

Choreography to Express Identity



Georgette GEBARA, Lebanon

Dancer, Choreographer, Honorary Member of ITI
International Dance Day Message Author 2018

In this lecture, Ms. Gebara will talk about her experience as an oriental woman, struggling to impose dance as a serious profession, as a message, and as a form of theatrical art which can enrich lives and reinvigorate traditions. Ms. Gebara has lived in Egypt and in Lebanon, and has been exposed to three religions, as well as rich traditions and ways of life, all of which have put immense influence on her and created a philosophy of her own. The lecture will also touch upon Ms. Gebara's pioneering use of voice as the sole musical accompaniment to a dance piece, explaining her use of the recitation of Arab poetry in dance for which she has become renowned.

Length: 45min
Language: English

Date: Thursday, 23 February 2023

Venue: Doubletree by Hilton Fujairah City

Practicing and Teaching Dramaturgy(ies) in the Age of Aesthetic and Empirical Crises



Gad KAYNAR-KISSINGER, Israel

President of Israeli Centre of ITI
President of ITI International Playwrights' Forum
Professor Emeritus at Tel Aviv University
former Chair of the Theatre Department

Today, in the reemerging political, social and ecological "dark times" – to use Bertolt Brecht's definition from the 1930s – dramaturgy in its multifaceted tasks as a mediator between the play of the world and the world of the play seems more necessary than ever. What are these tasks, and what are the challenges facing the practicing and teaching of this field in (Western) contexts in which the traditional textually-based dramaturgy is countervailed by post-dramatic, inter-medial and digital dramaturgies? This question obtains a special urgency in view of the recent global shutdown -- due to the Covid epidemic -- of live theatrical activity, and its replacement by the alternative, unilateral and solitary experiences of "zoom performativity? And how can new, performatively-anchored experimental approaches for engaging with and teaching dramaturgy meet these challenges? The lecture does not presume to provide all the answers to these weighty issues, but to present them for further deliberation and discussion.

Length: 45min
Language: English

Prison Theatre as an Oasis of Possibilities and its Potential of Self-education and Freedom



Vito MINOIA, Italy

Scholar in the disciplines of Education and Theatre
Coordinator of International Network of Theatre in Prison INTiP (Partner Organization of ITI)

Theatre in Prison works to forge connections, exchange, and networks between the individual and others, between the inner world and the outside. The stage becomes a bridge between prison and society, a place where the prisoners and citizens meet and discuss face to face, in an actor-audience relationship. Here the meeting can become discovery and culture. In this lecture, Vito Minoia draws upon his experience to understand how, in the distressing and bleak prison context, an aesthetic practice such as theatre goes back to its profound and original dimension as an instrument of knowledge.

Length: 45min
Language: English