

The Art of Ageing -1st European Theatre and Science Festival

Berlin, 30 March 2015 : The Art of Ageing – 1st European Theatre and Science Festival” and the next international theatre conference and general assembly of the European Theatre Convention (ETC) will take place from April 16-19, 2015, hosted by the Teatrul National in Timisoara, Romania.

The demographic change in our society is one of the big challenges of the upcoming years. With the festival, the European ETC project “**The Art of Ageing**”, which has been jointly developed by eight theatres, will celebrate two years of European artistic collaborations to meet and exchange for the first time on the impact of ageing populations on our societies in a multidisciplinary artistic context. What are the consequences for society, communities and individuals, and how does this affect and influence the future of the theatre? What formats and practices have proven to engage an intergenerational audience?

The festival provides the unique opportunity to pool artists, audiences, political and economic stake holders with researchers from the philosophical, sociological, economic and political field on European scale. Over 100 artists and theatre makers from more than 20 countries are expected to participate in the event. Among confirmed keynote speakers, panelists and workshop leaders are **Dr. George W Leeson**, Co-Director of the Oxford Institute of Population Ageing, **Ebbe Johansen** Vice-President of the European Age Platform, **Birgit Dahlke**, professor at the Free University Berlin and **Stuart Kandell**, US based artist and global pioneer in the field of creative ageing.

Five new European theatre co-productions realized during “**The Art of Ageing**” project will be shown during the festival, each presenting a very different artistic research approach to the subject and positions it in the broader scientific context:

- ***The clock is ticking*** (coproduced by Staatstheater Karlsruhe, Germany & Teatrul National Timisoara), written by Peca and directed by Malte C. Lachmann. In German and Romanian language
- ***Strawberry orphans*** (coproduced by Staatstheater Braunschweig, Germany & Teatrul National „Marin Sorescu“ Craiova, Romania), realized by werkgruppe2. In German and Romanian language
- ***Fen fires*** (coproduced by Deutsches Theater Berlin, Germany & Slovak National Theatre Bratislava, Slovakia), written by Nino Haratischwili and directed by Brit Bartkowiak. In German and Slovak language
- ***I'm afraid that we know each other now*** (coproduced by Theater und Orchester Heidelberg, Germany & Gavella City Drama Theatre Zagreb, Croatia), written by Ivor Martinić, directed by Miriam Horwitz for the German version and Dominique Schnizer for the Croatian version.

ETC president Dubravka Vrgoč points out that “through the project “**The Art of Ageing**” we once again emphasized the importance of theatre not only as a mirror of reality but also as a place to come together and to exchange various artistic and life experiences. In this process of discovery and identification, plays were created, which through authentic language, bear witness to that European reality that we all share, and because of which European theatre today can certainly not come into question.”



THE ART OF AGE!NG

Multimedia resources and more information:

Detailed festival and conference programme, festival trailer, [click here](#)

Festival brochure, [click here](#)

www.artofageing.eu

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Notes to Editors –The European Theatre Convention (ETC) founded in 1988, is a non-profit-making membership organization representing the publicly funded theatre sector in 20 countries. Its aims are to create, protect and promote theatre art and its linguistic diversity in Europe and beyond; to act as a transnational theatre network to foster cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue; to act as a platform for professional exchange, development and capacity building of theatre-makers in an international context and to advocate for the public theatre sector at EU, member state and local levels. Further information – www.etc-cte.org

For more information and press queries

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Partners

The festival is a joint collaboration coproduced by the European Theatre Convention, Badisches Staatstheater Karlsruhe, Staatstheater Braunschweig, Teatrul Național Timișoara, Teatrul National 'Marin Sorescu' Craiova, Gavella City Drama Theatre, Theater und Orchester Heidelberg, Slovak National Theatre Bratislava and Deutsches Theater Berlin.

Supporters

With thanks to the support of



With the support of the city and local council of Timisoara.

European Theatre Convention - Convention Théâtrale Européenne

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