

GUIDE

PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS IN EUROPE 2015



Since 2009, Circostrada Network has been strengthening its dialogue with the circus and street arts trade unions and federations that work within the European territory. To facilitate exchange and collaboration, Circostrada Network publishes a yearly updated directory giving detailed information on these bodies. You will find in this 2015 edition a list of 20 professional organisations working for circus and street arts in Europe.

HORS LES MURS

Coordinator of the network, HorsLesMurs is the French national resource center for street arts and circus arts. Founded in 1993 and funded by the ministry of Culture and Communication, it works for the development of these fields through activities of documentation, training, counselling, networking, research and publishing.



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This guide was edited by **Floriane Gaber** and coordinated by **Anne-Louise Cottet**.

Since 2003, Circostrada Network works to develop and structure the fields of circus and street arts in Europe and beyond. With more than 70 members, it contributes to build a sustainable future for the sector by empowering cultural players through actions of observation and research, professional exchanges, advocacy, capacity-building and information.

EDITORIAL

The European landscape for circus and street arts has evolved substantially in the last fifteen years. Federations, trade unions and local networks have been formed in several countries to represent and defend these sectors.

The professional organisations listed here all work to improve recognition and understanding among policy officers and strategic advisers, and in doing so work towards the development of dedicated policies and support schemes for street arts and circus, advocating for better conditions for cultural workers from these fields.

Their activities are essential to promote improved infrastructure and recognition for artistic fields that continue to receive little support from public authorities and cultural institutions.

As part of the activities carried out by Circostrada Network, we bring together in one publication an updated description of these different organisations active in 2015, their missions and their activities.

SOMMAIRE

● Associació de Professionals de Circ de Catalunya	3
● Associació Valenciana de Circ	4
● Atemzug	5
● Baltic-Nordic Circus	6
● Bundesverband Theater im Öffentlichen Raum e.V.	7
● CircusInfo Finland	8
● European Circus Association	9
● Fédération des Arts de la Rue Suisses (FARS)	10
● Federazione Nazionale Arte di Strada (FNAS)	11
● Fédération Nationale des Arts de la Rue	12
● International Federation of Arts in Public Spaces (IFAPS)	13
● Independent Street Arts Network (ISAN)	14
● Initiative für neuen Zirkus e.V. (INZ)	15
● Irish Street Arts, Circus & Spectacle Network (ISACS)	16
● Manegen	17
● National Association of Street Artists (NASA)	18
● Netzwerk Zirkus	19
● Sirkunst	20
● Syndicat du Cirque de Création	21
● Territoires de Cirque	22

ASSOCIACIÓ DE PROFESSIONALS DE CIRC DE CATALUNYA

<http://www.apcc.cat> / <http://www.lacentraldelcirc.cat>

The Catalan Association of Circus Professionals (APCC) represents all the professional fields of Catalan circus (artists, technicians, businessmen, managers, directors, playwrights, scenographers, choreographers, reviewers, historians, teachers, etc).

The purpose of the Associació de Professionals de Circ de Catalunya is to bring together different sectors of the Catalan circus to promote, disseminate and standardize this scene art in all its forms, placing it as a fact inherently cultural in space that corresponds with the others performing arts. To meet these aims, the

APCC work, among other fields, to influence positively in training, creation, production, dissemination and circuits, heritage and fiscal and labor frameworks. All profit motive is excluded.

The APCC manages La Central del Circ - Espai de Creació de Barcelona, a two-tent site focused on supporting artistic creation. La Central del Circ is also a space for circus professionals to practice and rehearse, with a regular specialised training program. La Central del Circ is part of CircusNext European platform.

Objectives

- To provide professional tools
- To promote and to control cultural policy sector improvements
- To unite and represent the circus group
- To promote and accompany initiatives which help to organize and revitalize the sector
- To dignify the circus

Activities

1. Encouraging the professional community
2. Circus promotion
3. Cultural policies for development of Catalan circus
4. Networks and relationships

Services to APCC members

- Information and support on projects, subsidies, legal matters, taxes, safety, etc.
- Promotion of the work of its members:
<http://www.apcc.cat>
- Specific information on circus: job offers, calls from festivals, calls for funding applications, current news, education and training opportunities, etc
- Training for circus professionals
- Tools to encourage the professional community
- Members can be part of the working committees that meet monthly. The committees which are active at the moment are: Commission of Formation and Commission of Shows on the street.

