

Activities

Hungarian Centre of ITI (Europe)

Activities 2014–2016

World Theatre Day

WTD has become an important celebration for the theatres in Hungary. We took it as our responsibility to have the World Theatre Day Message translated to Hungarian and sent it to each Hungarian theatre, established or independent company. This list was further enlarged between 2014–2016 as we have sent the message also to the theatres in the neighbouring countries that perform in the Hungarian language. In almost all of the theatres – both the established and independent ones – the World Theatre Day Message was read aloud before the performance on 27 March.

A big ceremony was organized in partnership with the Actors' Guild, taking place in:

2014: Szeged, National Theatre of Szeged

2015: Budapest, Thália Theatre

2016: Budapest, Operetta Theatre

Hevesi Sándor Prize

During the World Theatre Day celebration the Hevesi Sándor Prize-giving ceremony also takes place, and is awarded to three theatre personalities who contributed the most in the increase of international recognition of the Hungarian theatre. Following the decision of the Executive Committee of the Hungarian Centre, not only the member theatres are asked to suggest candidates but all Hungarian theatres and professional organizations are invited to submit nominations. We took this decision because the prize has been attaining more and more prestige during the past years and it is now a cause that engages the whole Hungarian theatre field. The theatres in these years proved to be willing to take a very active role in the nomination. The board, composed of delegates by the Ministry of Human Capacities and the ITI Hungarian Centre, reached a decision based on these suggestions. The prize winners' names were widely publicized in the daily newspapers and many internet sites.

Publication:

We compiled two English language newsletters in the last two years in which we promoted mostly the current performances of the member theatres, one from each theatre. Based on this principle, not only the member theatres but also other significant events or performances from the Hungarian theatre life will be featured in the newsletter.

The Hungarian Centre requested the help of the Dramaturges' Guild to prepare a list with short synopses of the plays submitted to our office and published in different magazines. This task was done voluntarily by some members of the Guild and the Hungarian ITI Centre disseminated it to the dramaturges.

Other activities

On the request of the organizers of the National Festival of Theatres in Pécs (POSZT), we have made our suggestions for the international jury of the festival, also carrying out the organizing and communicational work which pertained to this.

Long-term project

Being vigilant of the changes in the Hungarian theatre life, especially seeing the spectacular recent developments in puppetry for youth and children's theatre performances, we have initiated a project application to the European Union, together with the Hungarian Theatre Museum and Institute, as members of an international consortium. The aim of the project is to bring to life a virtual international puppet museum while also developing methods of theatre pedagogy. The Hungarian Centre of ITI decided to participate in the project because it was convinced that this project can be a long-term cooperation of great interest for Hungarian theatre life, in which the Hungarian Centre, with its broad international experiences, can enhance the success of the research, spreading our name and activities in much wider circles, among new, predominantly young audiences.

Executive Committee

President: Anna Lakos (dramaturge and Manager of Research at the Hungarian Theatre Museum and Institute)

Vice President: János Novák (manager of Kolibri Színház)

Members: Tibor Csizmadia (director, Department Leader at the University of Theatre and Film); Zsuzsa Cserje (dramaturge, director); Bence Mattyasovszky-Zsolnai (administrative director of the Katona József Színház); Rita Sebestyén (dramaturge, theatre critic, editor) and Edit Zeke (set and costume designer).

The Hungarian Centre of the International Theatre Institute (ITI) operates as an organisation registered at the Budapest Court of Law. The president and the Executive Committee must organise a meeting of the general assembly each year and report about the work which had been done in the year bygone and the financial situation of the organisation. Required by the legal changes in 2014, new statutes were compiled for the Hungarian Centre, which were accepted by the Court of Law of the Capital on 25 March, 2015. The Committee has a mandate until 2018.

General Assembly:

May 12, 2014 about the activities of the year of 2013, place: 1013, Budapest Krisztina krt 57.

May 22, 2015 about the activities of the year of 2014, place: 1013, Budapest Krisztina krt 57.

