Circostrada Network

Street Arts AND CIrcus: Encouraging European COOPERATION Prjects

E U R O F

European cooperation projects in the circus and street arts have been on the rise in recent years. This new tendency shows cultural actors' desire to work together on the European level and to invest themselves in sturdy and long lasting partnerships.

Circostrada Network presents here the projects taking place in 2012 within the European Union. The goal is to help these sectors identify current networks and projects, to promote the opportunities available to (future) professionals of circus and street arts and to emphasise different community-related grants. The diversity of the supported projects proves the vitality of our sector and its needs, whilst also accentuating their commitment in contributing to the objectives set by the European Union.

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This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication [communication] reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein. HorsLeshurs is the French national information centre for street arts and circus arts. Created in 1993 by the trada Network, European platform for the street arts and circus dedicated to information, observation and professional exchanges. Representing 52 members from 17 countries, the network is working to develop the structuring and recognition of these sectors in Europe.

Circus and Street Arts: Encouraging European cooperation projects

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With this publication, we hope to show the richness of these projects and to help give them an increased level of exposure. By bringing them together in a single document, our goal is also to offer a general overview of European cooperation initiatives in the fields of circus and street arts.

With subjects ranging from the issues surrounding artistic training, to the production or distribution of works, to the question of spreading artistic influence across territorial borders, these projects cover a particularly large field and bring together a large number of partners. While many of them are supported by the European Commission, they are not only funded by the Culture programme, but also receive support from other programmes with widely varying objectives (including education programmes and several for regional development).

However, despite this diversity of nature, content and funding, the projects have certain characteristics in common. First of all, they are committed to employing professionals and artists from different practices and cultures. Each project is thus, by the logistics of its operation, enriched through contact with the realities of different countries. The projects also work, each in their own way, toward greater structuring within the European circus and street arts fields. Regardless of the nature or length of the project, each puts into place cooperative tools and apparatuses to structure the professional landscape.

Finally, artistic recognition for the circus and street arts is without a doubt the major preoccupation and ultimate goal that is seen in all of the projects. The European dimension of the networks in place and the activities proposed reinforces the legitimacy of these artistic forms at the local and national levels and, in certain cases, this dimension can have a decisive effect on public policies.

ARTICULATE

ARTICULATE (Artists, Industry & Communities Collaborate in Looking to the Future of Europe) is a European cultural cooperation project initiated by SeaChange Arts (Great Yarmouth, UK) in partnership with De Spil (Belgium), Deventer on Stilts (Netherlands) and Usines Boinot, Centre National des Arts de la Rue in Poitou-Charentes (France).

This project will gather four cultural structures from four European countries, which will together develop an innovative cross-border cooperation in the field of arts in the public space in order to explore the links between culture, communities and industry, referring especially to street arts.

Sharing the same vision of supporting artistic creation in direct contact with a place's inhabitants, these four partners wished to create a communal working space in order to give birth to a multiform project that brought together the energy of artists and European citizens.

Against the background of a Europe confronted by major socio-economic changes (loss of industrial employment, the growing gap between communities, fear of the other), ARTICULATE invites artists and inhabitants to redefine the link between industry and artistic creation and to reinvent the outlines of a courageous, creative and open-minded Europe.

Objectives

> Encourage the mobility of artistic companies on a European scale,

> Develop new models of cooperation in Europe,

> Involve the inhabitants of territories participating in the project,

> Initiate a sustainable collaboration between the four partners of the project,

> Explore innovative ways of creating a new artistic universe with the participation of industry and local communities.

Actions

 $\,>\,$ Artistic residency exchanges in England, the Netherlands, Belgium and France,

> Specific creation work involving English, Dutch, Belgian and French artists and companies,

> Collaborative process with inhabitants,

> Artistic manifestations combining performances and installations in the territories that are involved with the project,

> Over two years, the progressive creation of a "new world" constructed by artists, inhabitants and industries from the four countries, a "new world" which will tour to the four partner festivals and which will get inspiration, as it moves along, from its travel.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: November 2012 – December 2014 European grant: 200 000 euros European programme: Culture Partners: SeaChange Arts (Angleterre), Les Usines Boinot (France), De Spil (Belgique), Deventer on Stilts (Pays-Bas)

CONTACE

Coordination of the project SeaChange Arts (UK): Joe@seachangearts.org.uk Contact France: Les Usines Boinot – CNAR en Poitou-Charentes administration@usines-boinot.fr Contact Belgium: De Spil, gwendolien.sabbe@despil.be Contact Netherlands: Deventer on Stilts, evenementen@vvvdeventer.nl

CARAVAN

The international association CARAVAN gathers nine youth and social circus schools from nine European countries. Its mission is to promote circus practices in youth education throughout Europe and to favour the development of circus education through such concrete actions as youth exchanges and training for trainers.

General objectives

> To contribute to the improvement of the quality of circus arts teaching with a formal and non-formal educational purpose in Europe,

> To promote the importance of the inclusion of artistic practices, including circus arts, in the education of young people throughout Europe,

> To support the personal development of young people, and to create pathways and raise their confidence in engaging with each other across Europe.

Specific objectives

> To professionalise the pedagogical, social, artistic and administrative skills of teachers and schools in terms of circus education,

> To promote the use of those skills in their work with young people across Europe.

To this end, CARAVAN determined to:

> Organise educational exchanges for young people by creating a volunteers exchange network and organising artistic and intercultural encounters,

> Organise exchanges designed for trainers: workshops, seminars, meetings, projects to be undertaken together, pedagogical exchanges,

> Organise exchanges designed for managers of circus schools: workshops, seminars, meetings, projects to be undertaken together, pedagogical exchanges,

> Develop certification tools between partners of the network in the field of circus arts training,

> Feed relevant information to, and influence, local, national and European governments.

Actions / Working programme

Even before CARAVAN was established, members met for two youth exchanges in 2007:

> In South America (spring 2007), in the framework of "Youth in the World",

> In Luxembourg (summer 2007), in the framework of the "European Capital of Culture 2007".

Since 2007, with the support of the EVS – The Way To European Understanding project and Eurodyssée, CARAVAN members have put in place an exchange network for volunteers to promote the mobility of young people between their institutions.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: permanent **European grant:** 148 000 euros

European programme: Leonardo

Members: Circus Elleboog (Netherlands), Ateneu Popular Nou Barris (Spain), Belfast Community Circus School (UK), Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles (Belgium), Zaltimbanq' (Luxembourg), Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde (France), Sorin Sirkus (Finland), PARADA Foundation (Romania)

Training for trainers

The Training for Trainers project is undertaken within the framework of the programme Youth in Action, sometimes with the support of Cirque du Soleil. Grundtvig workshops are also being put in place. These activities are open to non-CARAVAN members.

European recognition

At the start of 2011, the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) positively evaluated the quality and impact of the work of CARAVAN by recognising the association officially as an "active organisation in the youth sector on a European level". This recognition brings with it a yearly grant for core costs in the framework of the programme Jeunesse en Action, and allows CARAVAN to develop its activities with young people in the circus sector.

Leonardo da Vinci Partnership

CARAVAN members have embarked on a research project entitled "Youth and Social Circus Training. A New Spirit for Europe". Over the years, in Europe and in other parts of the world, circus has been developed as a tool that has many pedagogical assets and can be used to reach out to young people with special needs or fewer opportunities. The development of this rapidly growing social circus sector has led to a new profession: social circus teacher. It became necessary for the sector to move towards agreed standards of good practice. Thanks to this project, the CARAVAN members were able to prepare their social circus trainer competencies according to a European referential framework. This referential framework, officially presented in July 2011, was constructed on the base of methodological research conducted under the supervision of the department of Education Sciences of the University Libre in Brussels (ULB). It is based on the detailed analysis of several social circus projects that were undertaken by CARAVAN members and recorded both by means of a logbook and by direct observation of the projects in four cities: Brussels, Berlin, Amsterdam and Bagneux / Paris. The CARAVAN members will presently use this referential framework in order to develop and put in place the first European training for social circus teachers.

Leonardo Da Vinci programme – Transfer of innovation'

Encouraged by its previous success, in February 2012 CARAVAN submitted a new project in the framework of the Leonardo Da Vinci programme, "Transfer of innovation". If accepted, this two-year project will aim to create the first European training course for social circus trainers, based on the European referential framework detailing the competencies of social circus trainers.

CONTACT

CARAVAN c / o Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles 11, rue Picard 1000 Brussels – Belgium **Coordinator:** Laurent Beauthier **T.** +32 (0) 491 52 46 72 info@caravancircusnetwork.eu / www.caravancircusnetwork.eu

CC4EU Circus Culture for Europe

Four countries, four cultural identities, four organisations offering circus and theatre activities for children and teenagers. About 60 young girls and boys from Stuttgart (Germany), Brno (Czech Republic), Lodz (Poland) and Barcelona (Spain) have gathered together once a year, between 2010 and 2013, in each country. Each time they meet they are together for 10 days to learn more about each other and their countries, to share exercises and practices, and to develop and kick start further ideas for circus activities and cooperation.

The location in 2010 was Stuttgart, Germany. In 2011 the camp took place in Brno, Czech Republic. This year (2012) the camp will be prepared in Lodz, Poland, and in 2013 Barcelona, Spain will be the location for the final camp.

Circus Culture for Europe shall

- > Bring a sense of solidarity and develop tolerance among young people,
- > Promote, especially, social cohesion in the European Union,
- > Promote mutual understanding between young people in different countries,
- > Enrich young people through European cooperation.

Circus Culture for Europe pays particular attention to

- > The participation of young people in all steps of the project,
- > Multinational circus and theatre activities,
- > Integration of young people with special educational needs and a background of migration,
- > Intercultural learning at various locations,
- > The stimulation of social soft skills,
- > The integration of the daily living experiences of young people,
- > Its effects on the local social environment (and its opportunities).

