

## OPEN CALL WORKSHOP 2022

with \*ARUNA GANESH RAM\*CRISTINA GALBIATI\*MARIA DA SILVA  
\*NIMI RAVINDRAN\*PARAMITA SAHA\*YVES REGENASS (remotely)



## AWAKEN THE SLEEPING GIANTS\_ HYBRIDIZATIONS

The workshop is organised during the 31st edition of the FIT Festival Internazionale del Teatro e della scena contemporanea (Lugano, 28.9 - 11.10.2022) in collaboration with Trickster-p and LAC

DATES: 30.09 – 3.10.2022 (6 hours per day for a total of 24 hours of work)

LANGUAGE: English

TARGET: creators in different art disciplines with a keen interest in the development of unconventional artistic formats and in the topic of possible relationships between humans and other living forms.

PARTICIPANTS: 10

LOCATION: Lugano

TIMES: 10.30 – 13.00 / 14.00 – 17.30

COST: free of charge

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: 2 of September, 2022**

## SYNOPSIS

Ever since the Enlightenment, Western philosophers have shown us a Nature that is grand and universal but also passive and mechanical. Nature was a backdrop and resource for the moral intentionality of Man, which could tame and master Nature at will.

In the meantime, many things have happened that have called this view into question: those same inter-species entanglements that once seemed relegated to the world of fairy tales have now become the subject of serious discussion among biologists and ecologists to show how life inevitably requires interaction among many kinds of beings and among many forms.

Conceived as a two-year research and transmission project devised by Trickster-p and Sandbox Collective, *Awaken the sleeping giants* involves artists from Switzerland and India to explore hybridization and inter-species entanglements as possible keys to a future relationship between humans and other living forms and focuses its reflection on how new formats of encounter with the public can become vehicles for new models of participation and coexistence.

The workshop *Awaken the sleeping giants\_hybridizations*, offered as part of the FIT Festival, is conceived as a breeding ground of reflection and action, in which the participants can compare their visions and artistic practices to question hybridization in its many variations and facets.

The Lugano workshop will feature the participation of 10 resident artists accompanied by the stable group of art practitioners which is the core of the biennial project *Awaken the sleeping giants*, their joint work will open perspectives for possible new formats of encounter with the public that can ground a different paradigm of relation.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Documents in digital format must be submitted no later than 19 August 2022.

The selection of applications will be made at the sole discretion of the organizers and the outcome will be communicated to applicants no later than 31 August 2022.

Applicants must send the following documents by e-mail (documents can be sent in English, French or Italian):

- fully completed application form
- a PDF with bio and photo (maximum one A4 page)
- a motivation letter (maximum one A4 page)
- access to photos and videos of the candidate's work

A good knowledge of English is essential for participation in the workshop.

Please send applications to

[press@fitfestival.ch](mailto:press@fitfestival.ch)

Info: +41 91 225 67 61

## NOTES

Attendance is compulsory for all workshop days, under penalty of exclusion. When applying, it is compulsory to indicate any problems in securing the attendance requirement. Should the application lack the required data and information, it will NOT be accepted.

## FOOD, ACCOMODATION AND CONDITIONS

Participation in the workshop is FREE OF CHARGE.

For participants living outside of Ticino, free accommodation will be provided (ten minutes by bus from the city centre, in multiple rooms shared with the other participants) for the entire duration of the workshop.

Meal vouchers can also be purchased at the convention price of CHF 16.- per meal.

Those who wish may stay in Lugano until the end of the festival, continuing to benefit from free accommodation and meal vouchers.

On the first day of the workshop, the start is scheduled for 10.30 am. It will therefore be necessary to be in Lugano on the morning of Friday, 30th September.

Travel costs will be borne by the participants.

Workshop participants will have access to tickets to the Festival's featured performances (courtesy price: CHF 10.-).

Selected applicants will be sent a show-booking form which MUST be sent back in response to the email notifying them that we have accepted your application, ABSOLUTELY no later.

## PROMOTERS

The workshop is promoted by the FIT Festival Internazionale del Teatro e della scena contemporanea and LAC in cooperation with the research and transmission project *Awaken the sleeping giants*. *Awaken the sleeping giants* is supported by the "To-Gather" programme of the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia.

## BIO

ARUNA GANESH RAM (Bangalore)

Aruna is a performance director, designer, trainer and founder of Visual Respiration, a performance company committed to designing unique audience experiences.

She holds an (MA) in Advanced Theatre Practice from The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, London, United Kingdom. She has a Master's in Marketing & Communications with a focus on Communication design and visual media. She is also a graduate in Communication and Design, specialising in photography and film. Aruna is interested in engaging with audiences in unique ways and creating multi-sensorial performance experiences.

