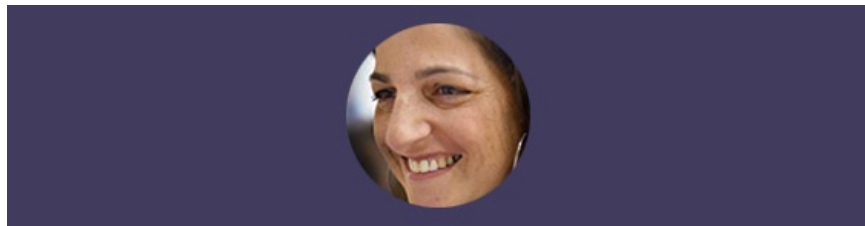




ASSITEJ

International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People

ASSITEJ Newsletter N°69, November 2015



Introduction

CULTURAL BASKET

By Adi Beerl

In Israel a network promoting the presentation of plays through what is entitled a “cultural basket” is operated through the governmental agencies of the Ministry of Education.

The National Cultural Basket develops and presents an educational program promoting awareness to art. The purpose of this program is to prepare the student to appreciate high quality art also as an adult. This program is in the formal educational system from nursery school to the end of high school.

The state of Israel is a pioneer in this field in the formal education system, recognizing the important contribution art has for the individual and for society.

This is a joint program of the Ministry of Education, the National Community Centers and local municipalities.

The Ministry of Education initiated the Cultural Basket as a program which will lead in education of art. It is financed by them and aims to implement the entire student population.

The National Community Centers provide the organizational and administrative umbrella for it. The municipalities each have jurisdiction for it in their region.

The Cultural Basket designates and executes their goals as well as providing professional support and appraisal.

The Program Principles:

- Presentation of Artistic Productions from different disciplines to students throughout the year on many levels with programming for many years.

- Educational activities that accompany the presentations, which include preparations prior and follow up after each showing.

- Presentations during school hours to ensure full attendance of the students.

Its Influence and Effects:

- The systematic exposure of students to art will advance educational goals.

- Broaden the Horizons - Introduction and exposure to art will expand the cultural world of the student.

- Spiritual Enrichment - The exposure of art will distract them from materialism and goal oriented achievement, contributing to a creative perspective within a complicated world.

- Involvement in Social Processes - Art expands the consciousness for social involvement and change.

-Tolerance and Understanding of the "Other" - Quality Art examines our reality from a perspective that offers a different interpretation. It offers its audience an experience of the emotional world of others, providing sensitivity, openness and tolerance.

-Foundation for Cultural Cooperation - Awareness of the many different cultural organizations and expressions enriches the dialogue between the different groups in Israel.

-Voluntary Repertory Committee - A professional committee chooses the most suitable presentations after watching and discussing them. The chosen offering is derived from the fields of music, theatre, dance, visual arts, film and literature. The committee is an independent body that chooses from all the available work created in Israel.

-Program Designed for the Schools - The choice of programs from the offering of the cultural basket that are eventually presented in the schools are made by the educators of each school with the cooperation of students and parents. This choice is not only a privilege but also an obligation for every school in the educational system to implement.

ASSITEJ NEWS



CALL FOR ADVERTISEMENTS ASSITEJ Magazine 2016



ASSITEJ has begun work on the 2016 ASSITEJ Magazine:

On the Edge: Interdisciplinary Exchange

We are glad to offer you an opportunity in our magazine that will help in making your work more visible for the global community!

Possibilities for advertising:

Full page, half a page, a quarter of a page and inside back cover.

All these in full color!

[Click here for more details about the advertisement possibilities and booking](#)

Apology

Dear ASSITEJ members,

Some of you probably received two different versions of the past issue of our ASSITEJ newsletter. Please receive an apology for the confusion this may have caused.

Remember to always open the complete version in your browser.

You can view the correct version of the October Newsletter here:
(<http://r.ca.d.sendibm2.com/gwbydekgqzgf.html>)

Thank you for your understanding.

