

## **Der Europäische Dachverband der Freien Darstellenden Künste / European Association of Independent Performing Arts wurde mit 1.9.2018 offiziell gegründet.**

Der Europäische Dachverband der Freien Darstellenden Künste / European Association of Independent Performing Arts vertritt die Interessen der Freien Darstellenden Künste.

Als Gründungsmitglieder haben sich erfahrene Organisationen und nationale Repräsentanten der Szene aus Österreich, Bulgarien, Tschechische Republik, Deutschland, Italien, Rumänien, Spanien, Schweden, der Schweiz und Ungarn zusammengefunden.

Der Europäische Dachverband hat zum Ziel, die Rahmenbedingungen der darstellenden Einzelkünstler\*innen, Künstler\*innengruppen, von freien Theatern und anderen künstlerischen Unternehmen sowie von allen mit der Branche verbundenen Berufsgruppen und Infrastrukturen in struktureller, sozialer, rechtlicher, finanzieller, politischer, organisatorischer, künstlerischer und kultureller Hinsicht zu verbessern.

Außerdem soll die öffentliche Wahrnehmung der Freien Szene als bestimmende Kraft der Kunstlandschaft in Europa gestärkt sowie die Freien Darstellenden Künste auf europäischer Ebene sichtbar vertreten werden.

Als erstes gemeinsames Projekt wird derzeit ein Vergleich der (Förder)situation der Freien Darstellenden Künste in Europa erarbeitet, welche am 4.11.2018, 16.00 - 18.00 Uhr, Black Box, Gasteig im Rahmen des internationalen Netzwerktreffens IETM Munich in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Festival "Politik im Freien Theater" und der Bundeszentrale für Politische Bildung in München präsentiert werden wird.

In der Folge ist eine reguläre Studie geplant, in welcher erstmals die Freie Szene in Europa quantitativ erfasst und in ihrer Bedeutung als treibender Motor einer lebendigen Kunst- und Kulturlandschaft beschrieben werden wird.

Große Beachtung fanden auch die bereits im Frühsommer veröffentlichten Empfehlungen zur Neupositionierung des Europäischen Kulturförderprogramms ‚Creative Europe‘ ab 2021.

### **TEXT ENGLISH**

The European Association of Independent Performing Arts represents the interests of the independent performing arts.

Experienced organisations and national representatives of the scene from Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Hungary have come together to take their place as founding members of the association.

The purpose of the Association is to improve the framework conditions of individual performing artists, artist groups, independent theatres and other artistic companies as well as of all professional groups and infrastructures associated with the industry and in regard to their structural, social, legal, financial, political, organisational, artistic and cultural aspects.

Furthermore, the association's agenda will be to increase public awareness of the Independent Scene as a defining force within Europe's artistic landscape as well as to represent the Independent Performing Arts more prominently at a European level.

The first joint project is a comparative investigation of the (funding) situation for the Independent Performing Arts in Europe, which is currently being conducted and which will be presented in Munich on 04.11.2018, 4 pm to 6 pm, at the international network meeting IETM Munich, Black Box, Gasteig, in cooperation with the festival „Politik im Freien Theater“ („Politics in the Independent Theatre Scene“) and the Federal Agency for Civic Education.

Subsequently, a quantitative study will record, examine and analyse the current situation of the Independent Scene in Europe and will describe its significance as a driving force within a vivid artistic and cultural landscape.

The recommendations for the 2021 European funding programme ‘Creative Europe’, which is currently undergoing revision, were already published in early summer and have since received great attention.

**Contact: please insert your national contact**

**Contact EAIPA (preliminary)**

**EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT PERFORMING ARTS**

Gumpendorfer Straße 63B, AT – 1060 Wien

eaipa@freietheater.at

+43 1 403 87 94

|

**EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT PERFORMING ARTS**

Gumpendorfer Straße 63B, AT – 1060 Wien, [eaipa@freietheater.at](mailto:eaipa@freietheater.at)

**MEMBERS' LIST** - in alphabetical order

**AUSTRIA: IG Freie Theaterarbeit /Austrian Association of Independent Performing Arts**

Gumpendorferstraße 63B, AT – 1060 Wien

[www.freietheater.at](http://www.freietheater.at)

**BULGARIA: АСТ – Асоциация за свободен театър / АСТ – Association of Independent Performing Arts**

Art office, bul. Macedonia 17, fl. 4, ap. 21, BUL - Sofia 1606

[www.actassociation.eu/](http://www.actassociation.eu/)

