



MARCH 27

WORLD THEATRE DAY

روز ملی هنرهای نمایشی
National Dramatic Arts Day
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27 March 2023
World Theater Day

اداره کل هنرهای نمایشی با همکاری
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شهر سنندج

Celebration of World Theater Day
and National Theater Day in Iran

The CEO of the performing arts association visited a well-known artist of East Azerbaijan Province



Iran Theater- Esrafeel Farajollahi, CEO of the Iranian Performing Arts Association and the Director General of Culture and Islamic Guidance of East Azerbaijan, visited Ahmad Ghahramani, a well-known theater artist of this province.

On the occasion of World Theater Day and National Dramatic Day, Esrafeel Farajollahi, CEO of the Iranian Performing Arts Association, met with Ahmad Ghahramani, a well-known theater artist of East Azerbaijan, on Monday, 27th of March. In this meeting, the CEO of the Iranian Performing Arts Association presented a plaque of appreciation to Ahmad Garhamani for his many years of activity in the performing arts field of East Azarbaijan Province from Kazem Nazari, the General Director of Dramatic Arts Center.

East Azerbaijan theater officials were also present in this meeting: Seyed Mohammad Hossein Balaghi Mobin, Director General of Culture and Islamic Guidance of East Azerbaijan, and Ali Moharrami, Artistic Deputy of General Directorate of Culture and Islamic Guidance and Director of the Theater Association of this province.

This meeting was held after the visit of Esrafeel Farajollahi, CEO of Iran Performing Arts Association to West Azerbaijan province and commemoration of World Theater Day and National Dramatic Day.

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Celebration of World Theater Day and National Theater Day in Iran



World Theater Day is a restart of the activities of stage artists, after a few days of public holidays on the occasion of Nowruz every year in Iran. Therefore, at the same time as the coming of spring (Nowruz) and the renewal of nature, theater artists host theater enthusiasts with new and fresh works.

World Theater Day is March 27, which is celebrated all over the world, it is equal to the seventh day of the Iranian New Year.

On the occasion of New Year and Nowruz celebration, from March 20 to 24, all public and private offices and companies in Iran are closed for 5 days. Therefore, theater artists, like other people, try to spend most of their time with family and relatives or on domestic travels and rest during this New Year holiday.

Reopening of Halls

In the past few years, it has become customary for theaters in Iran to gradually resume their work after a 5-day holiday and host fans of this art with new shows. Therefore, the official opening of halls is celebrated on the seventh of Farvardin (March 27), which is World Theater Day. Iran is perhaps the only coun-

try in the world where World Theater Day is celebrated as the new year of theatrical activities. Therefore, World Theater Day is held in Iran in a special way and has a different atmosphere from other countries.

Celebration of World Theater Day in the earthquake-hit city of Khoy

2023 World Theater Day was celebrated in Iran by holding three ceremonies and theater halls officially opened.

The main ceremony of World Theater Day was held in the city of Khoy (West Azarbaijan province), in the northwest of Iran, which a major earthquake hit the city in January 2023.

By holding this ceremony in Khoy, The theater managers and artists, , tried to show that the artistic community of Iran still remembers the injured people of this city and will not hesitate to help them. Appreciation of some veteran artists of West Azarbaijan Province was a part of the ceremony.

An exhibition of the best theatrical photos

The opening of a photo exhibition in Honar Hall, which is a special theater for children and teenagers, was another

ceremony of World Theater Day in Iran. In this exhibition, selected photos from last year's Iranian performances in the theater halls of Tehran were presented . This art exhibition was opened by Kazem Nazari, General Director of Dramatic Arts Center.

A ceremony in the oldest theater hall in Tehran

Other World Theater Day and National Theater Day were held with the presence of Kazem Nazari, General Director of Dramatic Arts Center, Parisa Moghtadi, Director of Sangelaj Theater Complex and artists such as Javad Ensafai and Davood Fathali-baygi in Sangelaj Theater Complex (the oldest hall in Tehran). Kazem Nazari, General Director of Dramatic Arts Center, said in this ceremony: I congratulate the new year to the main asset of the theater, which is the audience, and I wish happiness and health to them."

World Theater Day message by Samiha Ayoub, an Egyptian artist which was read by Davood Fathali-baygi, a well known Iranian stage director and actor, was another part of the World Theater Day ceremony at the Sangelaj Theater Complex.

