



A SHARED THEATRE

Theatre workshops for children and teenagers

This project offers a way to share one of Teatro Due Mondì's street performances with groups of children and teenagers who wish to play with us. Each time we encounter a new group of young people, the fruits of our long artistic research get a new and different taste.

During many years of activity our street work has become a catalyst of social cohesion: while taking part in the creation of a common show the youngsters are stimulated to enter in contact with each other and to cultivate a spirit of collaboration that is empowered and reinforced by the theatre experienced as a game.

THE PROJECT

Teatro Due Mondì has been doing street theatre for many years. Our shows are destined to an audience of ordinary people of different ages and origins and deal with themes and issues that concern the new generations and their future. Indeed, we think that the artistic experience can help young people to grow up better and in a more conscious way.

In many years of trials and experiences, we have developed a pedagogical method that we can sum up under the name A SHARED THEATRE: we invite a group of youngsters (starting from 6 year old children up to teenagers and young adults) to learn different theatre skills and to realize a street show with us (a group of experienced actors).

THE CONTENT

We start from our show **Carosello**.

We can propose one long and intensive workshop or several shorter lessons about different issues.

The main characteristic of this proposal is the encounter of one group with another: a group of artists who have been working together developing different and complementary competence for many years encounter a group of youngsters who have got different experiences, characters and personal stories.

A new and shared result comes out of this encounter between "groups", first inspired from Teatro Due Mondì's show but then conquering its own form and identity during the process of rehearsals.

THE PARTICIPANTS

Of course, this proposal can be adapted to any kind of context but we think it could be especially effective in difficult circumstances where children live in a disadvantaged situation.

It is well known that often children and teenagers are the weakest members of society. Youngsters can have a difficult relationship with adults when they are concerned by social problems such as poverty, lack of family structures or school neglect. An adult might be seen not like an educator but like somebody you have to be frightened of, sometimes violent and distant, with whom it's impossible to discuss.

The educational theatre work of Teatro Due Mondì has always paid attention to children living in difficult circumstances, especially when these difficulties rise from social or environmental conditions or from tragic historical events.

Difficult quarters of big cities, orphanages, regions hurt by environmental catastrophes or wars: these are **contexts** where we carry our experience and work because we know that the bigger problems reign the more important is our presence. because we know that the bigger problems reign the more important is our presence.

THE POINT OF DEPARTURE: our shows and the needs of the youngsters

We use theater as a tool that can give answers to needs, that reveal hidden questions, that cause curiosity, that make discover talent and interest.

We propose workshops where we produce shows but the qualifying point is the creative process itself: the training of body and voice, the perception of time and space, the awakening of imagination and creativity, the use of music, the construction of masks and props.

The point of arrival of this work in progress is a collective show realized by youngsters and adults where the spirit of exploration and the self-discovery of the youngsters are empowered.

WHY STREET THEATRE?

We propose to a group of young people to realize a show or a big parade supposed to be presented on the street instead of a traditional theatre play.

Performing on the street offers a chance to the participants to encounter the community through an artistic experience. Playing theatre on the street in a numerous group of "actors" of different ages is a strong and direct way to take your place, to put your ideas and dreams, your pain and joy in the center of the attention of the others.

We can do this in a poetic and artistic way, in a language that is accessible for everyone, using street theater as a tool of a new relationship between the inhabitants of a community.

One of the aims of this workshop is to encourage the youngsters to use the open space in a creative way. You don't need a stage or any particular venues for this - a street, a square or a courtyard is sufficient; go out and leave the protected areas (home, school) without being afraid of getting in contact with other people.

THE TOOL: group work

Teatro Due Mondi's method has always been based on group work which is suited to create a common space for adults and youngsters.

The experience of Teatro Due Mondi is demonstrated by the capacity of explaining and showing different skills and producing a working atmosphere based on mutual trust and attention.

The power of this proposal is the idea of a theatre experience nourished by the proximity of adults and youngsters; the union of these two worlds offer the possibility to the kids to learn by imitating and by playing with the adults.

This approach - the union of adults and

youngsters / professionals and "non-actors" -, is a further step in our research of a feasible theatre with any kind of non professional participants.

The proximity between actors and youngsters and the collective work based on imitation develop a former method of learning and teaching when young people imitated their "masters".

This kind of relationship is very frequent in trade and agriculture but it's about to get lost in our contemporary world. However, we think it is imperative for all those who want to approach the world of arts and creativity.

Thus, on one hand we have the proximity between adults and children/teenagers, on the other hand we have the theatre which is a tool to empower the spirit of collaboration between youngsters, the individual development and the creative skills of everybody.