Aruna has been in theatre and performance for the last 15 years. Her work, *Memory Recipe* premiered at The Serendipity Arts Festival in Goa (2016). Her work, *Coloured and Choosing* was part of the Gender Bender Festival 2016 and explored gender ideas and perspectives. Other works also include *Under Pressure* (2019), a project that examines Climate Change, consumerism, indigenous wisdom and the politics of nature. The performance presents perspectives - the policy maker, the rag picker, the environmentalist, and the 8000 year old tree as a sensory montage - surreal and poetic.

CRISTINA GALBIATI (Novazzano/Lugano)

Director, dramaturg and independent artist Cristina Galbiati is co-founder of Trickster-p a research art project based in Novazzano, Switzerland. After a degree in Physical theatre, as time went on, her focus has shifted from a narrower definition of theatre to include expressions that transgress genre boundaries. Her poetics it is an invitation for the spectators to open up their perceptive space and create their own reality on the boundaries between inner vision and outer sight.

Among her works there are performances, walks and installations presented in more than 20 Countries in Europe, Asia, Australia, North and South America.

Along with the artistic work, Trickster channeled its experimental vocation by creating "la casa del tabacco", a space of creation and experimentation in the village of Novazzano, few kilometres away from the Italian-Swiss border and current base of Trickster project.

In 2017 Cristina Galbiati and her artistic partner Ilija Luginbühl have been awarded one of the prestigious Swiss Theatre Award .

MARIA DA SILVA (Geneva)

After studying cinema and social sciences, Maria trained in dramaturgy and cultural mediation. She graduated in direction at the Manufacture in Lausanne, where she developed several proposals based on real investigations. In 2018, she took a directing course with Tiago Rodrigues

in Lisbon and participated in the Rencontres internationales de la mise en scene in Paris.

She has created several shows that reflect her taste for the interdisciplinary, the hybrid, the collage and the bricolage, notably *The show (must) goes on*, *Tout à Verlan*, *Notre Cabane*, *Sisyphes(s)*. In 2020, she was awarded the Migros Cultural Percentage's Double program grant with Cristina Galbiati. Since 2018, she has been collaborating with landscape designer Nicolas Dutour. Together, they co-founded the collective Dénominateurs Communs to question art and territory by imagining devices that stage the relationship of the living to its environment. Between 2020 and 2021, they led a research-creation project at the Manufacture (Lausanne) in which they explored the dramaturgies of landscape in situ. Last year, they also organized an experimental laboratory by inviting various artists to share and experience a collective idleness.

#### NIMI RAVINDRAN (Bangalore)

Nimi Ravindran is a writer, theatre director and pedagogue who has worked in the theatre for 20 years in various capacities. She was artistic director of Just Theatre, a Bangalore-based theatre group where she produced and directed numerous theatre projects. She served in the core group of Ranga Shankara till 2007 and is on the advisory board of The Company Theatre, Workspace in Kamshet, Maharashtra. She holds a Senior Fellowship in Theatre from the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. In an earlier life she worked as a journalist, covering arts and culture, and was Assistant Editor at *India Today* magazine.

In 2018 she co-founded together with Shiva Pathak Sandbox Collective a creative and fluid space for artistic exchange. As co-director of Sandbox Collective, Nimi Ravindran conceives, curates and produce different artistic projects ranging from theater, dance and music festival to international touring of independent theater productions.

#### PARAMITA SAHA (Kolkata)

Paramita is a performer, curator, and arts manager working out of Kolkata. Co-Director of Artsforward for the last 12 years. Paramita works with artists and the creative community to build moving messages for social change. She is deeply engaged in the field of creative advocacy for environmental sustainability, audience development for the arts, nurturing and supporting creativity, capacity building and artistic ability in the youth, curating, and designing creative art projects. She runs At the Still Point, India's only crowd-funded dance platform. She is an ArtThinkSouthAsia 2016 Fellow and a Global Fellow of International Society of Performing Arts 2018 and 2021. She has founded *ArtAloneTogether*, India's first and only am-pm, mixed arts online festival featuring artists across disciplines and borders; a Continued Learning Program in Dance called *Continew* operating in both online and offline formats; she co-founded [www.unmute.help](http://www.unmute.help), an online resource centre to safeguard the rights of performing artists.

#### YVES REGENASS (Basel)

After taking his first professional steps as a primary school teacher and independent theatre pedagogue, he graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Cultural Sciences from the University of Hildesheim (Germany). Over the years, he has developed a specific interest in the principles of theatrical performance, deepening the modes of interaction and narrative structures through numerous collaborations with groups from the independent scene in Switzerland and Germany. In 2010 he was one of the founders of the Berlin-based collective *machina eX* with which he has been working as dramaturg, director and performer, creating projects presented in Argentina, Austria, Germany, Great Britain, Switzerland and the United States of America. From 2013 to 2017 he worked at ROXY Birsfelden as dramaturg. For several years he has been teaching *Game on stage* at the Bundesakademie für kulturelle Bildung in Wolfenbüttel. Since summer 2021 he is responsible for Digitale Dramatugie at Theater Chur.

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