Kazem Nazari (Ph.D.) on World Theater Day

Iran Theater-Kazem Nazari, General Director of Dramatic Arts Center and President of Iran center of ITI wrote a message on World Theater Day and National Performing Arts Day. He emphasized that this art is a complete representation of life.

The message of Kazem Nazari is as follows:

In the Name of God

Theater is a complete representation of life.

If many believe that "theatre" is a powerful language and an up-to-date and effective media to show the quality of human life and his relationship with the world around him in the mirrors of "what is" and "what should be"; Therefore, theater, in a special sense, is a complete representation of life; And the stage is a place for cultivation, training, strengthening, virtue and the progress of human excellence towards the creator, accompanied by faithful and believing people with all the truths and realities of life and all compulsions and inevitabilities;



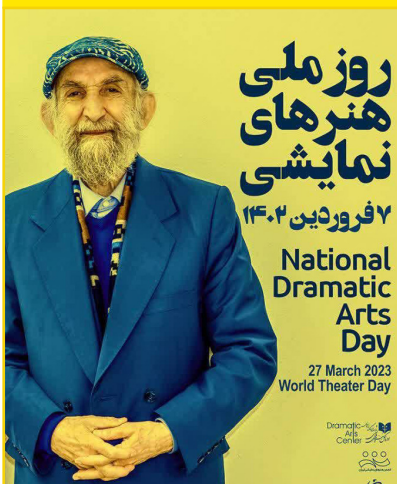
And a stage artist is someone who knows the wishes and hopes of the people of his community and considers the deprived people of his community and his creator, to be the supervisor of his actions in his works.

Therefore, the luck of the seventh day of spring is taken as a positive sign in sync with the World Theater Day and the National Performing Arts Day, and with the memory of the artists who died during the pandemic; We appreciate the presence of those who we will take

advantage from their presence for many years; The well-known s of performing arts and the promising young artists.

On the other hand, we firmly believe that after four decades of the glorious victory of the Islamic Revolution, theater as a rich, valuable art has expanded to the extent of Islamic Iran today and far beyond anything other than culture. This entire land has become the show pole of the country.

In this pure opportunity, we express our readiness more than the past for cooperation and harmony with today's converging values of the world theater and we hope that the new year will be a year full of attention to the theater of the cities and fruitful days of international interactions between the Iranian theater and other countries and also Let there be a better possibility for a more worthy and deeper productivity of Iranian performing arts throughout this Islamic country, especially for pioneers and artists.



Iran Theater-Ismaeel Khalaj has written the message of 2023 World Theater Day and National Dramatic Arts day in Iran.

In the name of God, the Merciful

Today, we celebrate and honor the World and National Theater Day in this heartwarming spring.

In this age-old art, in unrepeatable encounters, a group of people gather in one place and time to watch a show of the essence of a life.

Actors do not live on the stage, but

Esmaeel Khalaj on the World and National Theater Day

create a show of the compression of a life and event to introduce the audience to a new and fresh look. Theater has a universal language beyond everyday conversation and is an attempt to present the meaning of being human and to polish the rust of the soul. The potential power of this wonderful art to establish a connection between different intellectual spectrums is not hidden from theater people on a wide level. The original art of theater, which benefits from the accompaniment and harmony of various art forms, is based on teamwork and brings peace, harmony and attention to another. Storytelling, imagination and beauty have played a central role in human life since long ago, and theater is an art that, by using imagination, is able to take us with it and take us to unknown lands, and it guides and elevates us.

National Theater Day, which coincides with the spring of nature and

the ancient Nowruz, is an opportunity to honor and praise this precious art and reflect on its role and place in society. Unfortunately, in the last few years, the global crisis of the spread of Corona virus has faced this collective art and imposed difficult conditions on the performing groups and artists of this field.

But we are sure that the honorable people of the theater will raise a flag of honor and victory with a big heart and a high effort, and with all their heart and love, as they have proven many times, they will try for the happiness and hope of the people of this land and thanks to Yazdan(God) spring of nature and spring of theater will be brighter and more hopeful.

I hope that in the coming year, together with hope and authority, we will create fascinating, original, impressive and thought-provoking works.

Esmaeel Khalaj - Spring 2023

Kazem Nazari:

The audience is the main asset of theater

Iran Theater- Kazem Nazari considered the audience as the main asset of theater in the ceremony of World Theater Day and Theater Day in Sangelaj Theater Complex.

Honar Hall hosted the deaf on World Theater Day

The ceremony of World Theater Day and National Theater Day was held in Honar Hall with the presence of Kazem Nazari, General Director of Dramatic Arts Center, Maryam Kazemi, actress and theater director, Seyed Hossein Fadaei-Hossein, playwright and theater director, and audiences at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 27.

