



Erasmus+



RE.Sto.Re

**REcognition of the Social Theatre Operator
as a professional to tackle the Risk of
social Exclusion**

Newsletter N.7 - JULY 2021

Partner organisation

Oltre Le Parole Onlus (Italy)
Comunità San Patrignano (Italy)
Smashing Times International Centre for the
Arts & Equality (Ireland)
ProSoc Association (Slovenia)
Bielskie Stowarzyszenie Artystyczne Teatr Grodzki (Poland)
PELE Associacao Social e Cultural (Portugal)
Magenta Consultoria Projects (Spain)

Associated partners

Università Roma Tre (Italy)
Assoc. San Patrignano Scuola e
Formazione (Italy)
Associazione DireFareCambiare (Italy)

Italy starts with practical training for the figure of the social theatre operator. Thanks to the Re.Sto.Re Project and the support of the Erasmus Plus programme, it is **TOTALLY** free of charge. Afterwards, other 3 similar courses will start in Ireland, Poland and Portugal.



The next issue of the newsletter will be entirely dedicated to presenting the results of the survey on the work of the social theatre operator during the period of the pandemic. This is an important report showing the current state of the art of this profession and its social value, contextualised in a changing labour market.

THE FIRST EUROPEAN COURSE FOR STO STARTS

The selections for the more than 40 people who applied to take part in the European Training Course for Social Theatre Operators are under way; they are organised by the association Oltre le Parole Onlus of Rome, leader of the European project Re.Sto.Re.

The course will be completely free of charge for the participants as it is organised and proposed within the Erasmus Plus programme that supports the project. Those who will have access to the training will be selected on the basis of the letter of motivation required and previous experience in courses or masters for theatre professionals, in the field of non-formal education, attendance of theatre schools, acting, theatre pedagogy. The possibility of existing contacts with suitable structures (youth centres, prisons, day centres for mental health, schools, elderly centres, recovery communities, SPRAR, etc.) in Italy or abroad will also be evaluated. where the internship part can be carried out after the classroom lessons foreseen by the course.

Classes will start on October 2 and will finish on December 12 of 2021 in the beautiful setting of Rome, 180 hours distributed in 11 weekends and 120 hours of training as a conductor of a pilot course to be held from January to April 2022, which can also be carried out in the city of origin of the par-



participant. At the end of the 300-hour course, the certificate of the first European course for “Social Theatre Operators” will be issued. All the details on the European Course and other activities are available on the

Oltre le Parole Onlus website www.teatrocivile.it/corsiots.html and on the official website of the Re.Sto.Re Project www.restore-project.com

THE ITALIAN LEADER AND THE PARTNER OF RE.STO.RE. PROJECT RELATORS AT THE TRENTO FESTIVAL OF ECONOMICS TO TALK ABOUT EDUCATIONAL THEATRE



La Delfa, president of Oltre Le Parole Onlus and leader of the Re.Sto.Re. project, and Patrizia Russi, referent of the Artistic Area of the San Patrigniano Community, another Italian partner of the European project, as speakers. In response to the theme of the new edition of the Festival, 'The Return of the State, of Enterprises, of Communities, of Institutions', meetings and debates were held to promote an economy attentive to the social and welfare of the mountains in collaboration with the Trentino Third Sector, including the theatre and its value. There are now many projects, both in Trentino and on a national level,

which propose theatre and, more generally, the performing arts as an educational tool to involve and activate young people.

The question proposed to the speakers by Federico Samaden, president of the Foundation, was: what are the future challenges? Both the OLP and San Patrigniano believe that the contribution lies in continuing to support the importance of artistic/educational paths in fragile areas. Sharing a valid concept of civil and social theatre has not only the task of raising awareness of social issues, but also that of creating networks to strengthen the construction of concrete responses in areas of discomfort and youth malaise, both physical and spiritual.

Last June, the event 'Theatre as an educational tool', organised by the Franco De Marchi Foundation as part of the Trento Festival of Economics, featured Pascal



STAFF TRAINING IN PORTUGAL: the importance of sharing experiences

“It was a very special experience. It convinced me even more that all those who work with vulnerable people should be able to draw on art, and in particular theatre and all forms of expression of this kind, because they are very powerful tools for inclusion and overcoming barriers, in and between people”. This is the opinion of Monica Barzanti, responsible for San Patrignano international relations, about the staff training in Portugal.

The staff training of Re.Sto.Re. project, organised in Portugal by the hosting partner, ended last Saturday. This stage marked the start of the practical part of this project, which is now entering its second phase. The aim of the second phase is to exchange new methodologies to train social theatre operators with a

European dimension, trying to standardise the professional figure within the European Union. In fact, it will be the partners themselves, already working in the field, who will organise pilot courses by the end of 2021 to train new resources.