The overriding goal is to bring together young people from four countries. Thanks to the time spent together, both during workshops and training sessions and in the time after, the young people have a unique opportunity to get to know each other. Another equally important aim is to use sport (circus arts as sport) as a tool to promote a healthy lifestyle. The project is based on integrating young people in activities provided during the exchange. Joint training and workshops give the young people the opportunity to learn from each other.

What is more, the working methods of the circus and theatre pedagogy are often non-verbal, and therefore assist participants in overcoming social barriers and behaving naturally. The most important outcome of the project is that it affects the participants directly and indirectly in the context of their local environment, including their family, circle of friends and school environment, as seeing the effects of the project can change people's perspectives on the qualities of non-formal education, or make them realise new possibilities for creative and useful leisure. Young people involved in the project train their skills year-round, motivated by the opportunity to meet with circus arts enthusiasts from different countries. Circus Culture for Europe will shortly have its seventh edition and will certainly continue engaging more and more young people, perhaps also bringing in those from non-European countries.

PRACEICAL INFORMAEION

Duration of the project: 2010 - 2013 European grant: pending European programme: Youth in Action

Members: Centrum Zaj Pozaszkolnych nr 1 w Łodzi (Poland), Stuttgarter Jugendhaus (Germany), Luzanky Stredisko Volneho, Casu (Czech Republic) and Formació i Circ Social - Ateneu Popular 9Barris (Spain)

CONTACT

Centrum Zajec

Pozaszkolnych nr 1 w Łodzi ul. Zawiszy Czarnego 39 91-818 Łódz Poland www.domkultury.com.pl

Circostrada Network

Circostrada Network is a European platform for information, research and professional exchange for the street arts and circus sectors.

Objectives

The objectives of Circostrada Network are to work towards the development and structuring of street arts and circus on the European scale and to advocate for their best working conditions. If these sectors are to demonstrate a high level of artistic dynamism throughout Europe, they need a space for exchange, cooperation, reflection and professional representation at the European level. Circostrada Network wishes to fulfil this need by contributing to the circulation of information within these artistic milieus, by advocating for meetings and cooperation between European professionals, and by carrying out joint actions to further the recognition of these new artistic forms. As a member of civil society, Circostrada Network wishes to provide and disseminate quality professional information to EU institutions, researchers and professionals of the cultural field, and regional and national policy-makers.

Priorities

> Obtain the intellectual and political recognition of these artforms and thus develop cultural policies and strategies in favour of these sectors at EU and (sub-)national levels,

> Advocate for the best conditions for these artistic and cultural expressions to flourish and increase their participation in the European project objectives,

> Take part in all European debates regarding cultural policies and develop contacts with policy-makers to provide them with reflections from the fields,

> Develop street arts and circus professionals' good understanding of European contexts and facilitate their access to relevant information and support schemes,

> Arrange greater collaboration with other networks and platforms operating at the EU level for partnership in content development and joint advocacy.

Three main focuses

> An 'Advocacy and Communication' focus on sectorial and horizontal advocacy through the implementation of our work programme and our participation in cultural associations and platform activities; delivery of recommendations to civil society (including intermediaries, project holders, artists, etc) and (sub-)national / EU institutions.

> An 'Observation and Information' focus to collect and pool reliable infor-

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: permanent European grant: about 102 800 euros per year European programme: Culture Members: list on www.circostrada.org mation on street arts and circus, increasing the overall level of knowledge (through the website, studies, and experts' contributions).

> A 'Professional Gatherings' focus to organise meetings between cultural operators from street arts and circus; work on content development and implementation phases; offer the opportunity for promoters to become better acquainted with the issues related to our sectors; and share views on current European debates and imagine transnational projects.

Actions

> Since the design of Circostrada's 2008-2010 programme, many changes have occurred: local federations and unions have been formed, performing arts information centres have been established, and the Network's members have themselves undertaken to publish useful information through DVDs and brochures, to foster links with universities, and to publish reviews or theoretical texts. Following this positive development, Circostrada Network will progressively abandon some actions (e.g. multilingual theoretical editorial projects, translation into English of articles) since they will be undertaken by others in the field, and will instead focus on strategic partnerships to experiment with new actions and joint advocacy.

> There is a strong need, in this time of political uncertainty and funding cuts, to intensify the dialogue with national institutions in charge of cultural affairs in order to protect street arts and circus' vitality. We wish to provoke a positive change of perspective among the policy officers and advisers working at this level for the development of dedicated policies and support schemes by exposing them to a series of strategies undertaken in specific Member States and showing their impact on grass-roots practice. We thus designed a three-year action to reach these institutions, organising policy seminars gathering representatives from Member States.

> Building on the work achieved by Circostrada Network in past years, and because of the increasingly globalised nature of cultural exchanges, we feel there is a need to further the collaboration with third countries and increase international dialogue with their operators. Thus we propose a pilot programme called "ETC—Explore Third Countries" in order to provoke key discussions and make decisive steps with arts organisations from other continents.

The Network receives the support for bodies active at the European level in the field of culture (category networks) in the framework of the European programme Culture 2007-2013. HorsLesMurs, the French national information centre for street arts and circus, is the Secretary General of Circostrada Network.

CONTACT

Circostrada Network c / o HorsLesMurs 68, rue de la Folie Méricourt 75011 Paris – France Coordinator: Yohann Floch T. +33 (0)1 55 28 10 02 www.circostrada.org / info@circostrada.org

Ciudades Que Danzan

Dancing Cities (www.cqd.info) is an international network currently composed of 38 European, American, Asian and African contemporary dance festivals in urban landscapes, all of which are festivals with an outdoor dance programme. The main aim of the network is the creation of a dynamic system for cooperation and coordination and the exchange of projects and information among the participant festivals, as well as promotion and support for the creation of new events and festivals around the world. The network advocates for cooperation between different countries, operating under a common commitment to artistic diffusion and exposure to different languages and cultures to stimulate multiculturalism. Dancing Cities facilitates communication between cultural professionals (cultural agents, dancers and institutions) within a global cultural environment and works to make dance accessible to all.

Our mission: promoting dance in the public space

> We believe in the potential of art as a tool for social transformation, especially when it takes place in the public space,

> We want to foster the democratisation of culture by getting new contemporary art languages closer to non-specialised audiences,

> We want to foster the reappropriation of public space as a place for community engagement and individual expression.

Our main work objectives are:

> Establish a solid platform for exchange, collaboration and promotion among festival organisers while promoting cooperation between the world's cities and enhancing their multiculturalism (with special attention given to cultural cooperation between Europe and Latin America, and between Asia and Africa),

> Establish a dance platform to promote the touring of dance companies among member festivals,

> Provide technical advice on artistic proposals and production management for festivals that have recently joined the network, as well as technical aid and support for the creation of new festivals,

> Carry out joint communication and promotion projects to achieve greater international recognition for the participant festivals,

> Establish a platform for reflection and debate on the relation of dance to the public space and, particularly, to its audience,

> Develop joint dance and interdisciplinary productions, integrating dancers and other artists of different nationalities to create art and dance shows for public spaces.

Least Common Multiple project

The Least Common Multiple is a project by the Dancing Cities Network. It explores the relationship between dance, public space and audiences in eight cities in six countries in order to give an interdisciplinary, pan-European perspective, and to foster the intercultural dialogue and transnational mobility of cultural agents and productions through the development of new theoretical and practical actions.

Objectives

The project aims to bring together curators, art organisations, dance companies, experts and academics working in the fields of performing arts, visual arts, public space and site-specific works. In doing so, we would like to create a political, social and urban mapping of different areas of different European cities to open debates around the socio-urban development of contemporary cities.

Art, public space and community

The theoretical basis for the project will be the development of focus groups on "Art (especially dance), public space and community" with experts of different backgrounds in the participant cities. Based on the discussions held, an artistic and innovative video dance will be produced in four different cities and documented/promoted in a special edition of the Dancing Cities Magazine (including extensive information on the development and results of the project).

The project also wants to address the traditional gap between contemporary art languages and non-specialised audiences, bringing dance closer to the community and facilitating their understanding of it.

Media

Use of ITC and new media will help in this objective with the creation of an online map where everyone can add and watch short dance videos made in the public spaces of the participant cities. An iphone app that uses QR codes creatively will also allow audiences to discover European heritage through dance.

Mex in Dance

The main aims of the project are

> Promoting cultural exchange and cooperation between Mexico and different EU countries; deepening and exploring new ways of collaboration; fostering a multicultural dialogue; and promoting European culture in Mexico and vice-versa,

> The democratisation of culture: bringing contemporary art practice to Mexican and European citizens by exploring the relationships between contemporary dance, public space and the community; using art as a tool for improving social inclusion and cohesion.

The following festivals are the European co-organisers of the project and members of the Dancing Cities Network:

- > Dies da dansa Barcelona (Spain),
- > Ballo Publico Poggibonsi (Italy),
- > Interferenze Teramo (Italy),
- > Dantza Hirian Hiria, Bayonne-Donostia (Spain France),
- > The main Mexican partner is the Festival Subterrance de artes escénicas — Mexica DE (Mexica)
- Mexico DF (Mexico).

Expected Results:

Cultural exchange and cooperation will have been promoted between Europe and Mexico – by bringing together artists and cultural agents from different countries and by enabling theoretical discussions on universal subjects.

> The programming of Mexican and European dance companies, both in the participating European festivals and in the Mexican festival, will contribute to the promotion of diversity in cultural expression as well as the establishment of a continuing dialogue and exchange between Mexican contemporary artists and their European counterparts.

> The production, development and execution of dance workshops held in public spaces will facilitate the transmission of knowledge and interaction between Mexican artists and the latest dance developments in Europe.

> The inclusion of the Mexican festival, supported through the present project in the Dancing Cities network, will allow it to benefit from its exchange and collaboration schemes and help the transnational mobility of both Mexican and European cultural agents and works.

> The development of an International Conference on "Art, Public Space and Community" and the Annual Dancing Cities meeting in Mexico DF will foster intercultural dialogue and debate, and allow the presentation in Mexico of the theoretical results obtained by the focus groups on art and public space formed within the frame of the "Least Common Multiple" project in eight European cities during 2011-2012.

