



Teater Renü

Ethnical Laboratory of the Performing Arts

The aim of the project is to create the possibility for indigenous artists from Latin-America, the Nordic Countries and the Barents Region to meet and to exchange experiences and knowledge through workshops and work in progress, to create together and to explore the possibilities for future common performing art projects.

Project Leader: Theatre Renü, Norway (mail@renu.no, + 35090230).

Place: Odin Theatre, Holstebro, Denmark.

Period: Week 41-42, 2005.

Participants: Miguel Utreras (Mapuche), Toril Johansen (Sámi), Erninguak Poulsen (Inuit), Valentina Sergeevna Zganich (Nenets), Olga Mikhajlovna Kotsubanskaja (Komi) and Else Marie Laukvik (Denmark), collaborating director in the project.

The project is financed by the Norwegian Art Council (Norsk Kulturråd), The Nordic Cultural Foundation (Nordisk Kulturfond) and Nordscen (the Nordic Center for the Performing Arts).

Participants



Toril Johansen is a Sámi from Kautokeino, Norway. From 1998 to 2000 she was a trainee with the Sámi National Theatre "Beaivvas" in Kautokeino. She has worked as an actress in several performances, e.g. in the intercultural production "Salted" in the Netherlands, and she also had a role in the Sámi film Bazo from 2003. In 1999 she started the youth theatre project "Gallanuoraid Theatre", where she worked from 1999 to 2004, and produced and directed a total of 8 performances. The aim of this work was to give possibilities to young Sámi people to play theatre in their own language. Toril is especially engaged in traditional story telling from the Sámi people, and the art of Joik (a traditional singing and poetic technique of the Sámi culture). Toril was awarded ("Ildsjelprisen") by the Norwegian State for her work with young Sámi people.

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Erninguak Poulsen is an Inuit actor and dancer born in Maniisq, Greenland. Erninguak started his carrier as an actor in the Tukak Theatre in Denmark in 1993, where he amongst other techniques elaborated on the drum and mask dance from his country. He has been taking part in several theatre productions and touring in different countries with Tukak Theatre. Erninguak has been working in film productions in Iqauluit in the North of Canada and he has been working in several cultural activities, as a teacher and performer.



Valentina Sergeevna Zganich is a Nenets from North-West Russia. She is educated as a choreographer and is now studying to become a theatre director at the University of Culture in St. Petersburg. She has 21 years of experience in the sphere of theatre and culture, 5 of which as the head of the Nenets Section of the Ethnocultural Centre in the Nenets Okrug. She is also an actress at the theatre ILEBTS, and has been the producer of several big performances in the Okrug. Valentina knows the Nenets language and culture, and has made presentations at various national conferences and seminars about her ethnic roots.



Miguel Angel Utreras Imilmaqui is a Mapuche-indian from the South of Chile. He started his work as an actor in 1986 in Santiago, Chile. He has participated in several theatre and TV productions both as an actor and director, and he has been teaching and giving workshops in several countries around the world. In 1996 Miguel moved to Denmark and in 1999 to Norway, where he in 2000 founded Teater Renü. Miguel's work is deeply connected with his cultural identity and an experimental modern theatre. The intercultural field in performing art and ritual is constantly in his research and work as an actor, director and play writer. In 2005 Miguel obtained the Norwegian State's Artistic Grant (Statens Kunstnerstipend). Miguel has also participated in several international conferences representing his culture.



Olga Mikhajlovna Kotsubanskaja is a Komi from the North-West of Russia, born in the Nenets autonomous area. She has worked within the sphere of culture for 21 years. Olga is a director, scenario writer and producer of various shows such as the Komi Festival “Vizula Ju” (“wide river”), the Komi Applied Arts exhibitions, a series of parties “Mistress of the Northern Home”, the spectacle “Komi wedding” etc. The Komi folklore group “Pechorjanka” under Olga’s guidance presents songs, games and customs of the Komis from the Izhma river area. Since 1994 she is also head of the Komi Culture section at the Ethno cultural Centre of the Nenets Autonomous Area, and has activated the work on preservation and revival of the Komi language through the Izhma Komi public organisations. Olga has been awarded with a number of diplomas from the Department of Culture and the Government of the Nenets Area.



Else Marie Laukvik was a founding member of Odin Teatret in Oslo, Norway in 1964. After the theatre moved to Holstebro in Denmark and became Odin Theatre, Nordisk Teaterlaboratorium, she has taken part in the pedagogical work and as an actress in all of Odin Teatrets performances until 1987. At the same time as she worked as an actress at Odin Teatret, Else Marie was the director and artistic leader of Teatret Marquez in Århus from 1981 - 1991, where she created 8 performances. Else Marie has also taken part as actress in a collaboration project with Teatro Tascabile di Bergamo, Italy and Teater Marquez (1996). Later she has directed performances for other Italian theatre groups: Teatro Actores Alidos in Sardinia 1999, Rogo Teatro, Abruzzo 2002, Associazione Culturale Teatro dell'Albero, Milan 2003. During the summer of 2005 Else Marie has been an actress in the performance "Natsværmerer" at the Chamber Music Festival at Nr. Vosborg, Denmark. In 2005 she has also been directing the performance “En tu pequeña vida” (by the Danish Group Kabaret Wagon, Holstebro), which was presented in July 2005 at Festival del Sur, Aigüimes, Gran Canaria, Spain.