The two main innovative elements of this staff training in Porto were the inclusion in the project of the most diverse forms of social theatre and its focus on the role of non-formal education in theatre. San Patrignano participated in the week with two of the five people ded-



icated to the Re.Sto.Re. project: Monica Barzanti, responsible for international relations, and Monica Gocilli, communication expert and trainer.



MICHAEL MCCABE AT Re.Sto.Re. WORKSHOPS

Michael McCabe, actor, director and facilitator, was delighted to represent Smashing Times at the Re.Sto.Re. project training and workshops in Portugal

Michael found his time working with the other partner organisations to be extremely valuable and beneficial to his own theatre facilitation practice, and said the experience was “exhilarating and completely socially engaged”. After such a long period of working online, Michael’s experience attending and facilitating this training was a chance for him to refresh, renew, learn different approaches, and learn from new experiences based around using theatre as a tool for social change.



BABEL BORDERS – ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MIRROR

News on social theatre activities from Grodzki Theatre, Poland

On June 16, 2021 an online premiere of a documentary film took place, concluding a four-month workshop experience of an international theatre group (mentioned already in the previous issue of Re.Sto.Re. Newsletter). Participants of Polish, Lithuanian and Belarusian origin were working together, exploring the themes of traveling, crossing borders, writing letters from abroad, reading books, looking into the mirror and getting to know each other. The puppetry sessions were run by two trainers from Grodzki Theatre - Maria Schejbal-Cytawa and Jolanta Kajmowicz-Sopicka once a week and every time the participants were given a new creative task to be performed for the next meeting. Then, everybody was showing own achievements to the rest of the group and all

presentations were discussed and thoroughly analyzed. The movie leads the viewers through the working process, showing how creatively the participants (and their puppets) responded to artistic challenges and how strong connections were created between them, despite differences resulting from distinct national traditions and personal beliefs and points of view. Both, silent puppet acts and parts of the discussion are recorded and skilfully and beautifully interwoven in the film narration by Krzysztof Tusiewicz: <https://youtu.be/ItpzFGbndE> Since the workshops were part of a larger project (RAPPORT PROJECT www.acta-bristol.com/rapport/), our partners from the UK, Sweden and Spain and their creative works are also present in the movie to emphasize the interna-

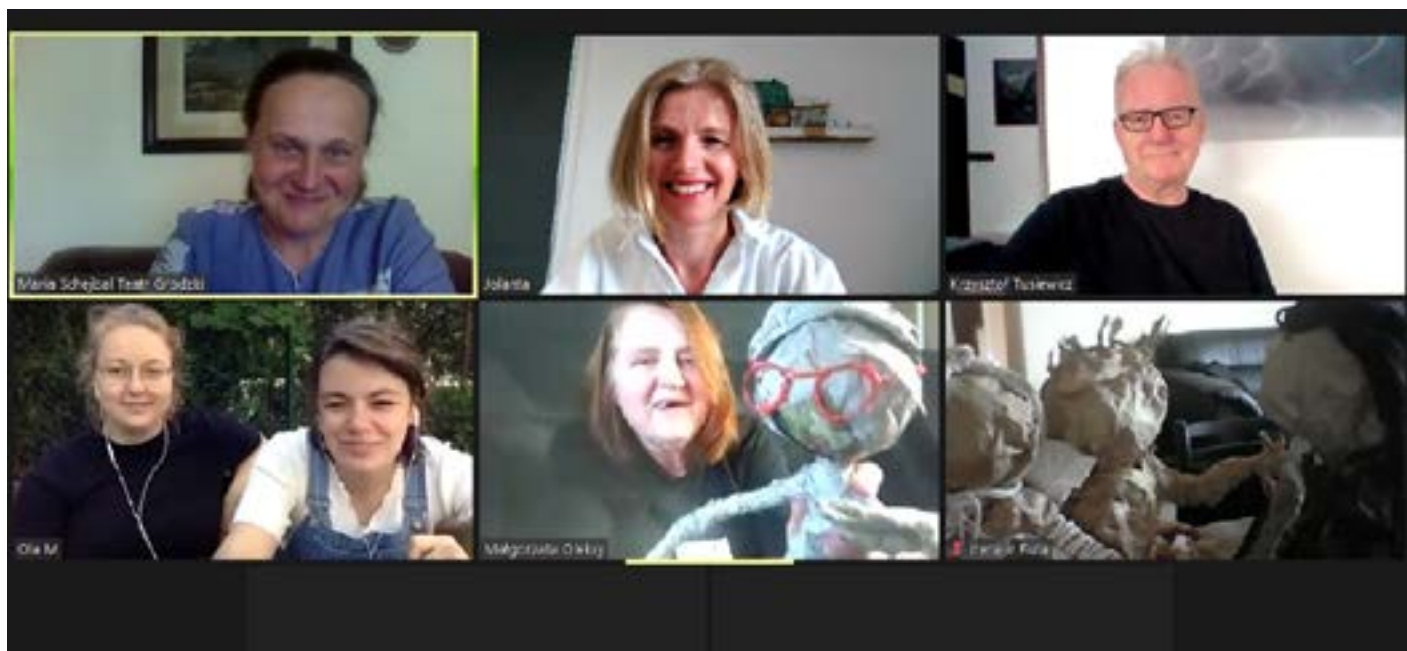
tional character of the initiative. Some of the workshop participants in Poland managed to create short puppet shows in the convention of purely visual narration by the end of the workshop process. These little stories with no words also give an insight into the integration process facilitated by arts.

