

A possible theatre

Theatre for children from 0 to 3

**The experience of La Baracca-Testoni Ragazzi with the nursery schools
of Bologna**

**Theoretical and practical workshop
for teachers, educators and researchers**

March 3rd - 6th 2009

During the past few years, the situation of theatre for the early years has been evolving in many countries. Since 1987, in collaboration with the Municipality of Bologna, La Baracca has been developing the project "Theatre and nursery school", a project for children under 36 months of age attending nursery schools. It is a piece of research that has developed over the years, involving artists, pedagogues and teachers. The first international festival for the early years "Visions of future, visions of theatre..." was created and developed taking this experience as a starting point.

The project developed in Bologna stands out for the special dimension (spatial and existential) in which the meeting with the children takes place, when they are offered a show, a workshop or a performance.

In many European countries what usually happens is that children watch theatrical shows together with their parents and family.

On the contrary, La Baracca – Testoni Ragazzi has always paid special attention to the relationship among the children in the framework of nursery schools, considered as an educational institution with a socialising environment.

This choice derives from the belief that educational institutions, including those for the early years, play a major role in making children approach creative and artistic processes, and they act as cultural mediators.

At the same time, the development of the project was possible thanks to the special context of Bologna, where there is a theatre centre specialising in theatrical work with children, and a large and qualified network of educational services for the early years: 59 nursery schools with an attendance of 2.800 children from 0 to 3, in a town of approximately 300.000 inhabitants.

This context, along with the constant cooperation among artists, pedagogues and educators, allowed for that exchange of knowledge that made the project develop and grow.

During the workshop, **3rd - 6th March 2009**, the participants will:

- have the opportunity to exchange ideas with artists, pedagogues and educators involved in the project “Theatre and nursery school”;
- visit the nursery schools of Bologna;
- attend a meeting taking place in the framework of the project “Theatrical Scribbles”, the innovative path of theatrical workshops for children under three years created and developed by the nursery educators of the Municipality of Bologna together with the artists of La Baracca-Testoni Ragazzi;
- take part in a practical workshop during which the approach adopted for the project “Theatrical Scribbles” will be re-presented;
- visit other educational centres specialising in art and early childhood;
- watch shows and studies created by several European companies for children from 0 to 3 and from 3 to 6;
- visit the documentation centre of the Municipality of Bologna;
- take part in the activities of the festival (conferences and presentations);
- take part in the International Forum “Theatre for toddlers”, which will involve artists, researchers and teachers from different countries and enjoy performances dedicated exclusively to the Forum participants;

The workshop is open to 20 European and non-European teachers and researchers.

The project coordinators will be Roberto Frabetti, artistic director of the Festival, and Marina Manferrari, pedagogic coordinator of the Municipality of Bologna and coordinator of “Lo sguardo altrove, the festival observatory”.

A possible theatre: schedule

Arrival: by March, 3rd 2009 at 10:00 am

Tuesday, March 3	10:30 am-1:00 pm (theatre premises)	Meeting with Roberto Frabetti and practical workshop
	3:30 pm-5:30 pm (outside the theatre)	Visit to the Documentation Centre of the Municipality of Bologna and meeting with Franca Marchesi (U.I. Zero Sei – Municipality of Bologna)

Wednesday, March 4	9:30 am-11:00 am	Visit to Nursery Schools (½ group) (outside the theatre)
	9:30 am-11:00 am	Theatrical Scribbles in Nursery Schools (½ group) (outside the theatre)
	3:00 pm-5:30 pm	Visit to “Artelier” (educational centre specialising in art and early childhood) and meeting with Marina Manferrari (outside the theatre)
Thursday, March 5	8:30 pm-10:30 pm	Shows of the Forum
	11:30 am-6:30 pm	<i>“Theatre for the very young” – Assitej International Forum - Conferences and seminars</i> (theatre premises)
Friday, March 6	7:30 pm-10:00 pm	Shows of the Forum
	9:30 am-11:00 am	Visit to Nursery Schools (½ group) (outside the theatre)
	9:30 am-11:00 am	Theatrical Scribbles in Nursery Schools (½ group) (outside the theatre)
	1:30 pm-2:30 pm	Final meeting with Marina Manferrari (theatre premises)

The teachers and researchers taking part in the Workshop can have free tickets for the following shows (reservation required):

Tuesday, March 3	h 9:30am	In cammino – TAM (1-3 years)
Wednesday, March 4	h 2:30pm	The ugly duckling – Teatret Lampe (2-5 years)
Thursday, March 5	h 9:30am	I colori dell’acqua – La Baracca (1-3 years) as an alternative:
	h 9:30am	Il dottor BumBum – La Piccionaia/I Carrara (1-3 years)
Friday, March 6	h 5:30pm	Hin und her – Toihaus (1-4 years)

They will also be able to attend the other initiatives of the festival, as in the schedule attached.

Conditions of participation:

The registration fee for the workshop “A possible theatre” is 100,00 €

Travel and accommodation expenses will be born by the participants.

The registration fee includes the one for “Theatre for the very young” Forum.

It also includes the possibility of:

- Taking part in all the cost-free initiatives, among which the shows presented in the evening (on Wednesday and Thursday) exclusively for the Forum participants;
- having free tickets for the above listed performances

- Participating with a reduced fee in the other initiatives (workshops and shows) taking place in the other Festival days (February 28th, March 1st, 2nd, 7th and 8th)

Note: All the activities the participants want to take part in (shows, conferences, meetings...) should be booked with the forms the Festival Office will send after the registration is made.

How to book and pay

Reservations can be made by sending an email to carlotta@testoniragazzi.it from October 1st.

We kindly ask you to send us a short CV. Due to the limited number of participants that can be admitted to the workshop, we inform you that we will proceed for the registrations according to the order of arrival of the reservations.

We will subsequently send you the information on how to pay and book other activities.

Other useful information

During the other Festival days the cost for each meal in the theatre is 9,00 €

It is also possible to find, with the support of the theatre, cheap accommodation.

Festival Office

Mon-Fri 11-13 and 14-17

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