EC Meeting at SAND Festival

The past month, the EC held its second annual meeting in Kristiansand, Norway during the SAND Festival. This was a highly productive meeting with planning towards the 2016 ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering in Birmingham receiving considerable attention. We would like to applaud ASSITEJ Norway's efforts in reviving this TYA festival with such success. It consisted of Norwegian performances, many focusing on dance, as well as international performances from the Netherlands, Belgium, Australia and the UK that were directly linked to the theme of "interplay", between artists and audience, artists and artists, and giving birth to constructive and interesting conversations. Workshops were opened up to observers and seminars were focused on important themes such as inclusiveness, ethics and aesthetics, among others. Pop-up performances by children from Kristiansand further enhanced the festival through confronting the audience with the child's perspective and asking questions about the role of children in the cultural life.

We would like to share a few images of the wonderful moments spent there.

[View more pictures.](#)



ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering 2016

Countdown to the big reveal!

ON THE EDGE: World Festival
of Theatre for Young Audiences and
ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering
Birmingham, UK 2nd - 9th July 2016

It's all systems go at ON THE EDGE: our programme is coming together and we will be able to officially announce programme highlights by the end of November!

Meanwhile a shortlist for the symposia programme is being drawn up by Philip Hardy and the team. And we recently had the pleasure of presenting to sixty delegates at the TakeOff Festival in Durham, UK about ON THE EDGE. The buzz amongst our fellow theatre-makers about the ASSITEJ Artistic Gathering coming to the UK for the first time was brilliant! We expect tickets to go on sale in late January, which will coincide with the launch of our new website.

In the meantime, we have added a Storify to our News page which will feature comments and updates about ON THE EDGE from across social media and the internet, so send us your thoughts!

ON THE EDGE is presented by TYA-UK and TYA-Ireland



T: @OnTheEdge2016



ASSITEJ Networks

Small Size

A practical Masterclass for
International Artists, Teachers and
Professionals

On La Baracca - Testoni Ragazzi's
30 years of experience on Theatre for Early Years
February 27th - 29th, 2016



Since 1986/87 season, La Baracca, with the collaboration of the Municipality of Bologna, has been developing the project "Il teatro e il nido" (Theatre and crèche), a project dedicated to children under 36 months that attend the "Nidi d'infanzia", the public educational institutions for children 0-3. A research that the company kept developing through the years, and that involved and involves artists, pedagogues and teachers.

It is from this experience that Small size projects and "Visioni di futuro, visioni di teatro" were born. This experience allowed La Baracca to produce 37 shows for children between 1 and 3 years, created by following different approaches of mise en scene. The shows created are really different one from the other: some of them, the ones that are best known abroad, are rich in body images, or focused on the artistic research on theatre and light, while other ones are full of words, surreal and passionate narration, funny and romantic stories.

[Read more.](#)



National Centers

4th. International Theatre for Children and Young People Researchers and Critics Forum.
Buenos Aires, Argentina. July 26-30, 2016.



The Theatre for Children and Young People Independent Practitioners Association (**ATINA**-Argentina), in collaboration with the Theatre Researchers and Critics Association (**AINCRIT**-Argentina), and the International Theatre for Young Audiences Researchers Network (**ITYARN**), organize the **4th. International Theatre for Children and Young People Researchers and Critics Forum**, ASSITEJ project, with the aim of encouraging the development of research in the International field of theatre for children and young people.

The goal of these Forums is to make a theoretical contribution to Theatre for Children and Young People practitioners, to promote the development of new trends as well as to encourage the integration of Ibero American researchers into the international network. During the meeting different theoretical frameworks on critical approaches will be proposed and the role of theory in practice and practice in theory will be discussed. The 4th FORUM expects to be a platform for exchange.

The topic of this 4th Forum will be: From Theatre for Babies to Theatre for Adolescents: Is there a Theatre for Every Age Group?

The program includes conferences, paper presentations, plenary sessions, meetings, forums, round tables, workshops and debates.

ITYARN and AINCRIT members from International Universities as well as International TYA professionals will participate in the Forum Conferences and Panels.

International Researchers and Practitioners will participate in the papers readings.

During the Forum, participants and speakers will be able to attend to Argentinian Theatre for Children and Young People performances.

Forums will be translated into English and Spanish.

Students, professors, researchers, artists and teachers related with TYA are welcome to present their papers.

CALL FOR PAPERS.