“READY TO GO!” by Małgorzata Oleksy (Polish participant) https://youtu.be/XwcTu7L9C_8

“HURRAY, FREEDOM!” by Irena Lila (Lithuanian participant) <https://youtu.be/4gJ1v0Ox8TY>

“BORDERS” by Aleksandra Malecka and Natalia Smyk (Polish participants) <https://youtu.be/qU6A5TIRlrI>

“THE BORDER” by Natalla Gierasimiuk (Belarusian participant) https://youtu.be/TqJ_gtfo7Ls



“AND SO WE WENT OUT TO SEE THE STARS AGAIN”

Oltre le Parole Onlus for the first time at the Festivaltellina festival.

Festival visitors were able to participate in interactive workshops and attend the theatrical performance staged by the project leader Re.Sto.Re.

FestiValtellina is the first popular and social theatre festival in which “Oltre le Parole” participated in early July in the “la nuova Piastra” borough of Sondrio, in Lombardy, with workshops and a theatrical performance. “E quindi uscimmo a riveder le stelle” is the title of this first edition of the festival dedicated to the supreme poet Dante and to theatre, to comedy, which literally means “the song of the village”. A festival of popular theatre because it belongs to everyone and speaks to everyone, recovering the great medieval tradition that has bequeathed to us the legacy of responding to the crises of dark times with song. 9 shows and 46 workshops in three days, with dozens of artists and the involvement of the whole territory. Some videos of the activities carried out can be seen on the social networks and websites of the organisers and of “Oltre le Parole onlus” “Oltre le Parole Onlus” www.teatrocivile.it - FB: [@oltreleparoleonlus](https://www.facebook.com/oltreleparoleonlus) IG : [@oltreleparoleonlus](https://www.instagram.com/oltreleparoleonlus)



BRINGING A MANIFEST ALIVE

A collective creation to give ever greater light to the important heritage of the female world



After a few months of online sessions with the groups of the project ENXOVAL*, which resulted in the video-manifest launched on March 8th 2021, we were challenged to restart the face-to-face rehearsals. Thus, since last May that three different groups from Porto and Amarante restarted a collective creation process, having the Manifest as a starting

point. This Manifest was collectively written and it highlights themes such as gender equality, feminine legacy and many other invisible layers. While alternating between experiments as a collective body, moments of discussion and sharing of testimonies, each group has been creating a section of a performative walk that will premier in MEXE, this coming September.

Follow PELE on their official pages www.apele.org- FB: [@pele](#) IG [@pele.espaco](#)

***ENXOVAL - Tempo e Espaço de Resistência** is a project funded by PARTIS, a programme promoted by Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian

“THE FACE BEHIND THE MASK”

Is the title of the new project of the Erasmus Plus Programme in which “Oltre Le Parole Onlus” will participate as a partner, together with associations and institutions from Wales and Spain

The project was born with the aim of re-elaborating in an artistic and creative manner the effects of the pandemic on young people in the school setting: the social, as well as health, distancing, the lack of group activities, the long period of distance learning, the difficulty in relating with one’s peers and other consequences (visible and less visible) that will probably have long-term effects. The title plays on the double meaning of “mask” as surgical mask and theatrical mask.

As Italian partners, the Istituto Comprensivo Simonetta Salacone of Rome, a renowned institute for innovation and interculturalism, and A.P.S. ReBike ALTERmobility, specialised in the promotion of sustainable development in urban areas with a focus on alternative mobility, will participate together with Oltre le Parole.