Democratisation of culture will have been fostered by the placement of art in public spaces and the provision of free, easy access to contemporary dance for inhabitants of the participant cities.

> New audiences for contemporary dance will be created,

> Revaluation of public space will have been promoted in a theoretical and practical way, and from a cross-cultural perspective (given the exchange of views and experiences the project facilitates among its different participants),

> Cultural tourism will have been promoted in the participant cities through the development of innovative ways of exploring urban landscapes using contemporary dance and new media such as mobile technologies.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration Least Common Multiple: May 2011 - April 2013 European grant: 80 000 euros European Programme: Culture Duration Mex in Dance: January - December 2012 European grant: 113 000 euros European Programme: Culture (Cooperation avec pays tiers : Mexique)

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CONTACT

Ciudades Que Danzan – Associació Marató de l'Espectacle c / Trafalgar 78 1-1 08010 Barcelona – Spain Founder: Juan Eduardo López Direction and coordination: Mar Cordobés T. +34 93 681 868 info@cqd.info / www.marato.com

Educircation

Educircation is an international project for teachers of circus techniques.

Missions

The aim of this project is to improve the quality of circus teaching around Europe. During this project we will hold different activities involving professional circus organisations and individuals (teachers, artists, schools, directors, administrators, managers, etc) to get a clearer idea of the circus situation in Europe and to improve the methods of teaching.

Actions

> Theatre in Circus, Budapest, April 2011

Focused on understanding how to teach theatre to circus performers, and how to integrate theatre into circus skills and techniques (juggling, acrobatics, clown, etc).

> Acrobatic Workshop / Start up a circus school, Valencia, May 2011:

- * Organisation of teaching into theoretical and practical subjects,
- * Working hours and their annual distribution,
- * Creation processes and end of year creations,
- * Scheduling, materials and work spaces,
- * Evaluations student evaluation, teacher evaluation, and programme evaluation by students and teachers,

* Teaching Staff – necessities, team-building, and coordinating divergent origins, philosophies and vision.

> Social Circus, Prague, November 2011

The Prague workshop was held in the Psychiatric Hospital Bohnice. All participants were included practically in the workshop. They rehearsed for three days, five to six hours a day, to prepare a performance together with patients involved in the workshop. The workshop leaders were experienced social workers.

The theme of social circus was very touching for all the participants. All participating institutions hope to cooperate on other social circus related projects.

> Jugglers' Workshop, February 2012

The Jugglers' Workshop was held in Berlin at the Juggling Centre in February 2012. The aim of the workshop was to present, discuss and share various elements and methods for teaching juggling to intermediate and advanced students.

> Aerial Acrobatics, March 2012

The Invisible Circus hosted a series of workshops in Bristol, a city known for having the highest number of circus performers in the UK. The workshops focused on aerial teaching methods and rigging safety and were taught by Samuel Jornot, the artistic director of ACAPA (Academy For Circus and Performance Art based in Tilburg, Netherlands). The workshops took place in March 2012 at The Island, a site managed by ArtspacelifeSpace, a notfor-profit workers cooperative which turns abandoned spaces into artistic resources, providing creative solutions for problem properties.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: October 2010 – September 2012 European grant: 75 000 euros European Programme: Grundtvig Partners: The Valencian Circus Association (Spain), Cirqueon (Czech Republic), The invisible Circus (UK), The Juggling Centre

Berlin (Germany), The Hungarian Juggling Association (Hungary)

CONTACT

César Garcia

c / Benaguacil 5 BJ. 46120 Alboraia - Spain **T.** +34 (0)639.988.292 www.espaidecirc.com / espaidecirc@gmail.com www.educircation.eu

European Youth Circus Organisation

The European Youth Circus Organisation (EYCO) is a non-profit organisation / association bringing together national federations of circus schools. It was founded in 2009 and currently counts eight members all over Europe.

The organisation works with several partners in order to encourage, promote and support the process of accreditation and structuring for youth circus on a national and European level.

History

Founded in 2005, the first NICE seminars took place in Berlin (2005), in Paris (2006), Tampere (2007), Amsterdam (2008), and London (2009). The aim was to build upon an initial informal networking event of European youth circus groups. After the NICE seminar in Amsterdam, one of the groups decided to introduce an official federation, called the European Youth Circus Organisation (EYCO).

Aims

EYCO aims to stimulate and support on a national and European level...

> The process of accreditation and structuring for youth circus and its contributors,

> An improvement in the quality of youth circus and its contributors,

> The promotion of youth circus – by its nature a popular, accessible and inclusive artform – as a means for participants to take an active role in society.

Members

EYCO consists of eight members out of which five members are existing national federations – Fédération Française des Ecoles de Cirque (France), Circuscentrum (Belgium – Flemish community), BAG Zirkuspädago-gik (Germany), Finnish Youth Circus Association (Finland), Circomundo (Netherlands) – and three candidate members that are currently in the process of looking into forming national umbrellas in Spain, Italy and the UK.

Today, EYCO brings together about 300 organisations / circus schools, 2 000 teachers, and 520 000 people who practice circus arts.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: permanent European grant: 18 000 euros pour 15 mois European programme: Youth in Action, Action 4.3 - Training and networking of those active in youth work and youth organisation Members: list on www.eyco.org

CONTACT

European Youth Circus Organisation c/o Fédération Française des Ecoles de Cirque 13 rue Marceau 93100 Montreuil – France Contact: Aline Soyer T. +33(0)1 41 58 22 30 info@eyco.org / www.eyco.org

Fédération européenne des écoles de cirque professionnelles

Founded in 1998, the European Federation of Professional Circus Schools (FEDEC) is a European and international network for professional education and training in circus arts gathering 55 members (42 schools and 13 organisations) related to the circus arts and located in 26 countries: Germany, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Denmark, Spain, USA, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy, Morocco, Norway, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Czech Republic, United Kingdom, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland and Tunisia. For the period 2011-2013, the network has received support from the European Commission under the Jean Monnet programme as one of the European Associations active in the field of education and training, and this will enable it to set up many activities enhancing European cooperation in education and training in circus arts.

Objectives

FEDEC's main vocation is to support the development and evolution of pedagogy and creation in the field of circus arts education with the following objectives:

> Improve professional education and training in circus arts and the teaching of circus arts,

> Develop necessary skills for a better professional integration or evolution in the employment sector,

> Be a dynamic network whose purpose is to initiate cooperation between European training schools and centres, their students and teaching staff,
> Be a network that represents its members at the European and international levels, bringing together the voice of all organisations working for the quality and diversity of initial and continuing training in the circus arts.

Missions

> Encourage cooperation, exchange, reflection and mobility between network members and their students, teachers and administrators,

> Develop and coordinate European projects aimed at improving higher and vocational education and continuing training of professionals by: conducting research and studies on the key competencies of the circus arts teacher profession; organising continuing training sessions for teachers and pedagogic and artistic directors, as well as seminars and focus groups; exchanging best practices and know-how for the production of educational tools,

> Develop and coordinate actions to strengthen the employability of graduates from circus arts schools through public presentations in professional frameworks; meetings with employers, producers or tour managers;

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: permanent, supported between 2011 – 2013 European grant: 125 000 euros in 2012 European Programme: Education and training: European associations active on a European level in education and training Members: list on www.fedec.eu dissemination of opportunities for internships; creation of practice or employment and networking activities based on professional and personal projects of students,

> Disseminate information on network activities and the circus arts education and training sector via a set of updated internal and external communication tools,

> Develop the participation of higher and vocational education and training and organisation working for the promotion of circus arts in the European debate on education, culture and employment.

Activities

For its 2010 work programme, the FEDEC network has undertaken the following activities:

> Consultation with members on key competencies and needs of teaching staff for continuing training in order to implement a programme of continuing training at the European level and develop a reference framework of key competencies for circus arts trainers,

> Consultation with members on the different mobility projects undertaken by students in circus arts, the good practices and obstacles, and their effects on learning objectives, skill acquisition and vocational integration,

> Organisation of two skills strengthening workshops for teaching directors on the topics of "Professional code of ethics of circus arts education" and "Educational and artistic training programme: 'Artistic education, an issue and a tool for modern circus?'",

> Organisation of a capacity building workshop on "Aerial Straps" for teachers from schools of our network,

> Bilingual publication of an additional chapter of the Basic Circus Arts Instruction Manual dedicated to aerial straps,

> Organisation of the 5th edition of the artistic and pedagogical exchanges programme "Circle", in the framework of Festival Circa in Auch (France), and consultation on innovative opportunities in terms of promoting work of graduates and employability enhancement,

> Many artistic and educational exchanges and mobility opportunities, formal and informal, bilateral and multilateral, between member schools and their students,

> Continuous updating of its online database of training schools and centres on the FEDEC website,

> Six bilingual newsletters for members and three newsletters for the partners of the network,

> Cooperation with other networks related to education and training, culture and circus arts,

> Representation, lobbying and support of members' interests through studies, reports and meetings.

CONLACL FEDEC

Campus du Ceria Avenue E. Gryzon, 1 / bâtiment 4A, 1^{er} étage 1070 Anderlecht / Brussels - Belgium **President:** Tim Roberts **Coordination:** Danijela Jovic **T.** +32 (0)2 526 70 09 www.fedec.eu / info@fedec.eu / danijela.jovic@fedec.eu

HIP CIRQ' EUROP

The European project Hip Cirq Europ' is a transdisciplinary two-year project combining circus arts, hip-hop dance and emerging cultures that focuses on social inclusion, the professionalisation of young artists, and improving the recognition of cultures inhabited by young Europeans from difficult neighbourhoods. The project was accepted by the European Commission under the "Culture" programme (first rank in France / fourth in Europe) and began in May 2012.

The programme

Hip Cirq Europ' is a travelling artistic residencies project. 12 young European artists who are in the process of becoming professionals come together to create a performance work under the leadership of two professional artists (Eric Mezino of Cie E.Go and Gäetan Levêque of Collectif AOC). Once the creation has been drafted, the group travel through Europe and in Guadeloupe for six residencies (France, Guadeloupe, Belgium, Finland, Netherlands, and the United Kingdom) where they work in collaboration with young emerging artists and amateurs from inner cities in order to nourish their creative skills and help them develop their own projects.