THE SKILLS

We can teach different elements of one of our shows in relation to the duration of the workshop and the age of the participants:

- common movement in the street – learning choreographic structures in a public space
- percussion playing - learning rhythms for a street performance
- construction of masks - learning how to incorporate the mask to build a character
- physical expression – studying the character
- using the voice in the street – learning songs from the performance and voice projection
- how to fascinate street spectators – studying expression of body and eyes



How to create a new performance starting from an already existing show:

CAROSELLO

Participants: children from 6 to 12

Theme of the workshop: European citizenship, hospitality and solidarity

The animals introduced by the Grimm Brothers as “The Bremen Town Musicians” leave the fairy tale, get lost in our contemporary world and tell us a new story. The donkey, the dog, the cat and a goose meet a stork-lady doing her job while distributing children to families all over the world, a little bit disorientated because she cannot find the right address. This is the beginning of the story CAROSELLO, happening nowadays, on the roads of our villages which are also roads of Europe. The story of the itinerant show that we create in the workshop deals with the importance of welcoming those who come from far away, especially when they are children, independently from their origin and from the color of their skin. The children, protagonists of the show, wear animal masks and accompany the audience on their journey looking for the mother of the baby, *Madame Europe*, and the ideal town that should be – at least in our dreams – a big and extended family.

The message of Carosello is told in a poetic, ironic and subtle way, allowing the spectators to think for themselves about our contemporary world and its changes: a world where it's still possible to dream and where all people come together in a big carousel of colors. Indeed colors are a very important element in this show. There are for example the distinctive colors of the masks and costumes as well as the colors of the voices that mingle different European languages. Moreover, there are the many colors of the singing that accompanies many scenes, amusing arrangements of famous melodies and popular songs concerning animals, songs coming from all over Europe.

A WORKSHOP INSIDE THE WORKSHOP

The workshop contain sections with exercises of physical and vocal training, dance, singing, percussion playing and any other skill that might be useful to realize the final street show. The teaching is based on “fun” but in the same time on seriousness that is the base of any significant pedagogical experience. Especially two skills would need more time and energy. According to the project that had been elaborated it is possible to add the following specific workshops:

Construction of theater masks in papier-mache on plaster cast

The construction follows a precise and ritual sequence: plastering the face, realization of the cast, construction of the mask in papier-mache.

The final look of the mask can represent the face or an imaginary facial decoration.

Every participant can keep his/her own cast at the end of the workshop.

Duration: 8 x 3 hours

Construction of masks in papier-mache

Realization of the basic form in plaster.

Covering with papier-mache.

Decoration.

Duration: 5 x 3 hours



Stilts: The smallest stage of the world

In numerous occasions Teatro Due Mondì has proved that it is possible to teach the basic skills of stilt walking in a few days. The workshop should take place outside on a lawn. The organizers must prepare several pairs of stilts for the participants.

Duration: 5 x 3 hours

TEATRO DUE MONDI

TEATRO DUE MONDI is an independent theatre group from Faenza in Italy, subsidized by the Region Emilia Romagna. The group has been doing theatre research and theatre pedagogy for over 35 years and is composed by 6 permanent members and about 12 volunteers. The artistic research of the actors/teachers is based on auto-pedagogical processes that generate shows and that stimulate diversified educational activities.

The group's work is composed by: theatre teaching and theatre production (including street theatre, social committed theatre, and theatre for children), organization of events (theatre, music and dance), information and net-working (conferences and meetings about artistic and social issues).

Due to a strong social motivation, the group aims at bringing theatre where it is especially needed: suburbs, orphanages, socially disadvantaged areas, streets and squares.

That's why STREET THEATRE has become one important aspect of its work: it contains a lot of cultural and social implications and can empower a continuous encounter with heterogeneous audiences and spectators coming from different cultural, social, demographic and racial backgrounds.

Another important aspect is THEATER PEDAGOGY seen as a moment of exchange and dialogue with the community. From the beginning on Teatro Due Mondì has organized a lot of pedagogical projects in Italy and abroad. The many years' experience contain workshops for YOUNG generations, for ADULTS and for disadvantaged people who live in difficult circumstances.

Since 2012 Teatro Due Mondì has been promoting several cultural and educational Projects funded by the European Commission, in collaboration with international partners coming from all over Europe, South-America and Palestina.

