



CBe/IIT

**BENINESE CENTER OF THE
INTERNATIONAL THEATRE INSTITUTE**

**World Organization of the Performing Arts
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Activity Report 2022- 2024

**By Pascal WANOU
President**

This brief report, covering the period from July 2022 to April 2024, outlines the activities carried out by the Beninese Center in various performing arts disciplines. In general, two types of activities were conducted: the celebration of World Days and capacity-building workshops.

World Theatre Day and International Dance Day

The Beninese ITI Center adhered to tradition in celebrating World Theatre and International Dance Days. The World Theatre Day celebration on March 27 for 2023 and 2024 spanned several days and multiple locations across different cities in Benin. The activities were diverse, including theatrical performances, training workshops, and professional exchange sessions. In addition to Cotonou, the cities of Abomey-Calavi, Lokossa, Wèssè, Comé, and Parakou hosted events over the past two years. The same approach was applied to the International Dance Day celebration on April 29.



Figure 1: Parakou, Theatre Performance by the Artistic and Cultural Ensemble of Students



Figure 2: International Dance Day (JID): Contemporary Dance Performance

Theatre Performance at the University of Abomey-Calavi



Workshop and Theatre Performance at the University of Abomey-Calavi Campus: Directed by Sybelline de Souza, Young Talent

Capacity-Building Workshops

A total of three capacity-building workshops were organized between July 2023 and April 2024 in various locations. These workshops were aimed at professionals in the performing arts, including theatre, dance, music, and even film.

1. Introduction to Stage Set Design and Construction Workshop

This stage was conducted by director, set designer, and playwright **Hermas Gbaguidi** in Allada, a city approximately 50 km from Cotonou, on September 2 and 3, 2022, at the Maison des Jeunes. The objective was to enhance the technical skills of event organizers in the design and construction of stage sets. Seventeen participants took part in the workshop.



Partial View of Trainer and Participants

2. Workshop: Acting in Front of the Camera

Under the direction of **Jean-Luc Tohozin** (young director, cinematographer, and stage director), the workshop took place on November 10 and 11, 2022, in Missérété at the Arts and Culture Center (SAC) in the Ouémé Department, about 40 km past Porto-Novo. It brought together around fifteen theatre and film actors from the Ouémé region. The workshop aimed to equip theatre and film actors with techniques for performing in front of the camera, considering that the artistic language in the two mediums differs.



View of the Trainer and Participants with Their Training Certificates

3. Capacity-Building Workshop: “Producing Your Show: Essential Steps in Stage Production”

Held in Pahou on September 15 and 16, 2023, the workshop brought together around fifteen cultural professionals involved in stage productions. The aim was to equip them with knowledge about the process and regulations related to producing a performance.



The Trainer



A Participant Receiving Their Certificate

Cotonou, 30 May 2024