General objectives

> Promote economic, social and cultural integration and a European perspective for young artists from deprived areas,

> Develop intercultural and artistic exchange to help young Europeans living in deprived suburbs and to improve the image of their areas.

Specific objectives

> Increase the professionalisation and the economic inclusion of young artists,

> Improve the transmission of skills in teaching and social intervention for artists during the professionalisation process so that they can carry out community actions in deprived areas,

> Value the creativity of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods and contribute to the institutional recognition of their craft,

 > Improve European solidarity by strengthening the inclusive, educational and intercultural dimension of emerging artistic and cultural practices,
 > Facilitate public access to artistic and cultural practices that are different from their normal cultural environment.

Some Figures

> 72 young artists trained and accompanied in their career paths,

> 72 young people from disadvantaged areas receiving 432 hours training in social circus,

> 8 000 audience members over 16 shows in different European countries,

> One film describing the implementation of the project in the five partner countries,

> One book drawing portraits of the 12 young artists.

CONTACT

Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde Maison Daniel Féry 7, Rue Édouard Branly 92220 Bagneux, France Director: Eleftérios Kechagioglou, elefteriosppcm@free.fr T. +33 (0)1 46 64 93 62 www.lepluspetitcirquedumonde.fr

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: 2012 - 2014 European Grant: 200 000 euros European programme: Culture Partners: Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde (Bagneux - France), Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles (Brussels – Belgium), Circus Elleboog (Amsterdam – Netherlands), Sorin Sirkus (Tampere – Finland), Belfast Community Circus School (Belfast – Northern Ireland – UK), Métis'Gwa (Guadeloupe - France)

Homeless the wandering of the circus

The project Homeless aims to promote the European social circus, in its different contemporary forms, as a unique cultural expression and a vital means of social intervention. To this end, the project aims to produce a circus-theatre show planned by four different partners coming from three European nations – Italy, Hungary, Poland – and with a cast composed of artists from the partner nations and other nations of Eastern Europe. The project's purpose is to: promote the exchange of circus across Europe; organise the tour of a new artistic production resulting from the creative dialogue of artists of different nationalities; and spark intercultural dialogue as a way of enhancing circus' visibility and highlighting its practical use in tackling issues related to social exclusion.

The project is supported by the EU Culture Programme 2007-2013 and consists of the following steps: the writing of the show; three workshops; the formation of a new company – Karakasa Circus; the show's rehearsal and debut; a conference; and finally the European tour of the show "Casa Dolce Casa – Home Sweet Home".

The show

A rickety show. A garbage dump of men and things. A less "ordered" corner of the world for the waste products of society. Surrounded by the noises of the metropolis "homeless" acrobats and clowns survive without a house, satisfied to have the sky as their roof. Then comes lightning, thunder, a rain of tears. A blast of wind sings melodies and those abandoned by society rebuild their home sweet home. The forgotten objects start to talk. The tired bodies rise in acrobatic jumps. In the dancing euphoria, the joy of life reappears.

The company

Karakasa Circus was formed within Circo e Dintorni by Alessandro Serena, Marcello Chiarenza and Carlo Cialdo Capelli, known as the directors of "Ombra di Luna", "Creature" and "Tesoro", three of the most successful circus-theatre productions in Europe, invited to perform at many important festivals and renowned theatres. Their works have been the first creations made within this genre in Italy and have been touring in Europe for over five years.

Potential of a social genre

The circus tradition in Europe has given rise to great artists and performances that remain legendary in the history of the art.

It may be surprising, but at the beginning of the new millennium, the ancient art of circus turns out to be one of the most lively and dynamic forms of entertainment among performing arts: the nouveau cirque in France, through the "métissage" between theatre and dance, has created a renewal in the performing arts equivalent to an electric shock, one that not only mixes languages, allowing them to enrich each other, but that answers a deep need to recreate an emotional connection among artists and between artists and audience. It began in France, but this renewal later spread to the whole of Europe.

Among the new interpretations of circus to have arisen in recent times, the social circus appears consistently. "Social circus" describes a type of informal learning (experienced separate to school education) based on the principle of the effectiveness of circus activity as a means of development for children and young people growing up in disadvantaged areas and backgrounds. These experiences use the circus language as a vehicle of integration, expression and promotion for the values of citizenship and social transformation. If the practice of social circus is recent, the circus, however, has an ancient tradition of hospitality.

Circus welcomes the unusual, the different, the other and the opposite. If other forms of entertainment, communication is based on the identification of the audience with the artists, but in circus it is reversed: the characters on stage are all different. The clown, the bearded lady, the strongest man in the world, the flying acrobats defying the laws of gravity, clowns that are free to say anything...

The circus is for this reason an art that helps diverse cultures to meet and communicate, bringing together people from different ethnic and socioeconomical backgrounds.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: May 2011 – October 2012 European Grant: 200 000 euros European Programme: Culture Partners: Accademia Perduta, Circo e Dintorni, Foundation for the Circus Art MACIVA, Ocelot, Municipality of Bagnacavallo (Associated Partner), Asociatia Scoala De Circ Budurusi (Associated Partner)

CONTACT

Circo e Dintorni Via Garbini, 15 37135 Verona - Italy T. +39 (0)3 40 36 55 140 Coordinator: Rebecca Magosso, rebecca@circoedintorni.it www.homelesscircus.eu

Les grands cirques European partnership

Funded by the European Lifelong Learning Programme (Leonardo Da Vinci Partnerships), Les grands cirques brings together three of Europe's historic circus towns and cities: Amiens in France, Madrid in Spain, and Great Yarmouth in the UK.

The project forges links between these historic circus locations and, through the venues and circus schools located there, will develop an innovative training and career development programme to increase the employability and adaptability of creative and administrative practitioners working in the circus sector, thereby ensuring the future development and sustainability of the circus sector.

The partners for this programme are:

> SeaChange Arts, Great Yarmouth,

- > Pole National Cirque et Arts de la Rue, Amiens,
- > Asociación de Malabaristas de Madrid.

Les grands cirques will establish an ongoing partnership between the three organisations based on joint working in:

> Professional development,

 > Building and sharing skills in training and professional development,
 > Opening up new employment possibilities across diverse territories, traditions and markets.

Through a series of events and collaborations, the three partners will exchange teacher training, work to increase the employability of artists in the international marketplace, and create workshop and performance opportunities for students and emerging artists.

Events and Exchanges

2-5 April 2012: Seachange Arts, Great Yarmouth / Partners meeting

Partner meeting to view SeaChange's new creation space and discuss skills gaps in each school.

12-14 July 2012: Carampa, Madrid / Residency

Residency for emerging artists where students at SeaChange and Amiens' circus schools will get the opportunity to take part in Carampa's 1st year students' end of year show.

21-29 July 2012: Cirque Jules Verne, Amiens / Residency

Artists and students from Carampa and Seachange will get to work with trainers from all three organisations and showcase a performance at the Cirque Isis Festival.

3-9 September 2012: Seachange Arts, Great Yarmouth / Residency

Students and artists from Seachange and Carampa will work with trainers from Amiens to create a short performance for the Out There Festival.

5-9 December 2012: Carampa, Madrid / Teacher Training

Directors and coordinators of the circus schools meet to discuss the philosophy of the circus school. Report to follow.

23-25 January 2013: Cirque Jules Verne, Amiens / Evaluation and masterclass

Evaluation meeting plus sessions for trainers and students who've expressed an interest in going on to teach, including tackling different scenarios arising out of running a circus school.

A report of each event will follow.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: September 2011 - June 2013 European grant: 25 000 euros European programme: Lifelong Learning Programme Partners: Pole national Cirque et Arts de la Rue (France), Asociacion de Malabaristas de Madrid (Spain), SeaChange Arts (UK)

CONLACL

SeaChange Arts Drill House, York Road Great Yarmouth NR30 2LZ - UK Coordinator: Laurie Miller-Zutshi T. +44 (0)1493 745 458 laurie@seachangearts.org.uk / www.seachangearts.org.uk

M4mobility

M4m is an artistic mobility programme facilitating encounters, exchange and collaborative work between emerging artists and professionals from the creative and cultural world. M4m sets out to professionalise the younger generation by giving them transdisciplinary experience of working on the various stages of artistic productions within the frame of multiple European projects.

M4m aims to

> Develop professionalisation synergies between emerging artists and professionals from the creative and cultural world in a European context, > Promote experience and skills sharing to define several common work methods,

> Extend the use of interactive technologies with e.mobility, an interactive community tool, as a catalyst for new kinds of communication,

> Reveal the quality of a whole young generation of artists' approaches – the artists who outline, by their collaboration, the shape of the future.

M4m is built on

> Workshops dedicated to exchanging experience and sharing skills,

> Bilateral creation residencies bringing emerging artists and professionals from the creative and cultural world together to work on a joint production,

> Communication actions with:

* an interactive community tool facilitating exchanges and the joint organisation of projects, and increasing mobility in the European scene to ensure widespread diffusion,

* a diffusion programme for all artistic works at a local, a national and a European level.

M4m is the first part of a future artistic mobility programme which will gather together different agents from the creative and cultural world in a vast professionalisation process all over Europe. M4m has been developed by 7 cosignatories and 14 associated partners.

This programme is dedicated to

> artists / authors and interpreters:

* visual arts: performers, video directors, film directors, multimedia artists, designers, scenographers, photographers, graphic designers...

* performing arts: choreographers, composers, directors, circus artists, dancers, musicians, actors...

> professionals from the creation and cultural world

* light and sound technicians, stage managers, multimedia technicians, developers, programmers, engineers, special effects technicians, delegate producers, artistic directors, curators, production managers, mediators.