Kazem Nazari, Director General of Performing Arts, at the beginning of this ceremony congratulated World Theater Day and National Theater Day and spoke about the need to pay attention to the artists and

audiences of the Honar Hall as the assets of children's and youth theater. Other programs of the Honar hall on the World Theater Day included holding the photo exhibition of shows in from last year by photographers :Reza Moatari, Kaveh Karami, Milad Mirzaali and Sepideh Talebi, as well as the performance of the play "Manteko in the Land of the Kingdom" directed by Mehdi Khojastegi. On World Theater Day, the deaf audience watched the play "Manteko in the Land of the Kingdom" that it is the first play performed at Honar Hall during Nowruz.

Sangelaj Theater Complex and the main assets of the theater Other World Theater Day and National Theater

Day program were held with the presence of Kazem Nazari, General Director of Dramatic Arts Center, Parisa Moqtadi, Director of Sangelaj

Theater Complex and artists such as Javad Enssafi and davood Fathali-baygi in Sangelaj Theater Complex (the oldest hall in Tehran). Kazem Nazari, General Director of Dramatic Arts Center, said in this ceremony: I congratulate the new year to the main asset of the theater, which is the audience, and I wish happiness and health to them." He continued: "The fact that the audience welcomed the theater, it makes us happy and pride, and I am very happy that they came to watch the show "Smoke Machine" on World Theater Day and Theater Day at Sangelaj Theater Complex. World Theater Day message by Samiha Ayoub, an Egyptian artist which was read by davood Fathali-baygi, a veteran Iranian stage director and actor, was another part of the World Theater Day ceremony at the Sangelaj Theater Complex.

The 7th International Children's Theater Festival crowns the puppet show Derakhshang

Iran Theater-The closing ceremony of the 7th International Children's Theater Festival was held in Karbala.

The puppet show, Derakhshang, written and directed by Alireza Aghaei, which is one of the productions of Kanoon, won two awards from the 7th International Children's Theater Festival in Karbala. In this artistic event, the best director award was given to Alireza Aghaei and the best puppet design and went to Behnaz Mahdikhah

"Derakhshang" is the story of an apple tree that establishes peace with the help of children. This show is performed in the style of top table and paper Theater with the combination of animation.

This show is produced by Theater and Puppet Theater Production



Center of Kanoon in 2020 and it was previously performed in various festivals such as the 17th Tehran -Mobarak International Festival, the 17th Ishara International Puppet festival, and 24th Bursa International Children and Youth Theatre Festival.

The show "Derakhshang" has won the best Iranian play award

chosen by the critics and the director of this show was appreciated by Iranian puppeteers in the Ordibehesht Theater Festival in 2020. The International Children's Theater Festival was held in Karbala from March 11 through 17, 2023.

Mohammad Akbarian, Shima Delhonor, Mohammad Amin Bazvand, Mehrdad Rezaei, Hosna Sandoghhabadi and Behnaz Mahdikhah star in the show as performers and puppeteers. The crew: Mohammad Akbarian (assistant director), Arash Selgi (composer), Mohammadreza Rostampour (lyrics), Behnaz Mahdikhah (art consultant, designer and puppet design), Fatemeh Almasi (poster designer), Amir Rashidifar (animator) and Alireza Aghaei (set designer).

The celebration of World Theater Day in Khoy

Iran Theater- The Celebration of World Theater Day and National Theater Day was held on Monday, the 27th of March in Khoy city.

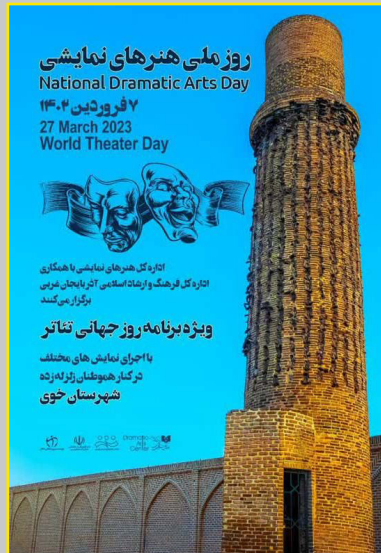
This event was organized by the General Director of Dramatic Arts Center of Iran, the Iranian Performing Arts Association and the General Department of Culture and Islamic Guidance of West Azerbaijan province, with the aim of accompanying, supporting and improving the mental conditions of the earthquake-affected people and artists of Khoy, at 13:30 (Monday, March 27th) in the municipality.