[Lea esta convocatoria en Español](#)



**HRVATSKI CENTAR ASSITEJ
ASSITEJ CROATIA**

ASSITEJ Croatia

18th Festival of Professional Theatres for Children and Youth.
Čakovec, 10 – 25 October 2015

ASSITEJ Croatia includes 23 professional theatres for children and youth. These are public institutions, town theatres, cultural centres, private theatres and artistic organisations.

Each year, and this year for the 18th time, ASSITEJ Croatia organises a national meeting of professional theatres for children and youth in Čakovec, bringing together the best of Croatian theatres, artists, critics and guests from the region and the world, for the purpose of exchanging knowledge and experiences in theatres for children and youth.

Since the programme is limited and the number of annual productions is high, in recent years, the selector has chosen the ten best productions of the last year for the festival. This year's selector was theatre director, Renata Carola Gatica. The plays were assessed by an expert panel consisting of theatre director Anica Tomić, theatre critic Igor Ružić, and theatre director Nikola Zavišić.

A round table was also held on the topic of evaluation criteria and assessing the quality of plays for children and youth.

As part of the festival, the international programme entitled Croatia World Collaboration was held for the fourth year in a row, aimed at enriching the festival programme with

international guests and colleagues.

In recent years, ASSITEJ Croatia has been an active participant in the formation and work of the regional network of ASSITEJ centres, EUROPA 8+. At this festival, an exhibit of puppets from the Tandarica Theatre from Romania was held, to celebrate the 70th anniversary of that prestigious theatre.

[Read more.](#)



ASSITEJ Cuba



On Sunday 25, an exhibition that relates the early years of ASSITEJ in Cuba, under the leadership of colleagues Eddy Socorro, Ricardo Garal and Sarita Miyares, was opened in the lobby of the National Puppet Theatre. The Cuban Center of ASSITEJ, under the 16th International Theater Festival of Havana, honored these three creators with this exhibition for their performance and dynamic leadership in the early years of ASSITEJ in our Island. Colleagues, friends and public from La Habana packed the room to join us in this recognition.



ASSITEJ Germany



Theatre Stories for all Senses at
Panoptikum
The European-Bavarian Festival
for Children's Theatre
January 19 to 24, 2016.

Having been held every two years since 2000, the **panoptikum** festival has become a popular event and a place to meet theatre professionals and festival organisers from Germany and abroad and enjoy the hospitable and relaxed festival atmosphere in the Southern German City of [Nuremberg](#).

Twelve performances for children between ages 3 and 13 from Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, and Switzerland as well as ten performances from the State of Bavaria will give you the possibility to explore the wide range of contemporary children's theatre.

For further information about the program and the various different packages, that direct delegates through the festival in a pleasant and simple way, send an email to panoptikum@theater-mummpitz.de.

Panoptikum is organized by Theater Mummpitz, an independent children's theatre based at the Kachelbau Children's Cultural Centre, where the Nuremberg Children's Museum and the

municipal KinderKunstRaum also offer children's cultural activities.

[Read more.](#)



panoptikum

ASSITEJ Italy

The project "Diritti Negli Occhi" (Rights in the Eyes)

Last year, the United Nations celebrated its 25th anniversary with the Convention on the rights of children and adolescents. For at least a decade in countries around the world, including developing countries, the idea is spreading that protecting children and adolescents can also be achieved by defending their right to art and culture, and there are many international organisations that aim to achieve this goal.



Considering the important role, from this perspective, that theatre can play, the Centro Servizi Culturali S. Chiara, a member of ASSITEJ Italy, launched the project "RIGHTS IN THE EYES". To organise the event, the centre worked with: the Agency for Family, Childbirth and Youth Policies in the Province of Trento, the Family Forum, "Trento, a city for education" Project, Tavolo Trento 0-18, and the ACCRI, Agevolando and "Officina per il sorriso" associations. The projects will kick off In November 20, 2015 - International day of children's rights - with the opening of an exhibition in the foyer of the Centro Servizi Culturali S. Chiara in the city of Trento, which will include a display of illustrations and photographs that represent the rights of under-aged children and theatrical experiences in different parts of the world. The exhibition, therefore, will serve as an opportunity for cultural exchange, becoming a container of shows, meetings and workshops until May 27, 2016, anniversary of the ratification of the Convention.