**CZECH REPUBLIC: Asociace nezávislých divadel ČR**

Celetná 595/17, CZE - 110 00 Praha 1-Staré Město

<http://andcr.cz/>

**GERMANY: Bundesverband Freie Darstellende Künste e.V.**

Kunstquartier Bethanien, Mariannenplatz 2, DEU - 10997 Berlin

[www.darstellende-kuenste.de](http://www.darstellende-kuenste.de)

**HUNGARY: Független Előadó-művészeti Szövetség (FESZ) / Association of Independent Performing Arts Professionals**

Bulcsú utca 44, HU - 1155 Budapest

<http://www.fesz.org/>

**ITALY: Etre associazione/CReSCo – Italy**

Via Bergognone 34, ITA - 20144 Milano

<http://www.etreassociazione.it>

**ROMANIA: ASOCIAȚIA TEATRELOR INDEPENDENTE**

Viorele street, no. 34, bl. 15, apt.2, sector 4, RO – 40429 Bucharest

**SPAIN: Red de Teatros Alternativos – Spain**

Apartado de correos 18269, ES - 28080, Madrid

[www.redteatrosalternativos.org](http://www.redteatrosalternativos.org)

**SWEDEN: Teatercentrum**

Hornsgatan 103, SE - 117 28 Stockholm

[www.teatercentrum.se](http://www.teatercentrum.se)

**SWITZERLAND: t. Theaterschaffende Schweiz, Professionnels du spectacle Suisse, Professionisti dello spettacolo Svizzera**

Waisenhausplatz 30, Atelier 157, CH - 3011 Bern

[www.a-c-t.ch](http://www.a-c-t.ch) , [www.ktvatp.ch/](http://www.ktvatp.ch/)

## **AUSTRIA:**

The Austrian Association of Independent Theatre (IGFT; IG Freie Theaterarbeit) was founded by Independent Performing Artists in 1988. Its goal is the improvement of the cultural-political, social, legal and professional situation of persons and groups who are active in Independent performing art. Other goals are the promotion of cooperation and communication.

We work

- for a better economical situation for persons working within the independent performing arts field
- for the implementation of social security structures that help independent performing artists and people who work in this field to combine freelance and employed work better than it is possible at the moment
- for an infrastructure that enables the preparation and realisation of independent productions in the frame of fair payment
- for a better visibility of the "free" performing art scene - within Austria we publish the production schedule <http://www.theaterspielplan.at>
- to enhance solidarity and network-building of people who work within the arts
- for effortless access to information, i. e. in editing a magazine, in releasing a weekly newsletter with cultural political information, information about jobs, calls, education & training, festivals...

## **BULGARIA:**

ACT "Association for Independent Theatre - the association of freelance professional theater groups". Bulgaria's Association for Independent Theatre (ACT) is established in 2009 as a union of NGOs and freelance artists in the contemporary performing arts. Developing, Advocating, Regulating, Promoting and Connecting independent organizations and artists in the performing arts in Bulgaria and abroad. The activity of ACT is focused on the principles which should provide adequate conditions for the professional work in the performing arts in Bulgaria.

The Association actively works to get the concept of "independent performing arts" established in Bulgaria. It promotes the independent scene's creative potential and supports its organizational competence as adequate, timely and significant not only for the future of Bulgarian culture but also internationally.

## **CZECH REPUBLIC:**

Association of independent theatres Czech Republic was established as an open association of theatre subjects, production houses and individual artists, who work in a field of independent theatres across the whole country. Primary interest of a non-profit sector is transparency of environment and conditions in which the publicly beneficial artistic activity is carried out.

The idea of establishing an own professional organisation has come out of the need of having an own professional platform, which would formulate questions of significance and position of independent theatre across the genres, the essence of which is preparedness in reactions to social issues, crossing the borders of temporary trends and blasts.

Independent theatre is very often an important ambassador of Czech culture abroad. It is therefore needed to assert the uniqueness of the sector of independent theatres, to establish contact with government and to include the mutual communication of these theatres.

## **GERMANY:**

The German Association of Independent Performing Arts (BFDK) is the federal umbrella organisation of all state associations for professional independent performing arts in Germany. Founded in 1990, it is today one of the largest theatre associations in the country. On a federal level, the association represents the interests of around 2.200 members nationwide – individual artists, groups, dance and theatre venues, and production structures. Altogether, the association thus represents circa 25.000 dance and theatre makers across Germany.

The 16 state associations operate independently on state level. Representatives from each of these state associations elect the seven members of the federal association's board of directors. Their work

is in turn supported by a full-time secretariat based in Berlin that is funded with project-based grants from the Federal German Government since 2011.

The Association initiates debates and exchange of professional knowledge on all issues concerning independent performing arts. The association's aim is to continually raise and improve awareness and recognition of the independent dance and theatre scene among the general public, as well as in the political, administrative and economic sectors.

