

June 8, 2024

Activity Report 2022-2024 of the International Playwrights' Forum (IPF)
Projects proposed by Gad-Kaynar-Kissinger (President), Ursula Werdenberg (General Secretary and Vice President) and board members.
Report by Ursula Werdenberg; edited by Gad Kaynar-Kissinger

After the Congress in Fujairah, February 2023, we have organized several zoom meetings with the IPF board and IPF members. We discussed and prepared different activities:

1. Panel “New Methods of Teaching and Practicing Dramaturgy”

This panel should include up to 5 speakers. The enterprise is designated to constitute a part of an International New Dramaturgy Conference and Workshop.

In this panel the experts of various fields in Dramaturgy will present their branches, demonstrate them and – in accordance with possibilities – explore them practically.

The vast field of Dramaturgy is divided into **different categories, each of them will be explored, tested and implemented in a Workshop potentially included in an overall framework of a Conference dedicated to New Dramaturgy:**

- Classical Dramaturgy for Playwriting / Creative Writing
- Interdisciplinary Dramaturgy (Liisi Aibel, Estonia)
- New Methods of Dramaturgy involving Communities (Anton Juan, USA/Philippines)
- Interdisciplinary Storytelling in Contemporary Performing Arts Practice (Ursula Werdenberg/Raju Schwarz, Switzerland)
- Adaptations and Translations, Postdramatic Dramaturgy [Adaptations/Translations initially tested in the context of the Analogio Festival, Athens 2018, 2019] (Gad Kaynar-Kissinger, Israel)
- Research

We are looking for a Centre capable of hosting this panel and workshop (originally planned for the Congress in Antwerp).

2. New global Playwriting Competition: Multicultural Folktales and Children Stories in a Changing World.

In the wake of ideas raised in our last zoom meeting we suggest this topic for different categories of execution (performance art, textual drama, interdisciplinary stories). One winner will be chosen for each category; In each category the jury members will be subject to according guidelines.

3. Cross-Cultural Dialogue (the artistic relationship between East and West, North and South.)

This proposal relates to the dichotomy in artistic languages, communication modes, traditional and prevailing genres and methodology among different cultures: This barrier must be put down for the sake of a reciprocal dialogue and mutual influence, without losing the uniqueness of each culture.

Thus for instance, in the history of IPF there were festivals and dramatic workshops in the East (India, Philippines, Sri Lanka) and the West (Slovenia, Croatia and in other places). There was no synergy and interchange between them.

Proposal: The IPF, as part of the ITI that strives to promote peace and cooperation among cultures, should consider ways to discuss and practice a kind of rapport through discourse and

practical work between the dialectically and diametrically remote traditions of East and West, North and South. This collaboration might enrich the writing and directing modes of the cultures involved, as well as the understanding between them.

4. Presentation and Discussion of an internationally acclaimed living playwright in an online meeting (not only European. There might also be a cross-cultural presentation of celebrated dramatists)

Following the model of Slovenian ITI Centre initiated and implemented by Tatjana Ažman and others* we could arrange online meetings and discussions, wherein we analyze the plays and the dramaturgy of a suggested playwright(s).

We are looking forward to proposals by IPF members.

* **Reading Ivan Cankar, the "undiscovered Central-European Ibsen"**, promoted for the first time on an international scale in English translation, in a round table moderated by Tatjana Ažman (Zoom Event, Streamed Online)

Basel and Tel Aviv, June, 2024, Report by Ursula Werdenberg and Gad Kaynar-Kissinger



Analogio 2018



Theatre group, KURIS Festival, Bacolod City, Island of Negros, Philippines