

International Collaboration to Propel Innovation in Contemporary Theatre: ShortStories Project Unveiled

[Karlovac, Croatia, 2/5/2024] - The forthcoming collaboration between three esteemed International puppet festivals in Croatia, Serbia, and Italy marks a groundbreaking endeavor to bridge cultures and push the boundaries of contemporary theatre. Stemming from a shared vision to intertwine diverse artistic expressions, this collaborative effort between International Puppet Theatre Festival Karlovac - InPuT Fest (Karlovac, Croatia), Zlatna iskra (Kragujevac, Serbia) and The International Festival of Puppets and Figures Arrivano dal Mare! (Ravenna, Italy) will showcase the innovative prowess of The Dirtz Theatre, renowned for their fusion of contemporary dance and puppetry.

The genesis of the project lies in the aspiration to foster connections among the three festivals and promote The Dirtz Theatre's distinctive art form, which infuses puppetry with dance to create a captivating new dimension of performance. Recognizing the underrepresentation of this unique art blend in their respective regions, the festivals unanimously selected The Dirtz Theatre's production, "ShortStories," for its ability to resonate with diverse audiences and professionals alike.

"ShortStories" stands as a trilogy of evocative performances at the confluence of contemporary dance, physical theater, and puppetry. Each piece delves into themes of identity, aging, and interdependence, inviting audiences on a transformative journey through a poetic realm of metamorphosis.



The project's significance extends beyond artistic innovation, aiming to introduce ShortStories and The Dirtz Theatre to audiences across Southern and Eastern Europe, each with its distinct cultural tapestry. By facilitating cross-cultural exchanges and collaboration, the project seeks to nurture a vibrant network of artistic communities, fostering creativity and innovation on a transnational scale.

Planned activities within the residency encompass a spectrum of engagements, including workshops, symposiums, and performances, all designed to stimulate dialogue and exploration at the intersection of dance, puppetry, and physical theater. Moreover, the creation of multilingual documentation ensures accessibility and dissemination of the project's insights and achievements.

The program will be as followed:

16th of May: workshop, Puppet Physical Theater, Zlatna iskra, Kragujevac, Serbia

17th of May: performance of ShortStories, Zlatna iskra, Kragujevac, Serbia

21st of May: workshop, Puppet Physical Theater Workshop, INPUT Festival, Karlovac, Croatia

22nd of May: performance of ShortStories, INPUT Festival, Karlovac, Croatia

24th of May: workshop, Puppet Physical Theater Workshop, Figure arrivano dal Mare, Ravenna Italy

25th of May: performance of ShortStories, Figure arrivano dal Mare, Ravenna Italy

"We envision the ShortStories project as a catalyst for cultural exchange and artistic evolution," remarked Lucija Prstec Smolčec, artistic producer of the International Puppet Theatre Festival Karlovac, the lead organizer of the initiative. "Through this collaboration, we aim to not only showcase the brilliance of The Dirtz Theatre but also foster lasting connections and inspire future collaborations within the European artistic landscape."

Central to the project's success is the shared responsibility among the leading and partner festivals, each assuming distinct roles in the project's execution. From organizing workshops and discussions to hosting performances and crafting comprehensive reports, the collaborative effort underscores a commitment to collective growth and mutual enrichment.

As the curtains rise on this ambitious venture, the ShortStories project promises to leave an indelible legacy, uniting diverse audiences and artists in a celebration of creativity and cultural exchange.



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About The Dirtz Theatre:

<https://www.dirtztheatre.com>

About the International Puppet Festivals:

<http://www.pozoristezadecu.com/en/golden-sparkle/>

<https://www.arrivanodalmare.it/en/il-festival-nuova/>

About the Leading Festival:

<https://www.zorin-dom.hr/input-festival/>