

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PROFESSIONAL TRAINING IN PUPPET THEATRE

The project of the Professional Training Commission (Irina Niculescu's idea) is to make an International Conference on Training, bringing together artists and teachers to discuss and exchange their ideas and experience of professional training in the arts of puppetry.

Since the 1970s, puppet theatre experienced several profound changes

- **a new status of the puppeteer** viewed as a stage artist who masters a diversity of performing skills such as acting, dance, music, a variety of traditional puppetry techniques and the ability to invent new puppets and new techniques
- **the opening of the traditional puppet booth to the big space**, which brought the puppet and the puppeteer next to each other, changed the poetics of space, and gave birth to a new relation between the puppet and the puppeteer
- **crossing borders**: the intertwining of puppetry with other performing arts and the creation of new dramaturgies
- a new approach to matter (material) and form and their dramatic potential

This new approach to puppetry required new skills and gave birth to a diversity of professional training structures and programs teaching the arts of puppetry, from higher education (university training) to independent theatre schools, workshop programs, master classes, and training inside theatre companies.

What are the missions of the different types of programs? What students do we wish for our schools? What are the criteria for auditions? What are the challenges of today training, the victories, the failures, the doubts, the questioning?

What kind of training do we envision for the future?

GUESTS / SPEAKERS

- university professors of puppetry arts
- program founders/directors who have an interesting vision on training
- stage directors who are also teaching and have a personal vision on training
- master performers who are teaching and have a personal vision on training

WHEN and WHERE: in the I.I.M. in Charleville-Mezieres, France, September 2015, during the World Festival of Puppet Theatre.

LENGTH: 3 days - 5 sessions (mornings and afternoons)

1. PROGRAM

3 mornings: individual presentations – number of speakers to be discussed

2 afternoons: open discussions between chosen guests and the public

2 evenings: video presentations with wine and friendship

2. PUBLICATION

The conference will have as a result the publication of a book containing the articles and public debates taking place during the three days.

³⁵₁₇ The annual puppet theatre review MOIN MOIN published by Ninibel Valmor Beltrame at the University of Santa Catarina (Florianopolis, Brazil) will dedicate the 2015 issue to the conference.