Cosignatories:

- > La brèche (Cherbourg, France),
- > Pépinières européennes pour jeunes artistes (Saint-Cloud, France),
- > SERDE (Riga, Latvia),
- > Tanec Praha (Praha, Czech Republic),
- > Transcultures (Mons, Belgium),
- > UNITER (Bucarest, Romania),
- > Workshop Foundation (Budapest, Hungary).

Associated partners:

- > Heidenspass (Graz, Austria),
- > EKWC (Den Bosch, Netherlands),
- > MU (Eindhoven, Netherlands),
- > Centre Méditerranéen de la Photographie (Bastia, France),
- > Centre chorégraphique national de Rilleux-la-Pape (Rilleux-la-Pape, France),
- > Cité du design (Saint Etienne, France),
- > David Rolland chorégraphies (Nantes, France),
- > Le Prisme (Saint-Quentin en Yvelines, France),
- > Ville de Paris (Paris, France),
- > Cittadellarte (Turin, Italy),
- > Instituto Europeo di Design (Milan, Italy),
- > Studio Azzurro (Milan, Italy),
- > TAM Teatro Musica (Padoue, Italy),
- > Institut du light design (Praha, Czech Republic).

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: 2007 - 2013 European grant: 200 000 euros European programme: Culture Partners: list on art4eu.net

CONTACT

Pépinières européennes pour jeunes artistes BP 80132 Domaine national de Saint-Cloud 92216 Saint-Cloud Cedex - France T. +33(0)141122930 info@art4eu.net / www.art4eu.net

META, European Manifesto for Transformation through Art

In 2011, the European project In Situ moved on to a new stage – META, European Manifesto for Transformation through Art. Programmed for five years in the framework of the Culture Programme of the European Commission, META aims to join artists, producers and programmers in tackling the issues that arise within creation processes.

The project started on the 1st of May 2011 and will finish on the 30th of April 2016.

Resolutely humanistic, META explores the issues linking art and public space to the construction of a contemporary European society via three big subjects: the "Métamorphoses Européennes", or how large-scale artistic proposals can revive the charm of public space; "Walk in progress, urbain promenades", which plans walks and other routes in order to (re-) discover our living spaces; and "Ville en partage", where artistic creations take their inspiration to the heart of territories and their inhabitants.

During five years, from 2011 to 2016, nineteen cultural structures from fourteen countries, notably from central Europe, will work together on META to develop contemporary artistic forms for public space that reforge a link with the general populace.

Looks of complicity

In order to enrich the projects with visions and original experiences, each of the three great themes of the project is placed under the supervision of a figure from the artistic sector: the philosopher Bernard Stiegler for the spectacular "Métamorphoses européennes"; the director Robert Wilson for "Walk in progress", in the steps of Aristotle and in the rhythm of the pedestrian; and finally Zora Jaurová, playwright and general director of Košice, to bring to light the forgotten yet fundamental solidarities explored by "Ville en partage".

Five devices

To create, to share, to think, to give sense... META proposes five supplementary actions:

> To write "side by side" for the European public space brings together artists and bookers to talk about projects in progress. These exclusive seminars will lead to creation support (2011, 2012 and 2013),

> Cities in metamorphosis co-produces creations based on walking and shared cities which are collectively supported by the network and which engage with the themes of META,

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: May 2011 - April 2016 European grant: 220 000 euros European programme: Culture Partners: Four Days Association (Czech Republic), Placcc Festival (Hungary), Košice 2013 (Slovakia), Københavns Internationale Teater (Denmark), La Strada (Austria), Lieux Publics (France), Theater

op de Markt (Belgium), Oreol (Netherlands), UZ International (UK)

> Embracing Europe facilitates artistic mobility with support for touring and residencies,

> Europeans abroad supports partnerships outside Europe in the form of residencies and co-productions,

> Artists caring for cities arranges meetings that serve as forums for discussion led by personalities from the worlds of ideas, politics, economics and civil society and concerning their vision of the modern city.

And after?

The network has always kept both the present and the future in mind. Throughout the META project, the partners will turn their thoughts to the legacy of the project. It has already been sketched out with the creation of a European Foundation for Urban and Environmental Projects, a European Observatory of the Pedestrian City, and a Charter for Artistic Intervention in Urban Change that has been signed by local elected representatives throughout the entire network. There will be other opportunities to extend META's activities and initiate new processes within the In Situ network.

Co-organisers

Nine co-organisers, including three partners from the new members, are gathered together to implement the META 2011-2016 project. They have a leading role in its implementation.

Four Days Association (Czech Republic), Placec Festival (Hungary), Košice 2013 (Slovakia), Københavns Internationale Teater (Denmark), La Strada (Austria), Lieux Publics (France), Theater op de Markt (Belgium), Oerol Festival (Netherlands), UZ Arts (UK).

Partners

These member structures of the In Situ network have joined the META 2011-2016 project as partners, their involvement in META facilitating the touring of creations initiated by the co-organisers. The partners are: Châlon dans la rue (France), Atelier 231 (France), Fundación Municipal de Cultura (Spain), La Paperie (France), Independent ODA Theatre (Kosovo), Les Tombées de la nuit (France).

CONTACT

IN SITU

c / o Lieux Publics **Coordinator:** Ariane Bieou 16 rue Condorcet 13016 Marseille – France **T.** +33 (0)4 91 03 81 28 www.lieuxpublics.com

New Nordic Circus Network

The aim of the New Nordic Circus Network is to place contemporary circus on the cultural map within the Nordic countries and to powerfully strengthen the sector on all levels. The Nordic scope of the project will also raise more interest at a local, national and international level. The Nordic project is already regarded in Europe and internationally as an example of good practice. Nordic contemporary circus is, and will continue to be, well represented in terms of productions, festivals, tours, artistic research and social interaction.

Overall objectives:

> Support the artistic development of Nordic contemporary circus,

 $\!>$ Sustain and continue the circus network development in Nordic countries,

> Strengthen the integration of the Nordic circus field into European organisations and networks,

> Improve the cultural political status of circus art within the Nordic context,

> Develop the market for Nordic performances both in the Nordic region and internationally and profile Nordic artists and productions to potential partners and presenters.

The partners have worked together since 2007 to create, develop, coordinate, finance and manage NNCN.

Activity programme:

Circus Art Development (CAD)

The aim of CAD (formerly "Juggling the arts") is to develop the artistic potential of contemporary circus in the Nordic countries. CAD aims to support artists' ability to create their own work and to thus underline the independent authorship of much contemporary circus. There is a need to develop conceptual artistic thinking – how does an artist create her own artistic language, dramaturgy and personal universe? CAD invites Nordic circus artists to five-day laboratories which focus on artistic concepts and dramaturgy. The laboratories are mentored by "senior" artists from Nordic and other countries.

Touring support

Nordic contemporary circus is today represented internationally in terms of productions, festivals and tours. However, national support systems for touring are still limited. In order to develop the market in the Nordic region and to profile Nordic productions, NNCN supports the touring of Nordic performances in the Nordic countries.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: continuous Nordic grant: continuously applying Nordic grants Partners: Subtopia (Sweden), Københavns Internationale Teater (Denmark), Finnish Circus Information Centre (Finland), Cirko Centre (Finland), Circus Village (Norway)

Networking activities

As the partners are dealing with a "niche" artform, and as there is a lack of critical mass at a national level limiting the potential for development, a Nordic platform and collaboration is a viable and necessary strategy. The partners of NNCN have contact with most artists and organisations in contemporary circus in the Nordic countries and have a unique network of contacts internationally. They are committed to continue creating a long-term network with these partners, and to go on sharing experiences, resources and perspectives.

Cultural political activities

Infrastructure and support systems for contemporary circus production and education are still fragile and weak. NNCN aim to ensure that contemporary circus moves in from the margins and occupies a more central space in the cultural political field by improving the commitment to develop circus' institutional recognition.

Research activities

Whereas theatre/dance critics and academics are often well educated in the aesthetics and terminology of their artform, contemporary circus exists in a vacuum where cliches from traditional circus and borrowed terminologies are used. The results often do very little to help develop public understanding and appreciation. NNCN organises Nordic circus critic and academic researcher seminars, has produced a survey on Nordic circus, and has printed two books: one on artistic circus pedagogy, and one more general introduction to contemporary circus with special chapters on the artform's development in each of the Nordic countries. The network is also developing strategies for collecting information and statistics.

Market development

The partners of NNCN cooperate on marketing activities for Nordic artistic companies. One example is Subcase circus fair, which is organised yearly as a marketplace and meeting point for Nordic artists and Nordic/international programmers. Subcase presents both work in progress and production premieres, thus creating opportunities for artists to distribute work and to find partners/co-producers, nationally as well as internationally.

CONTACT

Subtopia: kiki@subtopia.se Københavns Internationale Teater: kv@kit.dk Finnish Circus Information Centre: sari.lakso@sirkusinfo.fi Circus Village: sverre@cirkusxanti.no www.nordic-circus.org

Open Out Arts - Vocational Training for Outdoor Arts

Aims and Objectives of the Partnership

This partnership project has been initiated to develop European best practice in vocational training in the field of professional outdoor arts. The project aims to increase the employability of both creative and administrative practitioners currently working in the sector and to address barriers to employment for those entering the sector. The project will combine training activities and professional exchange aimed at directly achieving these aims with target groups, and will also draw from the partnership's collaboration to develop and disseminate new approaches to vocational training that can be used in future practice by partners and more widely across the sector.

The outdoor arts are a fast-growing cultural industry in Europe employing an increasing number of practitioners every year. Entry into this field of employment is largely by informal routes and both commercial practitioners and public/national bodies have identified the need to develop more opportunities for vocational training – both formal and informal – that can be delivered by both non-commercial bodies supporting the sector, commercial practitioners themselves, and partnerships between the two. The Open Out Arts partnership brings together commercial practitioners and publicly-funded non-commercial bodies to share skills, perspectives and methodologies in order to achieve this.

