



PITCHES

Sound Therapy

Thabiso Montse, South Africa

Thabiso Montse is in the wellness space specialising in sound therapy and drumming and would like to help festival makers during their festivals to manage stress levels by offering them sound therapy throughout the course of their festivals.

Wavemakers: Ocean Generation

Gemma Connell, United Kingdom

Ocean Generation is an ocean-focused NGO and UK Charity which is on a mission to empower an inclusive global movement to tackle Ocean threats through science and storytelling. We break down the biggest human threats our Ocean faces, like plastic pollution and climate change; shift the perceptions and behaviours that create them; and are empowering the world to live more sustainably. The best way to do that? Education and empowerment – anchored by science and driven by storytelling. This – our Ocean Intelligence approach – is endorsed by UNESCO and integrated into our youth engagement programmes, empowering an inclusive approach to sustainability.

Gemma Connell will facilitate a workshop that includes a deep dive into Pollution as one of the 5 Ocean Threats and introduce the framework that will allow you to focus your effort and energy on combatting plastic pollution in an Ocean Intelligent way, applying this to how we conduct ourselves as festival-goers and how the festivals themselves can rethink their approach to single use plastic.

Culturescapes

Juriaan Cooman, Switzerland

Culturescapes is a multidisciplinary biennial arts festival based in Basel, Switzerland. Since 2003, the festival focuses on the cultural landscapes of countries and regions.

In 2023, the focus for Culturescapes' 17th edition is on the Sahara region and for 2025 we will continue focusing on the region. Which other festivals would be interested to collaborate in one way or the other to host artists we will invite, either in the field of concerts, performances or co-hosting artists in residence?

Crossing Rivers

Roselle Pineda, Philippines

"Crossing Rivers" is a cultural exchange project between two First Nations communities in the Philippines and Australia. The exchange will occur in the Indigenous festivals that these communities host, the Adow ne Domaget Festival in the Philippines and the Baiame's Gunnedge Festival in New South Wales, Australia.

The Director's Round Table (DRT)

Joshua Alabi & Faith Olatide, Nigeria

Kiniso Concepts presents The Director's Round Table (DRT), an esteemed capacity-building initiative aimed at equipping and mentoring young female directors for both film and theatre. Operating within an industry traditionally dominated by men across Africa, DRT was conceived to address the pressing need for increased female representation among storytellers. Following a self-funded inaugural edition with 15 participants, we are now expanding DRT's reach across the continent. The upcoming program, spanning 15 days, will be followed by an extensive 6-month to 1-year mentorship period with industry experts. We invite potential partners to join us in this noble endeavor, contributing to the empowerment and global exposure of emerging female directors.

Your collaboration will play a pivotal role in shaping the future of the creative industry in Africa, promoting diversity, and offering young female directors unparalleled opportunities for growth. Together, we can elevate the next generation of storytellers and help them shine on both local and international stages. Join us in supporting The Director's Round Table's mission to nurture and empower emerging female talent in film and theatre.

Set is Coming

Zane Estere Gruntmane, Portugal

"Set is Coming" is a long-term intersectional project that anchors surfing as an immersive, cultural and capacity-building practice and artistic creation to develop

knowledge, innovation and skillset in creativity and communication with a natural phenomenon - the Ocean and to envision ways how to set the Ocean free from multiple pressures of human activities by deepening the cultural dimension of human-ocean relationships and transmitting them into social and economic actions.

ACTA's European biennale: "First Encounters: Art, early childhood and live performance"

Louise Catry-Bossis, France

Since 2004, ACTA has organised the European Biennale "Premières Rencontres: Art, petite enfance et spectacle vivant" ("First Encounters: Art, early childhood and live performance"). The festival showcases contemporary European performance for very young audiences (0-3 years old) in approx. 15 partner cities in the Val-d'Oise, Seine-et-Marne and Oise districts, in the Greater Paris region in France. A key event, the European Forum, takes place over two days during which conferences, reflexion and artistic workshops, and project presentations are organised.