Various figures participated in this artistic event: Alireza Nowrozi, Director General of Culture and Islamic Guidance of West Azerbaijan, Esrafil Farajollahi, CEO of the Performing Arts Association of Iran, Javad Sajdinejad, Political, Security and Social Deputy of Khoy Governorate and Hojat Qasemkhani, Imam of Khoy city.

Javad Sajdinejad, Political, Security and Social Deputy of Khoy city congratulated the World Theater Day at the beginning of the ceremony and talked about the importance and place of Iranian performing rituals and traditions, including Ma'rekegiri, Shabihkhani (Ta'ziyeh) and folk stories.

Esrafil Farajollahi, CEO of Iran Performing Arts Association, read the message of Kazem Nazari, Director General of Dramatic Arts Center on the occasion of World Theater Day and National World Day and said: "Our motto in the General Department Dramatic

Arts Center and the Iran Performing Arts Association is a justice-oriented view and has special attention to The theater in the provinces and with this view, we organized the biggest day for the theater community together with people and artists of Khoy city.



Then Alireza Nowrozi, Director General of Culture and Islamic Guidance of West Azerbaijan, presented the report of the provincial theater in 2022.

"one of the most important goals in new year is upgrading the educational environment, production of local shows, art education for everyone."

The Imam of Khoy city, Qasemkhani, was one of the other speakers of this

ceremony, he referred to the role of art in society, he spoke about the important responsibility of artists towards society, the change of generations, educational and religious issues.

Among other programs of the World Theater Day and National Theater Day in Khoy city were the video message of Ismaeel Khalaj, the well-known actor and director, on the occasion of the World Theater Day, the performance of the rituals of "Takam-Gardani" and "Ashiq Khani" as well as the reading the message of World Theater Day by Seyed Jalil Aghdashi, one of the well-known stage artists of West Azerbaijan province.

In this ceremony, Seyed Jalil -Aghdashi, a well-known artist of the provincial theater, Omid Khakpour, the head of the performing arts association of the province, and Naser Bayzaei, a theater artist of West Azerbaijan, were honored.

The ceremony ended with the performance of the street show "Nowrouzkhani Kosa Oyon" written and directed by Mehdi Salehyar.

He said: "True noble art is aimed at humanizing, raising awareness, and reducing social harm."

The main ceremony of World Theater Day was held in the city of Khoy (West Azerbaijan province), in the northwest of Iran, which a major earthquake hit the city in January 2023.

By holding this ceremony in Khoy, The theater managers and artists, , tried to show that the artistic community of Iran still remembers the injured people of this city and will not hesitate to help them. Appreciation of some well-known artists of West Azerbaijan Province was a part of the ceremony.

Ehteram Boroumand on World Theatre Day



Iran Theater- When every child acquires the ability to speak and think, the child unknowingly and uncon-

sciously gets to know the art of theater. Where the child finds an emotional relationship with dolls, toys, moon, sun, stars, mountains, plains, flowers, trees, and birds. The child talks to them, loves them or gets angry, in fact the child is a writer, director and actor.

Little by little, the child tries to dream with friends outside of the realities of life and let the power of imagination fly and intimate other people, even play the

role of flowers, trees, moon and stars.

Theater has a profound effect on the power of thinking and creativity, self-confidence when the children speak and correct speaking of children and teenagers, and this is the reason why theater is one of the main subjects of schools in many advanced countries of the world

We need children and teenagers shows as well as books, music and children and teenagers films.

In the end, I must say that I am sorry that the responsible institutions, especially "Television", do not give the necessary importance to this noble art, in other words, the mother's art.

Ehteram Boroumand was born in 1947 in Teheran, Iran. She is a well-known actress, known for The Salesman (2016), The Time I Came Back (2016) and In Silence (2016). She was previously married to Davoud Rashidi. Born 1947.

Behrouz Gharibpoor on Theater

Iran Theater- Behrouz Gharibpoor is an Iranian theatre director and pioneer of traditional Persian puppet theatre. He studied theatre at Tehran University and at Dramatic Arts Academy in Rome. He founded Tehran and Esfahan puppet theatre centers and changed Tehran's slaughterhouse into the greatest Iran's Cultural Centre in south of Tehran. His latest work was the show "Ashura Puppet Opera" that had been on stage in Vahdat Hall last year.

