by Long Run Productions (specialising in documentary production, archive research and cultural social media campaigns) and was directed by Nikos Pastras (awarded director and editor of short, documentary and feature films).

Filming Locations in Athens: A Symbolic Choice
Each filming site -archaeological and non- was carefully selected to enhance the meaning and impact of the Message, highlighting the connection between theatre and world cultural heritage, starting with Greece as the birthplace:

- Theatre of Dionysus Eleuthereus, Odeon of Herodes Atticus & Ancient Agora of Athens (Acropolis Hill) – A tribute to the origins of theatre and its deep connection with the city.
- Attis Theatre – Terzopoulos' personal artistic space, where his voice finds its natural resonance, capturing a more intimate and intellectual perspective.

Film Details & Premiere
Language: Greek (with English subtitles)
Duration: 5 minutes, 7 seconds
Premiere Date: March 27, 2025
Where to Watch: YouTube channels of the International Theatre Institute ITI and the Cyprus Centre of ITI
(With English subtitles / With Greek subtitles / Original version without subtitles)
For adding subtitles in other languages, please contact info@iti-worldwide.org for further details.

This visually compelling and thought-provoking short film will serve as a centrepiece of the World Theatre Day 2025 Celebration, marking a profound moment in the global theatre community.

Stay tuned for its **official release on March 27**!

>> Click here to view the Teaser.

unesco
WORLD THEATRE DAY
27 - 30 MARCH
RIO DE JANEIRO | BRAZIL
DIA MUNDIAL DO TEATRO

World Theatre Day 2025 Main Celebration 27 – 30 March 2025, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

The International Theatre Institute (ITI) is thrilled to announce the World Theatre Day 2025 Main Celebration, taking place from March 27 to 30 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Since its establishment on March 27, 1962, World Theatre Day has been ITI's flagship event, bringing together theatre enthusiasts worldwide to honor the cultural significance of the performing arts.

This landmark celebration, held under the patronage of UNESCO and co-organized by ITI and the Brazilian Centre of ITI, will showcase an exciting lineup of performances from Brazil, South Korea, China, Thailand, Chile, and more. The event will emphasize artists' rights and strengthening the connection between South America and ITI, alongside workshops, panels, and discussions on key topics such as artistic legacy, cultural heritage, employment opportunities in theatre, and the role of international collaborations in social development.

A video of the Dialogues and Gala Night will be available online following the event.

The Short Film presentation of the World Theatre Day Message by Theodoros Terzopoulos will be released during the Gala Night. >> Click here to view the detailed programme.

For more information about the four-day celebration schedule, visit the official website.

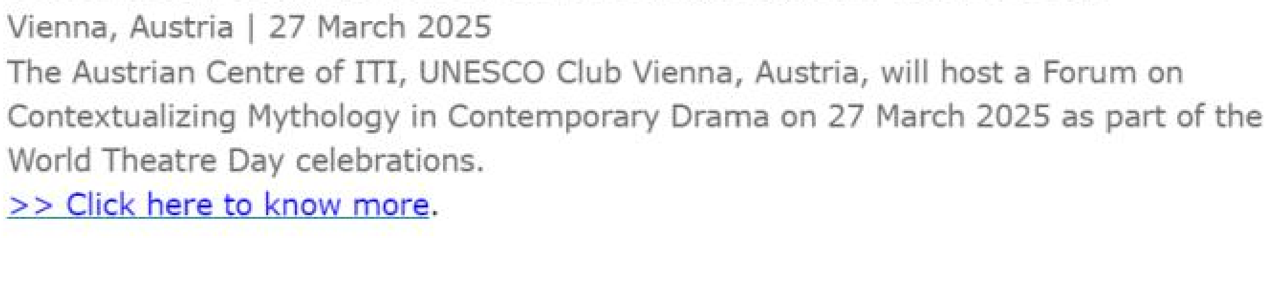
Japanese
Arabic
Hindi
language
Persian
Vietnamese
Korean
Thai
French
Cantonese
Czech
Norwegian
Greek
Bulgarian
Ukrainian
Polish
Mandarin
German
Spanish
Portuguese
Russian
Italian
Romanian
Hungarian
Swedish
English

World Theatre Day 2025 Message Translations

The World Theatre Day 2025 Message by Theodoros Terzopoulos has been translated into more than 16 languages. >> Click here to read the Message in various languages.