The schedule of shows will offer opportunities for reflection and direct interaction on certain basic rights. The right to a family, to express one's opinion, to be an active member of the community, but also (should there be the need) the right to ask for help. In other words, shows that suggest a view of children and adolescents as human beings that are growing into adults and citizens of the world.

[Read more.](#)

ASSITEJ Korea

The 12th ASSITEJ Korea Winter Festival, Seoul
2016
January 7 to 16



ASSITEJ Korea is delighted to announce that the upcoming Winter Festival is open to international guests.

This Winter Festival, with the theme "Imagination into Reality!" will present 11 Korean pieces including the 6 nominated for the 24th Seoul Children's Theatre Awards. It also will provide various other activities for audiences and professionals such as roundtable, workshops and ceremonies.

A special program for international guests is scheduled for 4 days at the beginning of the Winter Festival. Please don't miss this chance to discover the Korean TYA!

Further information:

<http://assitejkorea.org/english/info.php>



ASSITEJ South Africa

Vrygrond Family Festival looks to rebuild community spirit after taxi violence



Theatre for Young People

After recent protest action in Vrygrond, local community members are banding together to reclaim the streets of Vrygrond as a safe space for children and families. To support these initiatives, ASSITEJ South Africa, which is based in this township situated close to Muizenberg, will host the Vrygrond Family Festival from 6 - 8 November, along with its' partner, Theatre Arts Admin Collective, to ensure that the children and youth of Vrygrond have opportunities to enjoy excellent theatre and engage in creative activities. The festival will include an expo of all organisations working in the community and a community conversation around making Vrygrond a safe haven for its children.

Amongst the nine productions on at the festival, some of the highlights are:

- Iconic South African comedian, Rob van Vuuren, in partnership with Danielle Bischoff present "Florence and Watson and the Sugarbush Mouse" an environmental musical play
- Joanna Evans will present "Patchwork" for children aged 1-4. Patchwork stars legendary musician and storyteller Pedro the Music Man, who will also tell stories at the library on Saturday morning.
- "Kalahari Swaan", a piece combining dance, poetry and drama, based on Swan Lake which tells the story of a young impoverished miner trying to lead a better life
- "Bird and Breakfast", a new work by Thando Baliso, one of ASSITEJ SA's Inspiring a Generation mentees for 2015.



ASSITEJ UK

Call Out for TakeOff Festival Programmer 2017

Would you like to follow in the footsteps of Kate Cross from the egg or other past TakeOff Festival programmers such as Director Dani Parr or Chris Elwell from Half Moon? Then this could be your chance.

Opportunity



Theatre Hullabaloo are now recruiting for the next TakeOff Festival Guest Programmer. We are looking for an inspiring freelance programmer who can work with our Creative Producer and the festival team to curate a cutting edge festival that appeals to our audiences and challenges our peers. This person will be responsible for the development of the programme for TakeOff 2017, which will host the next Delegate Festival, as well as act in an advisory capacity to identify opportunities for the programme in 2016, which will focus on growing audiences in communities across County Durham.

Do you have experience of programming arts events or festivals for children and young people?

Do you have an exceptional understanding of work for young people (including an appreciation of key practitioners and organisations within the field)?

Would you like the opportunity to have your voice heard amongst the TYA Sector?

Download our [TakeOff Festival Programmer Recruitment Pack](#) to find out more and apply.