Featuring artists from Belgium, Netherlands, France and Scotland, the 11th edition will be held from 4 March to 7 April 2024, with the European Forum taking place on 13 and 14 March 2024.

This edition is strongly linked to a 3-year Erasmus+ funded training project which brought together early childhood, education, social, and cultural professionals from France, Netherlands, Scotland and Spain to raise awareness on the importance of artistic experiences for babies and young children and explore best practice at a local level and on a European scale. Participants from all four countries will be invited to share results and learnings from the project at the European Forum, and we will present "Early Childhood Principles for a European Artistic Awakening", a document written collectively by all those who took part that advocates for the protection and implementation of artistic awakening across all European regions. Finally, performances that were presented during the project will be programmed across several venues at the festival.

ACTA is as a company based in Villiers-le-Bel (Greater Paris Region) that creates shows in France and abroad for young and very young spectators and the adults who accompany them.

PENGO International Network. New decentralized structures in intercultural team work.

Annika Rachor, Germany

I would like to present the structure of our PENGO International Network which can be used to found decentralized country teams in different countries. Furthermore, I am currently researching about the Equal Care approach in our intercultural work and at the

festival Hildesheimer Wallungen, which I am currently directing. This short pitch should give examples on new ways of decentralized intercultural team work, the possibility on joining the international PENGO network and to further talk about the topic of Equal Care in intercultural encounters.

Larnaka 2030 ECoC Candidate

Kelly Diapouli, Cyprus

Larnaka 2030 European Capital of Culture Candidate is looking for potential partners within the network. This is a large scale multidisciplinary project, that brings together artists and cultural operators from all over Europe and the rest of the world, to transform the city of Larnaka in Cyprus into a laboratory, where together with the local communities we can address the main challenges we are facing today: the challenge of social cohesion, the challenge of well being and the challenge of climate change. We would like to connect with organisations, artists and cultural operators from all over the world who share an interest in engaging with community based practices, as well as with various aspects of "care". We are particularly interested to connect with such organisation and people from the Middle East, Africa, India and the global south.

Vučijiet Beltin

Angele Galea, Malta

Vučijiet Beltin (voices from the city) is an artistic project that gives a voice to the community, especially the children, through a theatre production. Through preparatory exercises, followed by a year long process of workshops, audit and presentations, the Valletta community is no longer simply being used as a backdrop for the next artistic endeavour or artistic event but is vocalising their concerns to resonate with the general public, in an attempt to empower and strengthen their position in society, by means of this artistic process.

Throughout, Vučijiet Beltin has brought together local and foreign artists and creative practitioners to work with members of the Valletta Community, the capital city of Malta, (Valletta Primary School and St Dominic Theatre Group) to create a theatrical production to challenge and provide opportunities for critical thinking and engagement. To complement this, two panel discussions were held to give space for knowledge sharing as well as bringing forward women's contribution to society through their community outreach in their respective NGO's.

Global Academic Network

Brett Pyper, South Africa/global

Over several ateliers since at least 2020, we have noticed that some participants are developing research projects relating to festival practices. Some are registered for graduate study and others are already based at universities and other institutions of learning. We are this in the process of establishing a Global Academic Network for festival research and practice. Common themes that have resonated in our online dialogues thus far are the intersection of arts, festivals, social issues, conflict transformation, and connections between the academic world and communities through participatory methods. This session will share information with interested alumni and will invite their participation.

RIMA

Sada Malumfashi, Nigeria

RIMA is a digital platform that will connect creative practitioners from the global South with institutions offering opportunities for international mobility and financing. It will include a multilingual database, matchmaking service, and mentorship scheme. Also, RIMA's members will be able to compare experiences of navigating international borders, project development, funding, and network building.