We encourage further translations to make the Message accessible to a wider audience.
Once translated, please send the document to the General Secretariat of ITI at wtd@iti-worldwide.org. Upon receipt, we will promptly feature it on the World Theatre Day website.
To check if a translation is already in progress, please contact your country's ITI Centre (www.iti-worldwide.org/centres.html) or reach out to the General Secretariat at wtd@iti-worldwide.org.

World Theatre Day 2025 Celebration by ITI Centres


The God Game
Hawks and Nightingales
Inspired by Hesiod's epic poem "Works and Days - Myth of Ages"
Monodrama
by Fran Eve Wright
unesco
FORUM
ITI WORLD THEATRE DAY 2025
Contextualizing Mythology in Contemporary Drama
WTD Message written by Theodoros Terzopoulos
The God Game: Hawks and Nightingales
Reading of Excerpts by Gerhard Leixl
Atelier Leixl, 27th March 2025 at 18:00

World Theatre Day 2025 Celebration by the Austrian Centre of ITI

Vienna, Austria | 27 March 2025
The Austrian Centre of ITI, UNESCO Club Vienna, Austria, will host a Forum on Contextualizing Mythology in Contemporary Drama on 27 March 2025 as part of the World Theatre Day celebrations.
>> Click here to know more.

World Theatre Day 2025 Celebration by the Georgian Centre of ITI

Sokhumi State Theatre in Tbilisi, Georgia | 27 March 2025

The Georgian Centre of ITI, led by its President David Sakvarelidze, will host a World Theatre Day 2025 celebration at the Sokhumi State Theatre in Tbilisi. The event will feature the official announcement of the World Theatre Day Message, including a screening of the video message by Theodoros Terzopoulos and its Georgian translation.

As part of the celebration, the President of ITI Georgia will present membership certificates to various Georgian theatres.

For the first time, the Georgian Centre of ITI will posthumously honor two distinguished figures for their lifelong contributions to the performing arts and their dedication to humanistic values:
Temur Chkheidze (1943–2022) – Renowned stage director, actor, and professor, founder of the Temur Chkheidze School for actors, directors, playwrights, and stage designers. More details
Rezo Gabriadze (1936–2021) – Puppeteer, theatre and film writer, honorary President of UNIMA Georgia, and founder of the Tbilisi State Marionette Theatre. More details

Livestream: The event will be broadcast live on the ITI Georgian Centre's Facebook page: ITI Georgia

COUP DE PROJECTEUR SUR
LES ARTS DE LA SCÈNE
THEATER FEDERATIOUN
EDITION 2025
20.-27.03

World Theatre Day 2025 Celebration by the Luxembourg Centre of ITI

Bonnevoie, Luxembourg | 20 - 27 March 2025

The THEATER FEDERATIOUN, Luxembourg Centre of ITI is hosting "Coup de projecteur sur les arts de la scene "(spotlight on the performing arts) between 20 March, World Theatre Day for Children and Young People, and 27 March, World Theatre Day.
>> Click here to view the full programme.

