



## Research Commission

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The Research Commission was quiet at the beginning of last year due to illness but now we are involved in several projects.

1. The RC's plan for 2023 is to hold an international conference called **"European Puppetry Tradition – Is It Still Alive?"** (3rd November 2023, Minor Theatre, Prague). The co-organisers are the Research Institute of Alternative and Puppet Theatre and Theatre in Special Needs Groups at the Theatre Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (CZ), the Association for the Support of Puppetry Traditions (CZ), and Loutkář/Puppeteer Magazine (CZ). The research focus is to map the current situation of the puppetry tradition in Europe, and the output of this international conference will be a peer-reviewed bilingual collection (to be published in 2024). We have applied for financial support from the Czech Ministry of Culture and are awaiting the result.
2. We also slowly continue developing the world database of researchers in puppetry (collecting new names and editing contact details of known ones).
3. During 2023 we plan to revive our plan for linked practice-based research residencies at different centres around the globe.
4. We are collaborating with the launch of the new English-language peer-reviewed journal of puppetry. The editor will be Claudia Orenstein and the RC is part of the advisory group.
5. We are also part of the advisory group for the Puppetplays project run by Didier Plassard at the University of Montpellier in France.
6. We are planning a publication on refugee and migrant puppetry plays and writings.
7. We are planning a series of online research presentations to be publicised across UNIMA and more widely.