Teatro Due Mondì has developed many specific pedagogical skills:

- mediation between different cultures
- empowering the dialogue between cultures and generations
- putting the participants into relationship with each other and empowering the process of integration
- recreating solidarity inside the community
- causing participation and responsibility of the participants by empowering their gifts
- stimulating the creative capacities of the participants
- helping communication between individuals
- facilitating communication between social groups and the community that welcome them
- facilitating learning of a foreign language through theatre

The teaching actors of Teatro Due Mondì use a non-formal pedagogic approach based on a collective group culture and on participation and sharing. The competence of the group members is above all artistic and based on open-air theatre skills that help to handle relationships between different cultures and heterogeneous audiences. They possess particular knowledge of complementary theatre elements like rhythm and voice, language and dramaturgy, scenery, choreography, co-ordination of gestures.

All of them know very well proxemics and body language which support their capacity to lead heterogeneous groups with participants coming from different origins, cultures, ages, interests, languages and schooling.

Recent projects:

2018 BORDERLESS_MAUERSPRINGER (Faenza) community theatre workshop. A NEW DIALOGUE BETWEEN COMMUNITY AND THEATER - Co-funded by the Creative Europe Programme of the European Union

BORDERLESS SPECIAL EDITION community theatre workshop (Ravenna, Italy)

THE TEMPEST (Faenza and Rome) story about migrations between theater, dance and poetry. Project winner of the MigrArti-MiBACT 2018 Call - 3rd edition

IS THERE STILL A MAGICAL WORLD? (Cotignola)

IL TEATRO DI OGNI GIORNO (Faenza) community theatre workshop aimed at teachers and parents

IMEG Innovatives und multiperspektivisches Methodentool für eine multikulturelle europäische Gesellschaft - KA2 PARTENARIATO





STRATEGICO ERASMUS+ (Faenza, Vienna, Friburgo, Palermo).

2017 BORDERLESS community theatre workshop (Faenza, Italy)

BORDERLESS SPECIAL EDITION community theatre workshop (Ravenna, Italy)

BORDERLESS SPECIAL EDITION community theatre workshop (Brescia, Italy)

Street theatre as tool for social inclusion community theatre workshop(EL KEF , Tunisia).

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KA2 PARTENARIATO STRATEGICOERASMUS+ (Faenza, Vienna, Friburgo, Palermo)

2016 BORDERLESS community theatre workshop (Faenza, Italy)

THE STAFFETTES OF WORK a community theatre workshop for the defense of a right (Faenza)

BORDERLESS community theatre workshop(Porsgrunn, Norvegia) Porsgrunn International Theatre Festival

2015 BORDERLESS community theatre workshop (Faenza, Italy)

BORDERLESS SPECIAL EDITION community theatre workshop (Bergamo, Italy)

INCLUSION THROUGH THEATRE (Cologne, Germany) EU-project. Community theatre workshop (Portugal, Germany and France),

THEATRE WORKSHOPS, PROGRAMME OF DECENTRALIZED COOPERATION FOR CHILDRENS' CONCERNS IN SERBIA (Loznica-Kragujevac, Serbia) community theatre workshop for children

TO HAVE OR NOT TO HAVE Inclusion through theatre. EU-project. Community theatre workshop (Porto, Portugal), Festival Intenacional de Marionetas do Porto.

INCLUSION THROUGH THEATRE (Lisbon, Portugal). EU-project. Community theatre workshop

THE MAS ON STAGE (Vaulx-en-Velin, France). EU-project. A theatre workshop for an intercultural encounter in the heart of the town.

THE STAFFETTES OF WORK a community theatre workshop for the defense of a right (Faenza)

2014 GIVING VOICE (Faenza) Language learning through theatre, in the frame of the EU-Grundtvig-programme.

BORDERLESS community theatre workshop (Faenza, Italy)

STREET ACCADEMY OF NAIROBI (Nairobi, Kenia). A triennial training programme about street theatre for teachers, in the frame of the AMREF-programme Children in need

WORKSHOP - UNDERWORLD, (Cologne, Germany), Sommerblut - Festival der Multipolarkultur

Thoughts about freedom (Fredrikstad, Norway)

2013 INCONTRI" ("Encounters") (Italy, Brazil, Bolivia, Portugal, France), European Project – YOUTH IN ACTION –

action: Youth in the World (October 2012 to September 2013), aimed at social inclusion of more than 100 youngsters coming from socially and geographically disadvantaged areas in 4 different nations (rural villages in Bolivia, favelas in Brazil, suburbs of Porto)

ACCADEMIA DI STRADA DI NAIROBI ("Street Academy of Nairobi") (Kenia), a three year project for education of street theatre teachers, part of the programme Children in need by AMREF Italy.



TEATRO DUE MONDI

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