MUSICAL LINE 400

When Music opens up channels of knowledge and communication between and among communities

June has concluded the intense project that saw the Pele Association as the protagonist in the realisation of LIN- EA MUSICAL 400, a cycle of concerts held on the 400 bus line, in both directions. The experimentation ended with the simple and catchy melodies of Conferência Inferno, which inspired illusory realities, dreams and nihilistic utopias. This musical project disrupted routines, crossed multiple communities, combined aesthetics, crossed territories and

envisaged other possible scenarios.

A heterogeneous programme that created subtle poetic fragmentations, stimulating a question about other forms of sociality, mobility and dialogue.

Music that communicates, music that creates and connects.

Samuel Martins Coelho, with his violin, accompanied/guided the passengers present in a journey towards an act of awareness and free experimentation. With authenticity

and joy in her voice, Arianna Casellas navigated us through imaginative adventures, breaking down the barriers of the journey. Lowslung enshrines in the memory of the journey the absence of any limits for the discovery of new places and possibilities.

Azevedo is a project realised by **DGARTES**.



“WHEN I THINK OF HOW I USED TO BE”

Another story directly from La Compagnia teatrale di San Patrignano. Another testimony of how theatre can be a fundamental tool for self-knowledge and relationship with the other

“**W**hen I think of how I used to be, the first image that comes to hand is that I was out of my mind, a freak. If I then see myself physically I was one of those bizarre people, who always want to be the centre of attention in all situations, and also the extravagant, colourful clothing. I tried everything to stand out in the crowd. My need to be at the centre of everything was the result of a great discomfort, which I always felt. And I covered this uneasiness, every time it came out, with drugs. To the point of covering everything up. And in the end that’s why I entered the community. At San Patrignano you suddenly find yourself in a situation where you have to follow rules, you have to have respect for living with others, at first it all seems strange, all new. To you, who come from outside, who are used to always doing what you want and not following any rules, it all seems like bullshit, all nonsense, and you don’t seem to be able to make sense of it. But then the work starts. And what happens to us is that we have to disintegrate everything we were before in order to start again. Disintegrate because we need to create new space to put in new things, real things, healthy things and

right things. And that is what in the end allows you to get involved with the outside world, with other people and first of all with yourself, which is the most difficult challenge. Let’s say theatre was a turning point for me. It has helped me with many aspects of my character. In spite of everything, I have always considered myself an extrovert, a sunny person, someone who was able to be among people, as I said before. When I was outside I felt like that. But here, when I

found myself on stage, in front of a thousand people, acting, I froze and it was at that very moment that I started asking myself questions. Who am I? Being part of the Company was a very important phase for me, a more conscious phase, a phase in which I understood that I could also dress up as a clown without necessarily being one in real life. It was a period in which I started to strongly believe that I could live a future as a free person”.

Mario



THE PILOT PROJECT "ACCENDI LA CAMERA"

devised by Oltre Le Parole for children admitted to the paediatric oncohaematology ward in Nocera Inferiore (Salerno), has been inaugurated

The project provides, in an experimental way, interaction with young patients and their families in an interactive way: a website where you can not only access dedicated content, but where the children themselves (with the help and supervision of adults) can in turn upload their own artistic content. The intention is to use art as a means of mediation and expression, which is the stylistic feature of the Oltre le Parole approach and methodology. Numerous associations in the area have joined the pilot project: some young people from the theatre school "Crescere Insieme con il Teatro" will create special columns for their hospitalised peers, while numerous artists and professionals have already made their contribution. The project will



be monitored by the University of Salerno, and in particular by the Open Data & Digital Society research laboratory of the Department of Human, Philosophical and Educational

Sciences, and will continue for a year on an experimental basis. To learn more, www.cam-on.it



ACT - LEARN WITH EVERYBODY!

Forum theatre as a space for re-imagination of the school



Since we started the partnership with ACT - Learn with everybody in 2019, this is a project of social-educational intervention and investigation promoted by the faculty of Education and Psychology as well as by Área Transversal de Economia Social da Universidade Católica in Porto, implemented in the Agrupamento de Escolas Leonardo Coimbra Filho in Porto, during the academic years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021. PELE, through its nucleus of theatre of the oppressed, developed during these two academic years a Forum Theatre workshop, facilitated by Irene Monteiro, addressed to students of the third cycle. In the meantime the Covid 19 pandemic appeared which requested a redesign of the proposal and an adaption to



virtual formats. The result of the end of these two years of work is a Video-Forum „Dias para ser feliz“ [tips to be happy] that already had been presented and discussed in the class rooms. So that the work that had already been started with the young people can

be continued, we bet on the community’s multiplication and capacitation of educational agents to facilitate theatre of the oppressed.