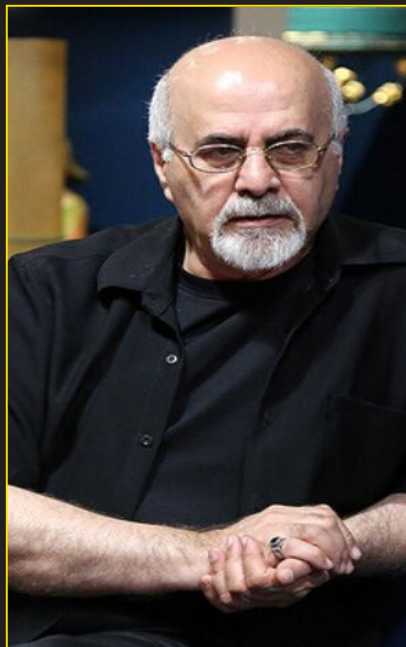
How was last year for you in terms of work and artistic activity?

A great artistic event happened to me last year. After a decade and a half of performing opera in Ferdowssi Hall and hiding the puppeteers and seeing the puppets being performed perfectly, I started an unconventional break and then directed the "Ashura Opera" on the exposed structure in Vahdat Hall. That means you saw both the puppeteer and the puppet. This was something that I dreamed of doing outside of Iran for several years. I suggested to a festival that I was invited to before the pandemic, to perform the Ashura opera or any other opera in this way. Fortunately, this idea was very well received. This movement was a praise of the puppeteers who performed artistically in different operas over the years but were hidden from the audience.

In the form of a puppet opera, you have praised many Persian poets and writers,



as well as religious and historical subjects such as the Ashura event. Before this, you have performed and researched theater for adults and puppet and puppet shows and even made a documenta-



ry film about the art of puppetry. What suggestions do you have to reconcile people with the ancient and traditional rituals of Iran through theater and cinema?

I do not only praise poets, but

even in "Ashura Puppet Opera", I praised what Mohtashem Kashani did as a poet, that is, he who was one of the disciples of Imam Hossein (AS), century I brought him to Karbala event so that he would become an active and defensive person in the Karbala incident. Therefore, the show "Ashura" is also in praise of a poet, because I believe that every poet whom became my subjects, they stayed beyond time. But about dealing with the ancient and traditional rituals of Iran, I must say that it is not the only issue of dealing with ancient and ritual roots. The main issue is reconciling the audience with the theater. Many people are still afraid of the theater and think that the theater belongs to a certain class, and this special class is intellectuals and book readers. I attracted a large number of audiences to the theater by performing the plays "Les Miserable" and "Uncle Tom's Cabin". Therefore, my concern has not changed since I entered the world of theater at the age of fourteen, and that was to attract the audience as much as possible.

Q & A with Maryam Kazemi

I have always been fascinated by puppet shows

Iran Theater- Maryam Kazemi, a long-time theater director and actress, said that she never thought one day I would work in the field of theater myself.

She said: Since I was a child, I was always fascinated by Nowruz marquee shows that were broadcasted on TV. My most important memories go back to sitting in front of the marquee tent and hearing the Murshed's beat and Mubarak's voice with a whistle and the puppets that suddenly fall into the tent and bring that tent world to life. Maryam Kazemi, a stage director and cinema, television and stage actress is a familiar and well-known personality in performing arts. Although she had acted in adult shows for many years, she has been working in children and teenagers shows for several years.

How was the last year for you in terms of work and artistic activity?

In a way, the risk of an epidemic still existed when the new year began, and after that, the fear and doubt of whether it was allowed to gather together or not, dominated artistic activities for many months. I tried to somehow cover this production gap that we had in the past few years by holding acting classes



for children and teenagers. Also, in the last six months of the year, I tried to perform the two shows that we had performed before, as a repertoire, at the same time, so that we can gradually start performances again and we can get the vitality and energy necessary for our work.

What do you suggest for people to go to cinema and theater more during Nowruz holidays?

See, we've had this problem all along. There is always a crisis of audience and we think what should be done to make people more welcome to theaters and cinema halls. We have discussed about Nowruz for several years, whether Nowruz holidays are suitable and shows that are performed during Nowruz holidays, can attract the audience to the halls? Well, due to the conditions of artists and producers, sometimes They all together and sometimes individu-

ally, look for solutions to maintain their good mood and communication with the audience. Therefore, it is logical that they should find ways to continue.

Tell us a memory about your activity in the field of children's and adult theater.