Call for artists: Vietnam, Thailand, Camboge

Matteo Penazzi, Italy

The World Youth Orchestra Fondation is looking for artists in the fields of music, arts and theatre to involve in a 3-years project called 'Sounds of brotherhood'. The artist will be granted funds to develop their projects within their countries and communities of people. I'm looking for contacts and connections to establish.

Lusaka Arts Festival

Isaac Kalumba, Zambia

Lusaka Arts Festival is a multi-discipline arts festival that will involve arts workshops, music, theatre, dance, poetry and art exhibition (visual art). This is going to be the biggest festival in the country and will be taking place annually. The festival will be in Lusaka, the capital city of Zambia and will offer the public an opportunity to see the best performances in the country.

Jimmy In Saigon (film)

Peter McDowell, United States

Jimmy In Saigon is a documentary film that has won 15 awards at 36 festivals, and now the film is travelling and participating in pre- and post-screening discussions about loss, grief, mourning, family, history, and LGBTQ+ issues.

—

Self Promotion and Fundraising

Peter McDowell, United States

Workshop about Self Promotion and Fundraising for the artist (performing artist, filmmaker). I will give artists and small arts organizations the tools to promote themselves via website and standard media; and to support their activities through a proven individual fundraising technique that I teach.

—

Newwave Xpress

Nthangwanika Kondowe, Malawi

I have recently founded a music distribution and publishing company in Malawi, I would love to collaborate with filmmakers and festival organizers in exporting African music which is becoming largely popularised. The combination of my regional knowledge and their access to markets can be mutually beneficial in growing a global and well connected industry.

—

Moving Borders

Maria Azucena Rodriguez Franco, Mexico

Moving borders, escena sin fronteras, organizes, promotes, advises, and creates scenic processes for the performing arts community. Under the motto "scene without borders" moving borders seeks to reinterpret and reconceptualize both the creative process and the scenic fact from the commitment to the socio-cultural context.

The projects of moving borders seek to build a dialogue between traditional aesthetics and its reconstruction in the present; thus generating risky and experimental proposals that show the expressive potential of Latin American contemporary dance worldwide. It promotes collaborative work between creators from different disciplines and latitudes, through processes that are developed from the collective.

For 15 years it has achieved national and international recognition mainly for the choreographies of its founder Jaciel Neri (member of the Sistema Nacional de Creadores de Arte del Fondo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes 2015-17 and 2021 - 2023). Moving Borders has become a reference for the performing arts community through various

projects such as CAMP_iN - scenic encounter; Graduades Danza - national meeting of students of contemporary dance high schools; POSSIBLE Festival, among others.

Moving borders is a platform of shared imaginaries that seeks to build scenarios of human compatibility.

–

Festival's as a space of social & political action

Ruth Cross, United Kingdom / Spain

I am developing a practice of research-in-action to support festivals (and the theatre companies and artists they commission) to create artistic and immersive 'live' exchange between festival audience around the challenging and critical intersecting global themes of migration and climate change.

I have developed a practice of supporting social and political engagement that centres on individual and collective action, provoked by artistic interventions and gatherings that take place in festival setting.

I would like to propose to support your festival (and the theatre companies and artists you work with) in developing your own unique style and process of audience exchange and action - in a way that is relevant to your festivals' context.

I can work with you as a freelance researcher focused on engaging audience in live action and dialogue around these themes. And critically, how to continue to keep a space of engagement open between audience members after the festival ends.

This involves expanding our thinking about who our festivals reach and how, and how these temporary public spaces can be used to bring arts and societal reflection together.

ROUNDTABLES

Italian festivals and eco sustainability: a preliminary investigation

Giulia Alonzo, Italy

More and more festivals are declaring themselves green. But are the intentions also realized in practice? Since June 2023, the Italian association TrovaFestival has visited over 80 Italian cultural festivals to understand the approaches to the topic. And there's a lot of work to do...

Fair Culture – UNESCO

Moustapha Diop, Senegal / global