THE FESTIVAL OF THEATRES IN SANTARCANGELO (RN) “FUTURO FANTASTICO”

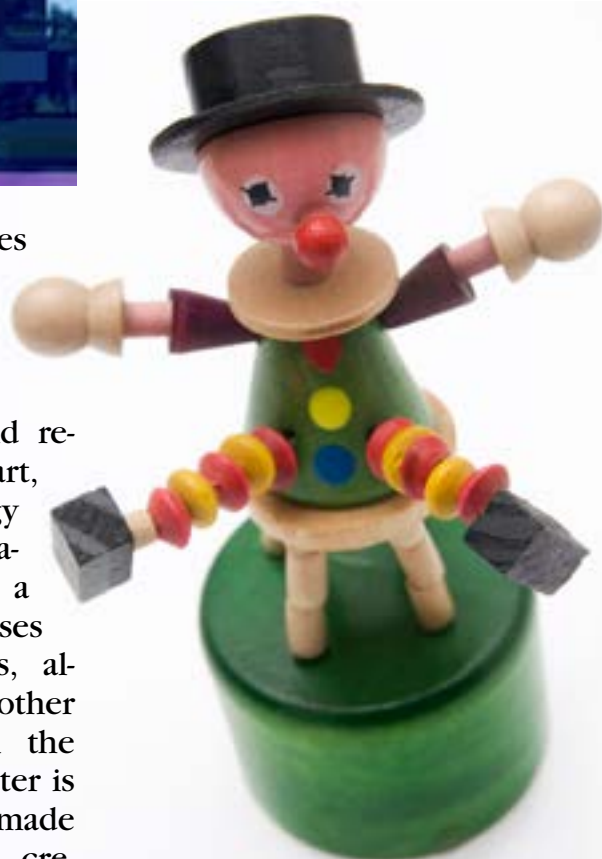
When experimentation and creation
redefine places



From 8 to 18 July 2021 the spaces and times of the small town of Santarcangelo were redefined and marked, as they have been every year since 1971, by the Festival dei Teatri, a moment of dialogue and collective construction of performances, shows and participation. Santarcangelo 2050 - “Futuro Fantastico, Festival mutaforme di meduse, cyborg e specie compagne” (Fantastic Future, shape-shifting Festival of jellyfish, cyborgs and companion species) is the evocative title that this year

delineated the boundaries of experimentation and contamination and celebrated fifty years of a Festival that has changed, constantly rethought and re-created. Theatre, music, art, dance and anthropology have seen their boundaries blur and become a common thread that passes through the disciplines, allowing us to think of “another possible world”, which the image chosen as the poster is inspired by. A new world made of experimentation and cre-

ation, which we see in action in the workshop organised by Asinitas Onlus “Abitare il Ritorno”, which finds expression in a final performance involving objects and puppets made by the performers. But it is also an uncertain world, to be redefined together through imagination: this is the aim of Non-scuela (“Non-school”), a theatrical experience that goes beyond academic techniques and dialogues with adolescents in the creation of a theatrical experiment, a general rehearsal, hence the title of the show.





BREAKING NEWS

by the editorial staff

Innovation, inclusion and culture began to speak the same language. Some updates from Europe.

Re.Sto.Re. Project concludes an important phase and gets to the heart of the designing.

Our Re.Sto.Re. project has just finished the third joint staff training event in Porto, Portugal, where the majority of the partners gathered together to put in practice the materials developed for the piloting sessions, which will be later conducted in each of the national contexts of the partnership. There, they all experienced different activities useful for the inclusion of minorities and disadvantaged communities into society through the use of arts, performance and theatre. After this, the partners are now focused on developing the course materials per se, inclu-

ding different sessions, and matching them with the well-known ECVET system. After this, the partnership will start implementing the piloting sessions in their national contexts, putting all the materials developed into practice with their target groups.

European creativity calls for proposals to watch out for in the cultural sphere.

It is with great pleasure that we inform about some European calls that are currently open under the Creative Europe programme, and that have as main purpose to promote the use of culture and creativity, which is one of the core values of the Re.Sto.Re. project. One of these several

calls are the Call for European Cooperation projects, which has as deadline the 7th of September 2021, and that are focused on supporting activities in the cultural and creative sector. Another open call is the Call for European Networks of Cultural and Creative Organisations, open until the 26th of August 2021, which supports capacity-building projects implemented by representative, multi-country, membership-based networks of European cultural organisations. You can look at all of these opportunities and more by following [this link!!!](#)

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