I never thought that one day I would work in theater. Since I was a child, I was always fascinated by Nowruz marquee shows that were broadcasted on TV. I fond those who did artistic work as goddesses and Gods, I thought they were inaccessible people with a complex and divine profession, something that did not belong to the earth and was transcendental. I still have this belief. Still, when I see the artists of this profession, I feel that they have something within that makes them different from other people. I always wish they will be dynamic and inspiring.

Fariba Kowsari and Amirreza Delavari to join "The seven labours of Isfandiar"



Iran Theater-Fariba Kowsari , a well-known stage, cinema and television actress and Amirreza Delavari , a well-known stage, cinema and television actor join the cast of "The seven labours of Isfandiar" produced and directed by Hossein Parsaei.

Fariba Kowsari plays the role of "Katayoun" and Amirreza Delavari plays the role of "Pashtun" in the musical show "The seven labours of Isfandiar" directed by Hossein Parsaei.

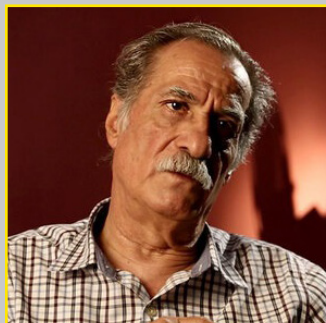
The play is a new interpretation of Shahnameh by Amirreza Koohestani.

Seven labors were a series of acts carried out by the greatest of the Iranian heroes, Rostam, the story was retold by Ferdowsi in his epic poem, Shahnameh. The Seven Labors were seven difficult tasks undertaken by Rostam, accompanied, in most instances, only by his faithful and sagacious steed Rakhsh, although in two labors!! he was accompanied also by the champion, Olad.

Some famous actors will act in the show: Amin Zendegani, Amir-kaveh Ahanijan and Asghar Piran and Banipal Shoman.

Yousef_Ali Mir Shakak is troupe consultant. "Esfandiar's seven labors !!" is a latest production of Owj Arts and Media Organization and is supported by Roudaki Foundation. The show will be on stage on April at Vahdat Hall.

Siavosh Tahmoures to direct the show Battle in Battle



Iran Theater- The Show Battle in Battle written by Davood Mirbagheri and directed by Siavosh Tahmoures will be performed in Iranshahr Theater from the 4th of April.

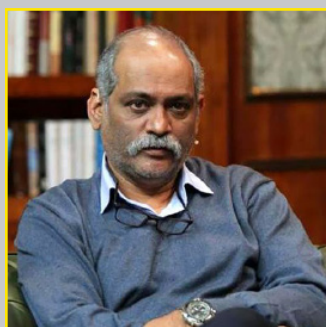
"Battle in Battle" directed by Siavosh Tahmoures, will be performed again after 30 years.

Siavosh Tahmoures directed and acted in the play "Battle in Battle" in 1993 with the presence of Reza Rooigari, Siros Gorjestani,

Roya Taimourian and Mahaya Petrosian, and now after 30 years the show is produced by Vahid Lak and played by Nasim Adabi , Sirous Sepehri, Majid Rahmati, Donya Fathi.

The crew: Vahid Lak (producer), Siavash Tahmoures (set and costume and light designer), Soheila Javadi (make-up and stage performance designer), Mehdi Davaie (poster, brochure and advertising item designer), Ehsan Tarokh (sound and music designer), Elsa Fathi (Planning and Coordination Manager), Somayieh Rezaei-Samangani (Assistant Director), Arash Dehghanshad (Production Manager), Maryam Naraghi (public relation Manager), Amir Khodami (Photographer).

Nader Fallah to direct the show Nightmares of those who don't die



Iran Theater - Film, stage and television actor Nader Fallah talked about his new activity in the theater field that he will stage the show Nightmares of those who don't die from the 15th of Farvardin with a group of young and promising theater actors in Molavi Hall.

Nader Fallah is a cinema, theater and television actor

who playing the role of "Sarkho" in the series "Fire and Wind" which is broadcasting these days.

He said: these days I am rehearsing the play "Nightmares of those who do not die", which I am going to direct from the 15th of April in Molavi Hall. Of course, I am only the director of this work and I do not act in it. The cast of this play is a group of young and promising theater actors with whom I hope to form a theater group soon. The show "Nightmares of those who don't die" is based on the play "on the edge" written by Amirhossein Taheri, the good writer of Sirjani, and the story happens during the time of Ali Akbar Dehkhoda.

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