Objectives

> To deliver a vocational training programme which will enable practitioners to:

* increase their employability and entrepreneurism, supporting commercially successful work and artistic excellence,

* develop skills needed to access wider markets for their work and diversify their practice, e.g. in a community context,

* gain access to employment in the European market,

> To develop better practice for organisations delivering professional development for outdoor arts and establish "hallmarks of excellence",

> To establish European networks cooperating on training for outdoor arts and to increase the potential for new types of cooperation to develop new markets for work, e.g. new touring models,

> To share experience between artists/promoters and established artists/ emerging artists,

 $\!>$ To identify key emerging issues affecting the marketplace for outdoor arts practitioners and establish vocational training approaches to address these,

> To develop promotional skills and the effective use of technology.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: September 2011- June 2013 European grant: 25 000 euros European programme: Lifelong Learning Programme Partners: Close Act Theatre (Netherlands), Le Fourneau (France), Bui Bolg (Ireland), Theatre Bristol (UK), SeaChange Arts (UK)

Subjects

> Working in community contexts,

> Interdisciplinary practice – and entering outdoor arts from other disciplines,

> Commissioning and creation process – meeting the needs of the marketplace and skills development,

> Accessing European markets,

> Collaboration and cooperation – new approaches to skills transfer and enterprise,

> Changing roles and relationships in a changing landscape,

> The role and requirements of creation/training spaces and the opportunities for European networking.

Approach

The project will combine hands-on practical activity (linking partner's activities in their own territories to collaboration and exchange between partners) with knowledge exchange and review. This will include:

> Practical collaborations between practitioners including short working/ training placements and exchanges,

> Interdisciplinary practical working and training sessions bringing together creative practitioners from different disciplines,

> Joint actions in communities (supporting practitioners to deliver workshops and classes),

> Masterclasses, seminars and discussions around key topics,

> Networking, partnering, mentoring and reciprocal support – establishing practical mutual support between partners and participants across the network in order to foster ongoing organic relationships and new commissioning partnerships,

> Production of an Outdoor Arts Toolkit as an online resource,

> Use of technology as a key tool for the collaboration of the partnership and promotion/dissemination of findings.

This project brings together partners and practitioners whose interest in European cooperation is genuinely long-term and the results of the project will support sustained cross-border involvement beyond the project period. An online toolkit documenting the findings and learning from this project will be developed in June 2013 and shared amongst the partners' own networks and uploaded onto the Open Out Arts website.

CONTACT

SeaChange Arts Drill House, York Road Great Yarmouth NR30 2LZ - UK Coordinator: Sarah James T. +44 (0)1493 745 458 sarah@seachangearts.org.uk www.openoutarts.eu / www.seachangearts.org.uk

Parkinprogress

Parkinprogress is a nomadic mobility programme that gathers together emerging artists and professionals from the creative and cultural world to work on the creation, production and diffusion of a project in order to develop their interdisciplinary experience.

Parkinprogress moves between six different sites in six different countries. At every stop on this itinerary, artists and young professionals from the creative world take over a park or urban green space to create a promenade performance, "Parkinprogress", which they then share with the public.

At every stage of the project, "Parkinprogress" responds to, and builds itself around, the artistic proposals that arise during encounters with artists and professionals from the hosting country.

Parkinprogress is the first step of a far-reaching project that intends to link the big European cities and create a vast network of artists and cultural agents able to work together on interdisciplinary projects on a European scale.

It is supported by six cosignatories on a three-year period (1st May 2010 – 31st December 2013):

The Arts Council England East Midlands (Nottingham, United Kingdom), Transcultures (Mons, Belgium), NOASS (Riga, Latvia), Johan Centre (Pilsen, Czech Republic), Mozgo Haz Alapitvany Florian Mühely (Budapest, Hungary), and Pépinières européennes pour jeunes artistes (Saint-Cloud, France).

Objectives

Parkinprogress aims to:

> Develop professionalisation synergies in the context of interdisciplinary projects involving emerging artists and professionals from the creative and cultural world,

> Facilitate the exchange of experience and skills between partners,

> Make visible to a wide audience an emerging young generation of artists who are developing interdisciplinary experiences and creating tomorrow's forms of expression,

> Prepare a second phase bringing in new partner countries and further developing the project's general concept.

Actions

This nomadic project is built as an initial set-up phase that incorporates three actions:

- > A programme of short itinerant residencies that gathers participants in
- a single location to set up the "Parkinprogress" event,
- > Workshops to share experiences,
- > Large-scale communication actions to reach a very large audience.

Organisers

- > Arts Council England East Midlands, UK,
- > Culture and Arts Project NOASS, NGO, LV,
- > JOHAN, centrum pro kulturní a sociální proje, CZ,
- > Mozgó Ház Alapítvány / Moving House Foundation, HU,
- > Transcultures, BE.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: 2010 - 2013 European grant: 914 630 euros European Programme: Culture Partners: Pépinières pour jeunes artistes (France), Transcultures (Belgium), NOASS (Latvia), Moving House Foundation (Hungary), Johan (Czech Republic), UK Young Artists (UK).

CONTACT

Pépinières européennes pour jeunes artistes BP 80132

Domaine national de Saint-Cloud 92216 Saint-Cloud Cedex - France **T.** +33 (0)1 41 12 29 30 www.art4eu.net / info@art4eu.net

PASS - Circus Channel

PASS is a European project involving eight organisations (four in France and four in England) and running for a period of three years from 2012 to 2014. During this time the partner organisations will work together to develop the circus arts with a focus on production, touring and training.

PASS is an INTERREG project that links North Western France to Southern England. Its first phase in 2010 was a pilot collaboration focusing on contemporary circus on both sides of the Channel.

The PASS project was selected as part of the European cross border cooperation programme INTERREG IV A France (Manche) – Angleterre, and was co-financed by the ERDF.

Now PASS aims to broaden out its cross-Channel collaboration to more partners, in France and the UK, with a track record in programming and supporting artists in contemporary circus. The aim is to foster new emerging projects that draw in performers from both countries, to invite the commitment of various key organisations and individuals, and to aim for wider exposure for the sector.

Objectives

> To build cross-Channel networks for touring, training artists, and familiarising audiences with new circus arts,

> To promote fluid cultural exchange between France and the UK, greater visibility for those involved, and a dynamic new experience for those touched by work containing elements of both cultures,

> To target European mobility for artists, cultural professionals and other figures who have key roles in the areas involved,

> To facilitate meeting points between artists, cultural professionals and audiences on both sides of the Channel to create platforms for cross-border exchange.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: 2012-2014 European grant: 2 097 273 euros European Programme: INTERREG Partners: Activate Performing Arts (Dorchester), La brèche (Cherbourg-Octeville), Le Cirque Jules-Verne (Amiens), Le Conseil Général de la Manche (Manche), Farnham Maltings (Farnham), Lighthouse – Poole's Centre for the Arts (Poole), La Renaissance (Mondeville), SeaChange Arts (Great Yarmouth).

CONTACT

La Brèche, Pôle national des Arts du Cirque de Basse-Normandie / Cherbourg-Octeville BP 238 Rue de la Chasse Verte 50102 Cherbourg-Octeville Cedex - France Director: Yveline Rapeau T. +33 (0)2 33 88 43 73 developpement@labreche.fr (Lise Hoëz-Guezennec)

Process()s

The Mediterranean Euro-region of the Pyrenees is an area known as a stronghold for the circus arts – mainly within the Midi-Pyrenees and Catalonia. Both these regions have, within their respective territories, specialised festivals, schools, vocational training or higher education, and creation centres. Many professional circus artists have already emerged from the Pyrenees and their international visibility helps to identify this territory as a circus territory.

Many artists travel between Barcelona and Toulouse – following creative projects, development opportunities or training courses – yet they have little or no link with the southern Languedoc-Roussillon region and more particularly with the city of Perpignan, where the circus arts are not well developed.

Process()s gathers together The Central del Circ (Catalonia), The Grainerie – Manufacturers of Circus Arts (Toulouse Balma), the association Animahu and the Tourist Office of Perpignan in order to encourage the creation and touring of contemporary circus in the Mediterranean Pyrenees area through actions that promote the circulation of artists and works. The beneficiaries of Process()s are of course the artists, but also tourers and audiences. The presence of the city of Perpignan in the project facilitates the creation of new opportunities for companies from Catalonia and the Midi-Pyrenees to come to Perpignan to work on circus-related events that stimulate tourism. In this way Process()s provides a response to the touring problems which companies are currently facing and begins to develop a real regional dynamic beyond the axis between Toulouse and Barcelona.

Process()s is a continuation of Circ que o! and is organised in collaboration with the trans-border project Pyrenees de cirque, which brings together 10 partners from the western Pyrenees. With Process()s, we want to strengthen this cooperation for our organisations, for artists and for the entire circus industry.

Main objectives

> Increase opportunities for the touring of shows throughout the various stages of creation, from the genesis of a project to its final production, > To give companies the opportunity to work on their creations within other territories and to be in contact, early in their creative process, with various broadcast networks and diverse audiences, > Enhance the scope of circus companies so that their context expands to take on a Euro-regional dimension,

> Establish a network of tourers who are open to taking new circus creations,

Actions

Support for creation

This action aims at supporting the creation of two circus shows that will be able to tour internationally. For a two-year period Process()s will support one project from an emerging company and one project from a wellestablished company by giving them residency time, economic resources, and staff and technical support. Creative residencies will take place on at least two territories. These will end in presentations of work to which professionals will be invited in order to increase the projects' visibility and give them a better chance of sustainable development.

Emerging Paths – A platform for the touring of trans-Pyrenean performances

This strand of the project focuses on short performances and gives artists the opportunity to expose their work to different audiences, to try different kinds of performance space, and to travel with their creation. As it creates opportunities for artists to present their work in new contexts, Emerging Paths also opens up international horizons.

Process()s will provide support for a dozen venues from Catalonia and Languedoc-Roussillon so that they can programme from a selection of short performances which will be showcased at the Grainerie. Thanks to the collaboration with the project Pyrénées de cirque, selected artists will have the opportunity to be seen by roughly thirty programmers and can potentially tour their work throughout the entire Pyrenees.