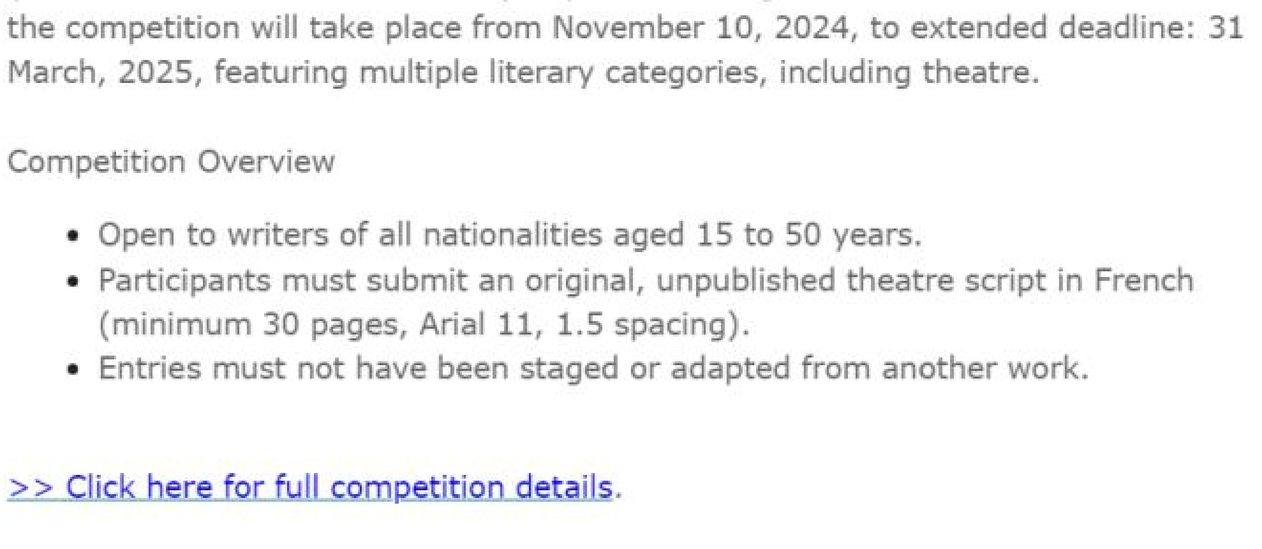
Worldwide Events of the World Theatre Day 2025

Planning a special event for World Theatre Day? We want to hear from you! Share your event details, including time, venue, and program, by emailing us at wtd@iti-worldwide.org. We'll showcase your event on our virtual map at www.world-theatre-day.org/worldwideevents.html.

Should any queries arise, feel free to reach us at wtd@iti-worldwide.org.

ITI Centres

Congo Republic Centre of ITI



Call for the 5th Edition of the PLUM'ART-Z 2025 International Theatre Competition
Submission Deadline Extended: 31 March 2025

The PLUM'ART-Z International Literary Prize is an initiative by A.P.E.C.A.A. (Association culturelle Plum'art-Z) to promote Congolese writers. The fifth edition of the competition will take place from November 10, 2024, to extended deadline: 31 March, 2025, featuring multiple literary categories, including theatre.

Competition Overview

- Open to writers of all nationalities aged 15 to 50 years.
- Participants must submit an original, unpublished theatre script in French (minimum 30 pages, Arial 11, 1.5 spacing).
- Entries must not have been staged or adapted from another work.

>> Click here for full competition details.

Slovenian Centre of ITI

ODER STAGE
Slovenski Center ITI
TEDEN
The Week of Slovenian Drama
www.tsd.si
DRAME
SLOVENSKE
PREŠERNOVOGLEDALIŠČE
2025

The Week of Slovenian Drama Festival

April 2, 2025, at 6:00 PM CET | Kranj, Slovenia

GUEST HOUSE
A Platform for Current International Topics
SUSTAINABLE THEATRE – A Challenge of Our Time

Moderator: Tatjana Ažman, dramaturge, head of the Slovenian Centre ITI and Director of the Cultural Institute Oder/Stage, Ljubljana.

The Oder Cultural Institute/Slovenian Centre of ITI, in collaboration with The Week of Slovenian Drama Festival, will host "GUEST HOUSE – A Platform for Current International Topics" on April 2, 2025, in Kranj, Slovenia, focusing on Sustainable Theatre – A Challenge of Our Time. Organized by Cultural Institute Oder/Slovenian Centre ITI, in partnership with Theatre Green Book and the Opera Europa network, the event will feature leading experts, including Iphigenia Taxopoulou (Greece), Lučka Kajfež Bogataj (Slovenia), Laura Sedgwick (UK), Adam Bures (Czech Republic), Mike Van Graan (South Africa), and Tamara Bračič (Slovenia), with Tatjana Ažman as the moderator.

The event will be conducted in English, the hybrid event will be available for online audiences, with possible livestreaming updates shared on the festival's web and social media pages.

>> Click here for more information

ITI Newsletter April 2025

Please send the information that you want to have published in the in the April edition of the Newsletter by **14 April**. The Newsletter will be distributed around 21 April. Please send royalty-free pictures, text, and logos to news@iti-worldwide.org. If you use a picture of a photographer, add the name of the creator of the photo.

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

>>ITI Website

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

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