## **Benoit Geers**

## **Coordinator International Arts Festival NEXT - Belgium**

International Arts Festival NEXT Since 2009, Benoit Geers is the coordinator of the yearly International arts festival NEXT. NEXT is a durable, cross border cooperation platform involving 6 co-organising art houses and some 15 associated cultural partners from 10 Flemish, Walloon and French cities. Together in November, they present around 70 international theatre and dance performances in more than 15 venues spread throughout the cross border Eurometropolis region.

Cross-border cooperation in the Eurometropolis region



Benoit Geers has been working as a communication and project manager in multiple (inter) regional performing arts houses and festivals since 2001. Cross-border cooperation in the Belgian-French territory, nowadays known as the Eurometropolis Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai + Valenciennes (2008), has been a common thread throughout the past 15 years. As an example of this cross-border cooperation, he worked as project & communication manager at theatre of Kortrijk (BE) from 2003 to 2009. He was in charge of coordinating the cross-border bilateral cooperation project 'Complices' with La rose des vents Villeneuve d'Ascq.