Pyrénées de cirque: an itinerant event

Pyrénées de cirque will create strong links between partners in Process()s and those of the Pyrenees border project, Cirque. The wellknown name of Pyrénées de cirque will help to increase the visibility of Pyrenean circus on an international level.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: February 2012 – December 2013 Grant: 40 000 euros

Programme: Appel à projets Culture

de l'Eurorégion Pyrénées-Méditerranée

Partners: La Central del Circ (Catalogne), La Grainerie-Fabrique des Arts du Cirque (Midi-Pyrénées), Office de Tourisme de Perpignan (Languedoc Roussillon), Association Animahu (Aragon).

CONTACT

La Central del Circ Moll de la Vela núm. 2 08930 Sant Adrià de Besòs (Barcelona) – Spain Contact: Juliette Beaume T. +34 93 356 08 90 creacio@lacentraledlcirc.cat / www.lacentraldelcirc.cat

Pyrénées de Cirque

A European partnership for circus arts

The project EGCC Pyrénées de Cirque gathers 10 partners from the transborder Pyrenees area (Aquitaine, Aragon, Euskadi, Midi-Pyrenees, Navarre) around a common desire: to lift the circus sector across the territory by supporting the venues, centres and organisations that host circus projects.

Pyrénées de cirque is designed in collaboration with the Euro-regional project Process(s) (La Central del Circ in Catalonia, la Grainerie, and the Tourist Office of Perpignan in Languedoc-Roussillon). This partnership therefore covers the entire border area and Pyrenees, from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic Ocean.

The partnership consists of creation centres (The Grainerie, The Central del Circ, Harri Xuri, Ax Animation), venues and touring sites (Animahu, the Festival Más difícil todavia organised by five municipalities of Navarre, the Tourist Office Perpignan), professional circus associations (Flik-Flak, Koblakari), training centres (Lido, the Spanish Federation of Professional Training of Circus Arts that brings together the schools Rogelio Rivel in Barcelona, Carampa in Madrid, Oreka in Pamplona, and the University of Mirail).

The circus – a unique creative discipline in the Pyrénées

Circus is dynamic and artistically unique in the regions of Midi-Pyrenees, Catalonia and Languedoc-Roussillon. In the other territories, the artform is emerging and the industry is highly active. However, the economic crisis has weakened this dynamic, and most creators and industry professionals now face new difficulties they must overcome during the key stages of their journey:

- > Start and invest time in a risky career path,
- > Integrate into the workplace after training,
- > Create artworks,
- > Market creations and productions.

Deepening and widening cross-border cooperation

Since 2009 the project Circ que o! has helped to bring together key players in the sector of the Pyrenees-Mediterranean Euro-region and to develop a first area of cooperation. From this experience, the project partners chose to deepen the initial cooperation and to expand it with new priorities:

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: April 2012 – December 2014 **European grant:** 769 893 euros

European programme: POCTEFA / Interreg

Partners: La Grainerie, Balma; Animahu, Huesca; Ax Animation, Ax-les-Thermes; FEFPAC – Fédération Espagnole de Formation Professionnelle des Arts du Cirque, Pampelune; Festival Más difícil todavía, Viana; Flik-Flak, Vitoria-Gasteiz; Harri Xuri – SIVOM Artzamendi, Louhossoa; Koblakari, Bilbao / Le Lido – Toulouse; Université de Toulouse Le Mirail – CIAM.

- > To address the fragility of circus careers,
- > To give circus better footing within the territory,

> To strengthen the infrastructure of the sector across the Pyrenees in order to improve its international recognition.

A strategy focused on employment and creativity

The project's strategy is focused on professional pathways. It specifically aims to improve support for creators, artists and project leaders in the four phases of creation mentioned above. Four operational objectives will be pursued:

> To improve the support available for artists and circus professionals during their career,

> To support creators in the emerging phase of their careers in order to strengthen their projects,

> To assist project leaders in touring,

Four steps to boost industry

1. Starting careers:

> A series of masterclasses in the Basque Country in Bilbao and Vitoria-Gasteiz for local artists, professionals and semi-professionals.

2. Improving employability and developing a career:

> Programmes for creative interdisciplinary training,

> Research masterclasses, workshops in Creative Techniques, Circus Camp,

- > A university degree,
- > Training of trainers.

3. Supporting creation and innovation:

> A joint fund for artistic circus creation: mobility scholarships for emerging and established co-productions and creative projects, "Chemins de Création",

> A network of creation centres and a network for project support.

4. Building a cross-border touring platform:

> Awareness workshops on artistic touring techniques, contract management, communication (multilingual documents and video),

> A touring network for short performances, "Chemins Émergents",

> A travelling cross-border event, "Pyrénées de cirque: Transhumance".

CONTACE

La Grainerie

61, rue Saint-Jean 31130 Balma – France **Coordinator:** Jean-Marc Broqua **T.** +33 (0)5 61 24 33 91 jm-broqua@la-grainerie.net / h-metailie@la-grainerie.net www.la-grainerie.net

Terres d'imaginaire

Terres d'imaginaire is a cross-border cooperation project for two creative towns – Barakaldo (Spanish Basque Country) and Tournefeuille (Midi-Py-rénées). Both these small towns are situated in urban regions dominated by important city centres (Toulouse and Bilbao), and as such are seen as satellite towns or suburbs.

The project Terres d'imaginaire, organised within the framework of the European Union's Interreg IV programme, experiments with how these peripheral towns can be creative within their major cities. To become creative towns they will dynamically develop their arts and culture in way that is sustainable and attractive for the whole territory.

A mutual dynamic of transforming territories

The implementation of this dynamic is based on cultural policy objectives imagined by the two towns, namely: culture as a stimulating element within urban development; the will to ensure artistic presence in a town and to give it a sense of civil inclusion; openness towards the rest of the world.

An innovative approach

In order to implement this dynamic, the "Terres d'imaginaire" project consists of three steps in which the artistic and cultural partners of the two towns (experts, companies, universities, and other cultural and scientific figures) will participate:

> A laboratory for action: experimenting with concrete actions in one of the towns,

> A laboratory for ideas: establishing a codified working practice, i.e. a set of professional tools that enable professionals to transfer competencies and good practice; organising a number of thematic seminars, > Transfer: the execution of creative actions in the other town.

In the long run, this project is going to facilitate the creation of a crossborder community of creative towns, reuniting small and medium sized towns on both sides of the border.

An active experiment on several levels

> The inclusion of arts and creativity within public and living space: innovation within urban design, mural paintings, the creation of "micro-libraries" in different parts of town, large-scale street arts performances...,
> A virtual and digital universe: workshops in online-writing, a 3D virtual museum...,

> The link between culture and the business world: artistic interventions for companies, contemporary art exhibitions in shops and businesses, implication of companies into the conception and construction of an urban interactive installation.

PLACFICAL INFOLMATION

Duration of the project: 2012 - 2014 European grant: 700 000 euros European programme: Interreg Partners: Tournefeuille (Midi-Pyrénées, France), Barakaldo (Spanish Basque Country)

CONTACT

Agence "Terres du Sud" For the cultural service of the town of Tournefeuille Project leader: Gérald Garcia T. +33 (0)5 62 13 21 52 contact.presse@terresdusud.fr Cultural service of Tournefeuille: +33 (0)5 62 13 21 52 billetterie@mairie-tournefeuille.fr

TransAC, Transnational Co-Production in Action

The main goal of TransAC, Transnational Co-Production in Action is to create an opportunity for emerging artists and companies to develop new performance pieces that investigate fresh artistic expressions in the field of street arts and in non-conventional venues, and to match the commissioned companies with experienced creators to assist their artistic process. Underpinning the dissemination of the produced work, the leading arts festivals working on TransAC form a supportive steering group facilitating the management of the project and ensuring that the resulting work is seen by thousands of spectators across Europe. Between 2011 and 2013, within the Meridians network, TransAC will join companies that wish to work on a European level with remarkable artists acting as experienced creative mentors. Four new shows have been created in 2011, as well as the conference "East-West - Mapping the Terrain", which took place in Tarrega, Spain.

The four companies who worked on the transnational creation process:

Reial Companyia de Teatre de Catalunya (ES)

with the artistic mentoring of Cie Metro-Boulot-Dodo (GB) developed "The Guide", a creation for non-conventional venues (a museum or a gallery space). It is an audio tour that takes us on a journey to explore stories beyond the narrative capacity of simple exposition.

Ragroof Theatre (GB)

with the artistic mentoring of the Cie Vendaval (FR) created "Bridges" – a site-generated creation of tango, flamenco, waltz, opera, folklore dance and music, to explore how the cross-pollination of cultures in urban environments creates exciting new artforms that overcome the barriers of language, creating mutual respect and understanding between cultures.

Scuba Club Collective (BE),

founded by Zsuzsa Rózsavölgyi developed an outdoor show focused on European villages and villagers, searching for similarities and differences between them on their formal, implementary and semantic levels, and exploring possibilities of creating outdoor action by utilizing dance elements that critically evaluate the perception of lifestyles.

Un'ottima lettera (IT)

with the artistic mentoring of The Quay Brothers is creating "De Plaga Cordis", a 20-minute piece that takes place in a gust of wind. A ghost parade of images and sounds move through a landscape that is temporally modified by the ephemeral action of the artist.

The main activities for 2012-13 are the dissemination of the shows and a conference in Slovenia.

One of the priorities of the project is to assist the dissemination and mobility of the creations: "The Guide" will be performed in Stockton (GB) and Ghent (BE), Scuba Club Collective will perform in Mulhouse (FR), "De Plaga Cordis" will premiere in Polverigi (IT) and Tarrega (ES), whilst "Bridges" has already been performed in Stockton (GB) and Mulhouse (FR).