Deadline: 23rd November 2015

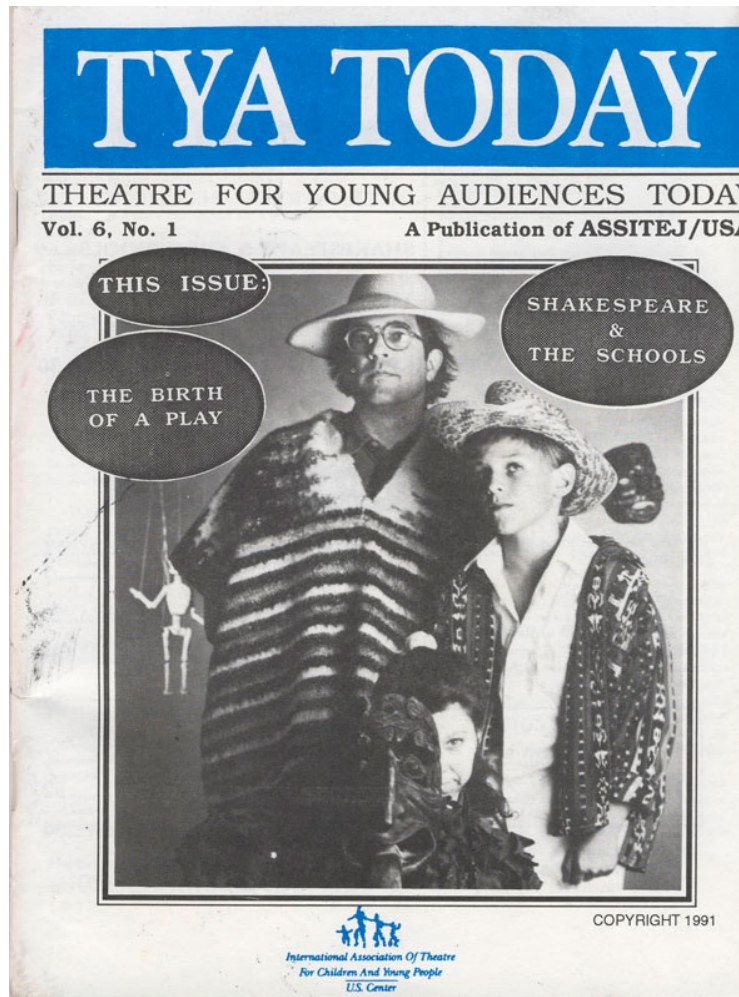


50th Anniversary Section

As part of the continuing celebrations of the ASSITEJ Jubilee, we will be including special contributions that speak about the history of our association and centers around the world.

On this occasion we share with you a selection of documents and letters from ASSITEJ archives in Frankfurt that were sent by Jürgen Kirschner. Some of these were also used to illustrate the 2015 ASSITEJ Magazine.

We are also including a contribution from TYA UK on an inclusive experience.



TYA Today Journal, a publication of the International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People, US Center. Vol. 6 N°1, 1991.

[View more images](#)

Some points on my developments of Children's Theatre within The Visual Vernacular.

TYA UK

By Kinny Gardner

I have been creating theatrical work for Deaf children in the UK, but touring it in a Hearing world, for over 35 years and regularly come across vital misconceptions about D/deafness and its diaspora of cultural difference. As a 'veteran' creator, older than most yet younger than some, I thought to jot down these notes the purpose of which is to highlight 'what is happening' when you see a Deaf-inspired work, or indeed one of my shows.

The Crazy Kat Theatre Company, for whom I am Artistic Director, creates theatre incorporating Sign Language Arts which is accessible for deaf and disabled children and young people and is performed and taught by an integrated company of deaf and deaf-aware practitioners. Crazy Kat is hard of hearing led and deaf directed. The successful working combination of hard of hearing Artistic Director Kinny Gardner and Deaf Theatre Director Caroline Parker MBE has led to a distinctive, ambitious and high quality style of integrated Sign Language Arts. This has attracted disabled artists to the company who seek to reflect the 'lived experience' of deaf and hard of hearing children and young people.

My work for 'early years' audiences with Crazy Kat Theatre Company is recognised by many professionals working in the UK Disability Arts and Education field as being successfully reflective of aspects of patterns of early years play and is designed to address the issues facing the late narcissistic period of personal development. The work is designed to be age appropriate, many layered, subtly crafted and rich in iconographies of early years.



It is characterised by an approach that is based upon the needs and the abilities of young deaf and disabled children. Krazy Kat Theatre Company has a proven track record of engaging coherently with additional needs including Severe Learning Difficulties, Autistic Spectrum Disorder and Profound Multiple Learning Difficulties. They regularly re-visit mainstream, mixed ability and deaf schools, and many schools with Hearing Impairment Units. My mission is to give voice to deaf potential, extending the impact of signed theatre and encouraging other artists to bring it centre stage into the life of the mainstream community. All our work is fully accessible for families who are unable to bring their severely disabled child to the local theatre or arts centre due to the understandable issues of noise and physical displacement that a child with severe disabilities often exhibits.

[Read more.](#)