One of our most important goals is to sustainably improve the social and economic situation of independent dance and theatre makers e. g. in the event of illness or in old age.

The association advocates good employment practices, adequate funding policies, as well as fair and transparent structures. For this purpose, the association also serves as an advisor to various public and private funding bodies, and in some cases – as in the field of arts education – also directly allocates funding to individual artists in connection with specific programmes.

On all issues, the association cooperates closely with other national and international trade and umbrella associations and promotes the professional work of our members by organising networking opportunities, providing guidance and consultation and offering training courses and seminars.

#### **HUNGARY:**

FESZ - Association of Independent Performing Arts Professionals. FESZ is a non-profit membership organisation representing its 90+ members (mostly performing arts companies) from the fields of independent dance, theatre, circus and theatre education. The mission of FESZ - among others - is to act as a hub of information, to advocate for the interest of the independent performing arts field in Hungary, to delegate curators to the boards of funding bodies, to establish contacts and to collaborate with similar organisations abroad, and to provide both professional and legal support to its members.

#### **ITALY:**

Associazione Etre is an Italian network of performing arts residencies that operate in Lombardy. Founded in 2008, as a project promoted by the Cariplo Foundation, is supported also by the Lombardy Region and the Municipality of Milan.

Etre promotes the concept of residency as an innovative form of creative enterprise that develops through a constant dialogue with the local territory and contributes to the development of new audiences.

Aiming to advocate for the residencies and the wider independent performing arts sector, over the years Etre has become an active member of important networks such as C.Re.S.Co and IETM, building connections and creating projects on both a national and international level, including the spring plenary meeting IETM Bergamo 2015 and Luoghi Comuni Festival.

#### **ROMANIA:**

The Romanian Association of Independent Theatres, founded in 2016, is the central body that represents the interests of the Independent Theatre producers and artists. Its members are a number of 17 venues from Bucharest and country wide.

The goals of our Association are supporting the national independent scene and artists, guidance for young artists in their development process, networking between the independent venues and artists and building a strong and permanent dialogue with state institutions in order to bring support and acknowledgement for the independent scene.

Starting in 2017 the association has also taken over the responsibility of organising the National Independent Theatre Festival that has reached its 5th edition participating in the development of a strong artistic community in our country.

#### **SPAIN:**

Originated in the year 1992, the Network of Alternative Theatres (Red de Teatros Alternativos) is today an association that brings together 45 theatres and small and medium format theatres, managed by a private team with an innovative project and artistic risk. In recent years, the Network has grown to be

present in 14 autonomous communities: Andalusia, Aragon, Asturias, Balearic Islands, Canary Islands, Cantabria, Castilla-La Mancha, Catalonia, Valencia, Galicia, Community of Madrid, Navarra, Basque Country and Extremadura.

The aim of the Network is to promote and disseminate contemporary theatre and dance as a common cultural heritage. A strategy that seeks concerted action with the rest of the professionals that make up the scenic sector. Its activity exceeds, therefore, the defence of the interests of the rooms that groups the Network, seeking to interact permanently with companies, creators and the public, as well as forming part of the most relevant platforms in the sector.

#### **SWEDEN:**

Teatercentrum is a national, non-profit interest organization and network of independent theatres in Sweden. It represents nearly 100 independent theatres in Sweden. The members are politically unaffiliated, non-commercial professional theatre companies, engaging more than 1 200 performing arts professionals.

During a year it's members present about 11 000 performances together, for an audience of about 700 000 people, many of these are children and young people. Independent theatres that offer great diversity in terms of genre and forms of expression are found in most parts of Sweden. Many of them tour country-wide and abroad.

The Organizations aim is to create meeting points for sharing knowledge and experience of an artistic and practical nature including theatre activities, artistic development, education, information, professional know-how, etc. The members monitor cultural policies in order to improve the situation for independent theatres and support artistic diversity in the field of theatre. They also emphasize the need for a good infrastructure of presenters that can help improve ease of access to theatre for the general public and the revenue of the independent theatre companies.

#### **SWITZERLAND:**

t. (Theaterschaffende Schweiz, Professionnels du spectacle Suisse Professionisti dello spettacolo Svizzera) was founded in 2018 as the successional organization of ACT and KTV ATP and is organized as an association. The aim of t. is to promote theater work and improve the professional environment for freelancers.

The association offers consultancy, services and benefits and network the members. Opposite the public, political committees and administrations, the organization is committed to the art section Theater and represents the specific interests of freelancers.

t. operates nationwide and has an international network. In Switzerland, regional sections are working for the concerns of independent theater professionals.

The professional association is open to professional theater professionals from all disciplines. t. currently has around 1800 members.