

## **Activity Report 2022-2024 of Swiss ITI**

**As Swiss ITI one of our main common projects was realized in cooperation with Volksbühne Basel:**

By presenting an excerpt from our play 'Shengal the Power of Women' at the ITI World Congress in Fujairah and our guest performance at the Schauspielhaus Zurich (proceeds for the victims of the earthquake in eastern Turkey), we have been invited to various countries. For financial reasons, we were not able to realise all guest performances - but we were in Israel at the Akko Theatre on 4 and 5 October 2023 with subsequent talks and events and we were in Zimbabwe - where we not only showed the play, but also held a workshop and a collaboration with a dance group. Both trips have resulted in lasting contact, which will be continued if circumstances permit.



## שנגל - כוחן של הנשים Shengal - The power of women

כשדאעש פלש לשנגל באוגוסט 2014 במטרה להכחיד את האוכלוסייה היזידית, הפשמרנה והצבא העיראקי הפקירו את היזידים לגורלם. תנועת השחרור הכורדית הצליחה להציל חלק מהיזידים מרצח עם ורצח נשים שהתבצע שם. ההצלה עוררה שיח חברתי פנימי בקרב האוכלוסייה היזידית. החברה שבעבר הייתה בעלת מבנה פטריארכלי עוברת מאז שינויים עמוקים, והנשים היזידיות נמצאות במרכז התהליך הזה של ההתעוררות החברתית-פוליטית.

ההפקה משקפת עדות היסטורית עכשווית של התעוררות, שמגיעה הרבה מעבר לשנגל. ברקע שזורה מוזיקה חיה של מוזיקאים כורדים יזידים, הקלטות וידאו וסאונד שצולמו בשנגל, כמו גם טקסט ומשחק. המחזה פותח על בסיס מחקר בשנגל, בשיתוף פעולה עם נשים יזידיות.

ארץ מקור: שווייץ-בין-לאומי | שפה: אנגלית מלווה בכתוביות

Director, Playwright & Concept: **Anina Jendreyko**

משתתפים: **Carmen Dalfogo, Anina Jendreyko, Ferhat, Suleyman Çarnewa**, מוזיקאים: **Keskin, Giorgia Manzetti**  
**Yasin Boyraz** | וידאו ובמה: **Georg Faulhaber** | עוזר במה,  
כתוביות: **Nuri Jendreyko**

**VOLKSBUHNE  
BASEL**

אולם: לבן | משך: 70 דקות

40

פסטיבל עכו הבינלאומי לתיאטרון אחר 2023



---

Further a cooperation- Swiss ITI, Volksbühne Basel and Accademia Dimitri with the “CAS Performing Arts in Conflict Zones”.

In more and more areas of work, we come together with people who come from very different life realities, often marked by poverty and/or from the experience of war, violence and/or persecution.

This training programme offers a unique opportunity to experience intercultural work in local and international conflict and crisis areas and to use theatre-based approaches to deal with challenging realities. It is a so-called CAS, Certificate of Advanced Studies with 10 ECTS (credit points).

The participant learn how theatre work can be used to activate life forces, strengthen self-awareness and a sense of community. They will learn to reflect on their own starting position and develop awareness of inequality and discrimination. They will analyse their motivation and acquire competences and skills to position themselves in intercultural collaborations.

In January 2023 we have been with a group of students in Addis Abeba in Ethiopia. We worked with Circus artists and created a show.



# ክይወት **HYWET**

directed by Anina Jendreyko



The story of a young woman in Ethiopia based on the play Selam Habibi by Volksbühne Basel, which is a free adaptation of Shakespeare's famous love story "Romeo and Juliet"

**Sunday 15 January at 4 pm**

**Tuesday 17 January at 7 pm**

At Fekat Circus, Arada Sub City, Woreda 01

For information: +251 913 67 87 23



Accademia Teatro  
Dimitri  
SUPSI



---

### **Other activities:**

#### **International Playwrights' Forum (IPF)**

Projects proposed by Gad-Kaynar-Kissinger (President), Ursula Werdenberg (General Secretary) and board members and board member of Swiss ITI.

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
- Dramaturgy in interdisciplinary fields (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 (Gad Kaynar, Israel) (Adaptations/Translations tested in the context of Analogia Festival)
- Research

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

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

In view of ideas raised in our last zoom meeting we suggest this topic for different categories

(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)

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:* We 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 might enrich the writing and the directing.

## **4. Presentation and Discussion of an internationally acclaimed living playwright in an online meeting (not only European, might also be cross cultural)**

Following the model of Slovenian ITI Centre by Tatjana Ažman we could arrange an online meeting discussion, where we analyze the plays and the dramaturgy of a suggested playwright.

We are looking forward to suggestions by IPF members.

**F.e.: Reading Ivan Cankar the "undiscovered Central European Ibsen",** first time promoted abroad in English translation, round table moderated by Tatjana Ažman (Zoom Event, Streamed Online)

---

**Activity of Claude Grin (Trésorière de Swiss ITI) for Swiss ITI:**

**- Swiss ITI delegate to the Swiss Coalition for Cultural Diversity.**

**- President of the Swiss Coalition for Cultural Diversity since 2022.**

**- Mandate from the Federal Office of Culture (BAK) to collaborate on the preparation of Switzerland's 4th quadrennial periodic report on the implementation of the 'Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions - UNESCO 2005' during the period (2021-2023). The consultation process was coordinated by the Federal Office of Culture (FOC) of the Federal Department of Home Affairs (FDHA) and took place in several stages in order to involve stakeholders in drawing up the report. In parallel, the Swiss Coalition for Cultural Diversity (SCCD) worked with its member organisations and other civil society organisations to develop the civil contribution to this report.**

**Establishment of the main priorities identified by civil society organisations in the future implementation of the Convention.**

**- This report also serves as a reference for Switzerland's development cooperation policy.**

**- Collaboration in drawing up the 'Memento Visas', preparation of a website to make it easier to obtain artists' visas for entry into Switzerland.**

**- Stage in progress: Collection of stories and writings, particularly mythological ones, collected by ethnologists from Kanak narrators during the period of colonisation in New Caledonia.**

**These stories are then taken up by Kanak artists in shows and performances in France or the Pacific countries since 2021.**

Other activities of our office:

-Contact with Swiss Theatre Universities: At each beginning of a new semester, the students are informed about ITI and get a member card.

-Member cards: each year member of Swiss ITI get a sticker for the new year.

-Network for Higher Education: Member of Board

-FTTE Think Tank Forum Theatre Training and Education.