Ana Desetnica festival in Slovenia will host the conference "East-West -Opening the Doors", a meeting of practitioners from the Eastern countries of the EU (theatre companies, directors, artists...) to enhance active artistic and cultural exchanges.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: May 2011 - April 2013 European Grant: 188 282 euros European programme: Culture Partners: Ana Desetnica (SI), FiraTàrrega (E), Inteatro Festival (IT), ISTF-MiramirO (BE), Mala performerska scena (HR), Scènes de Rue, Mulhouse (F), SIRF-Event International (UK), St. Patrick's Festival (I) & Stockholm Culture Festival (S).

CONTACT

TransAC / Meridians FiraTàrrega Pl. Sant Antoni, 1 25300 Tàrrega – Spain Coordinator: Montse Balcells Nadal T. +34 973 501 368 info@meridiansnet.org / www.meridiansnet.org

TRANS-Mission

The goal of the TRANS-Mission project is to improve support practices regarding creation, production and distribution in the contemporary circus sector with the aim of increasing the sector's overall professionalisation and recognition at the European level.

An emphasis will especially be placed on the writing of shows, which is often neglected within this sector, as well as on the preparative steps that can be taken during the initial phases of a creative work to help its distribution.

The partners have noticed similar issues within their respective work environments:

> The work that goes into the preliminary writing of a "script" is often lacking in circus shows, as this aspect of creation is not part of circus artists' usual processes. They prefer to create through experimentation.

> Certain shows tour very little due to a lack of professionalism within the creation and not paying enough attention to distribution.

> Today, the circus is not viewed on merely a national level. To be sustainable, a show must be distributed internationally, as national markets are too limited.

> Large performance structures that bring together many artists require large-scale materials and specific equipment, and therefore imply a certain number of logistical and technical constraints (today, for example, very few spaces are equipped to host aerial performances). They are also more difficult to distribute due to their high cost. Therefore, large performance structures are currently neglected in favour of less ambitious forms that require fewer performers on stage and use minimal equipment.

From these various observations came the desire to find a communal response through a project that aimed to:

> Encourage collective processes,

> Enable companies to implement a conceptual, dramaturgical phase so as to strengthen the writing of their show,

> Prepare works for diffusion early on in their creative processes – analysing, understanding and integrating distribution processes and working on the issue of audience and adaptability,

> Make companies aware of partner networks,

> Encourage the transmission of knowledge and skills, especially through gatherings between key individuals and companies.

To accomplish this, the goal of TRANS-Mission is to closely and continuously support four contemporary circus companies with creation projects involving four, five or six circus artists, offering them a residency at each partner location, a co-production, and marketing assistance among the international festivals organised by the partner organisations.

At the same time, the partners hope to enable an overall analysis of the issues underlying the project. To this effect, they will organise professional gatherings as well as create opportunities, in the form of sponsorships, to allow the sharing of experiences. The result of this experience and of this analysis will be made available through a publication.

CONLACL

Espace Catastrophe

Rue de la Glacière 1060 Brussels – Belgium **Coordinator:** Benoît Litt, litt@catastrophe.be **T.** +32 (0)2 538 12 02 www.catastrophe.be / www.transmission-europe.eu

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: January 2010 – November 2012 European grant: 160 000 Euros European Programme: Culture Partners: Espace catastrophe (Belgium), La Central del Circ (Spain), La Grainerie (France), Zelig (Italy).

Unpack the arts

Unpack the Arts is a European project that provides residencies for cultural journalists in the context of twelve major festivals programming contemporary circus. The goal of the project is to facilitate the circulation of knowledge and experience, to develop the critical discourses of its participants, and to further the role of the media within the (circus) arts and contemporary society. Together, the project partners aim to help both cultural journalists and circus promoters to develop a critical discourse on new trends, including tackling the specific "stage writing" used by international artists in their processes.

The partners will circulate three calls for residencies in June 2012, November 2012 and July 2013 targeting cultural journalists, critics and chief editors from all kinds of media organisations (magazines, daily papers, Internet sites, radio stations...). The partners will then select 120 beneficiaries based on transparent and non-discriminatory criteria.

Each residency is held in the framework of a festival in one of the eight partner countries. The residencies are all constructed following the same pattern: four days, one moderator running thematic discussions, with conferences and shows being proposed as well as interviews with artistic companies.

12 residencies for cultural journalists

- > August 2012 at Ny Cirkus festival (Copenhagen, Denmark)
- > October 2012 at CIRCa festival (Auch, France)
- > November 2012 at Festival novog cirkusa (Zagreb, Croatia)
- > February 2013 at Subcase (Norsborg, Sweden)

> March 2013 at Hors Piste Biennale and La Piste aux Espoirs Biennale (Brussels and Tournai, Belgium)

- > May 2013 at Cirko festival (Helsinki, Finland)
- > May 2013 at Circusstad festival Rotterdam (Rotterdam, Netherlands)

> June 2013 at Humorologie, festival van verwondering (Kortrijk-Marke, Belgium)

> August 2013 at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe (Edinburgh, UK)

- > October 2013 at CIRCa festival (Auch, France)
- > January 2014 at the London International Mime Festival (London, UK)
- > February 2014 at Subcase (Norsborg, Sweden)

At the end of the residencies, participants will each deliver 1 article in their native language. These texts will be collected, edited and turned into an online, multilingual publication, with each article appearing both in its original language and as an English translation. These publications will be available for free download.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: 2012 - 2014 European grant: 131 271 euros European programme: Culture Partners: Copenhagen Theatre Institute (DK), CIRCa (FR), Festival novog cirkusa (HR), Subtopia (SE), Les Halles de Schaerbeek (BE), Finnish Circus Info Centre (FI), Circusstad festival Rotterdam (NL), Humorologie (BE), Crying Out Loud (UK). The organisation On-The-Move has undeniable expertise in artistic mobility, facilitating, coordinating and improving the provision of information on cultural mobility in Europe and beyond, as well as defending and promoting a conception of mobility that is progressive, responsible and sustainable. This organisation manages a vital information website that has about 285,000 visitors per year, and leads many surveys (including, recently, the "Green Mobility Guide" survey in partnership with Julie's Bicycle). The partners of Unpack the Arts want to commission On-The-Move to deliver a directory/guide mapping the funding opportunities in the EU for cultural journalists. This digital publication, written in English, will be available to download free of charge and disseminated widely by the project partners and by On-The-Move.

CONTACT

Circuscentrum (Vlaams Centrum voor Circuskunsten vzw) Dok Noord 4 F 001 9000 Gent - Belgium Director: Koen Allary T. +32 (0)9 233 85 89 koen@circuscentrum.be / www.circuscentrum.be

ZEPA (European Zone of Artistic Projects)

Background

The ZEPA project began in 2008 as an ambitious and original idea to create a European network of outdoor arts festivals and promoters, supported by the cross-border cooperation programme Interreg IV A France (Channel) – England of the European Commission (ERDF). In this area, stretching from the South of England to the North of France, nine partners are pooling their resources, experience and knowledge to develop European artistic projects (through co-production, support for creation, programming and training).

The European Zone of Artistic Projects has emerged from a long period of development. It all started in 1996, with the festivals Viva Cité in Sotteville-lès-Rouen, La Fête dans la Ville in Amiens, and the Streets of Brighton organised by Zap Art. In 2000, the Peca network (European Polycentre for Artistic Creation) was created with the aim of developing creation centres for outdoor arts.

In 2008, a new dynamic emerged in terms of operations and cross-border projects: Peca became ZEPA. Today, there are nine partners: four in France and five in the UK (see information below).

Aims of the project

> Create opportunities for creative exchanges between local people, artists and other creative professionals in the partnership,

> Implement high quality and ambitious artistic projects in the ZEPA region through production, commissioning, distribution, documentation and training,

> Enable the development of a European consciousness and citizenship across the ZEPA area,

> Develop joint cross-border work and share good practice,

> Support access to culture for all, including by working with deprived communities.

Activities / work plan:

Cross border cooperation through regional artistic projects:

Associate companies

The nine members of the ZEPA network have chosen two associate companies, NoFit State Circus in the UK and Générik Vapeur in France. The companies will be creating a new show for ZEPA, reflecting the network, its area and its people. NoFit State has created "Barricade", and Générik Vapeur "Waterlitz". The network supports the two companies for the production, programming and community engagement around these shows, which are presented in each of the nine areas between 2011 and 2012.

The "shared" projects

The project also puts the emphasis on the development of artistic projects in which two or more partners on each side of the Channel work with the same company, French or British (hence "shared"), in their own respective area. It can be through residencies (creation, translation or adaptation), community and outreach work, programming, etc, with the aim of presenting these projects within the European Zone of Artistic Projects.

The ZEPA region at the heart of the project's activities

The nine partners of the network cover the whole Interreg area (Northern France / Southern England). Each partner develops a range of artistic activities in their respective area, in partnership with local organisations ("associate partners"): local authorities and statutory groups, arts and cultural organisations, companies, targeted groups and members of the community eager to discover outdoor arts. The network created through the ZEPA project enables the joint work of the nine partners to have a bigger impact in the overall ZEPA area, and to guarantee a better penetration of all the Euro-regions and a fruitful increase in national and cross-border cooperation.

Training and sharing good practice

An increasing part of the project is dedicated to training and sharing skills and knowledge, geared towards professionals of specific groups. Projects between universities within the ZEPA area are also being developed, aimed at students and teachers.

The development of shared multimedia tools (website, book, marketing materials, etc) aim to leave a legacy of this collective work and this mutual enhancement.

PRACEICAL INFORMATION

Duration of the project: 2008 – 2012 European grant: 310 169 euros

European Programme: Interreg

Partners: Le Hangar (Amiens), Le Fourneau (Brest), Atelier 231 (Sotteville-lès-Rouen), Culture Commune (Loos-en-Gohelle), Brighton Festival, Hat Fair (Winchester), Zap Art (Brighton), Southampton City Council and Nuffield Theatre, SeaChange Arts (Great Yarmouth)

CONTACE

Le Hangar (Pole National Arts de la Rue et Cirque) Place Longueville – BP 2720 80027 Amiens Cedex – France Coordinator: Mathilde Vautier T. +33 (0)2 32 10 88 31 mathildevautier@atelier231.fr / www.zepa9.eu