The APCC is participating in the preparation of the new General Circus Plan as it is being assembled by the Spanish government, and is taking part in the preparation of the Strategic Plan Culture Catalonia 2021 being promoted by the Department of Culture.

CONTACT

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ASSOCIACIÓ VALENCIANA DE CIRC

<http://www.espaidecirc.com>

The Circus Association of Valencia was born in December 2003 out of the need to create a space for contemporary circus in Valencia. Founded as a non-profit organisation by ten artists who wanted to make circus an important part of the cultural life in Valencia, in April 2004 the

Circus Association of Valencia opened L'espai de circ, which is considered the first contemporary circus space in the County of Valencia. The space has more than 400 square metres for professional and amateur training, courses and shows.

Examples of activities

The Circus Association of Valencia has created and performed several editions of its cabaret, and organises many workshops and regular courses taught by recognised professionals from all over Europe.

Among other projects, the Valencian Circus Association is currently focusing on being the first circus school in the Valencian county while developing a Street Theatre Circuit in collaboration

with Valencia's City Council, with a special programme each Sunday.

The Circus Association of Valencia is partner of different European funded projects: ENCI (European Network for Circus Exchange) and Social Educircation.

CONTACT

Associació Valenciana de Circ

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ATEMZUG

<http://atemzug-ev.de/verein.html>

Atemzug e.V. is an association of young professional artists working to combine different art forms, including dance, performance art, drama, music, and film. The concept is closely based on the contemporary circus style, using artistic elements from acrobatics, juggling, balancing; and aerial arts tied together by the choreography and central narrative of an overall performance.

The artistic project takes centre stage over physical exploits. The association provides a platform for professional artists, musicians, dancers, actors and media artists who come together once a year in a joint performance. Atemzug's experimental initiative and constant and creative way of bringing together different performing arts shine the spotlight on collaboration, the enjoyment that goes into planning and dialogue.

Objectives

In the long term, the association hopes to establish contemporary circus in Cologne and promote creative diversity. Atemzug has been organising modern artistic performances since 2005. Today, they have become a mainstay in the city's cultural calendar.

The association has recently felt the need to focus more on its own self-image and creative direction and examine its way of operating. Atemzug therefore launched a contemporary circus regular get-together ("Stammtisch") for people interested

in circus, in Cologne and the surrounding area. The aim is to discuss content and organisational and structural-related circus creation issues and problems, and to further develop contemporary circus together.

The contemporary circus initiative creates encounters for lively exchange with the goal of gaining public and political recognition of contemporary circus as an art form.

CONTACT

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BALTIC-NORDIC CIRCUS

<http://balticnordiccircus.com>

Baltic-Nordic Circus Network is a collaborative network of 15 circus art organisations in the Baltic and Nordic countries. The network aims to strengthen the regional collaboration and develops the

circus art field in the Baltic Sea region, for example by arranging workshops and meetings for the artists and other circus professionals in the region.

Examples of activities

Workshops

- Baltic-Nordic Circus Network has organised two artistic workshops in Tallinn during 27-28 of August 2015. The workshops has concentrated on Aerial choreography and Circus Dramaturgy. The Baltic-Nordic Circus network has received Nordbuk support from the Nordic Culture Point for organising the workshops.
- Baltic-Nordic Circus Network will organise a workshop for circus writers during 9-11 of September 2015 in Vilnius Lithuania. In the workshop the participants will concentrate on analysing circus performance and write about circus art. The participants will see circus performances at New Circus

Weekend festival, write and read texts about the performances, discuss about the circus and writing. The working language will be English.

The leaders of the workshop are internationally respected professionals in circus writing.

The Circus Writing workshop is part of the Baltic-Nordic Circus network's activities. The workshop is targeted to journalists, performing art critics, researchers and others who have professional interests on circus writing from all Baltic and Nordic countries.

Mapping

The Baltic-Nordic Circus network will publish a mapping about the circus art in the Baltic and Nordic countries. The specialities of circus art in each of the member countries will also be up-

dated during the mapping process. The funding from Nordic Culture Point has made this mapping possible.

Members

Tsirkusestudio Folie / Circus studio Folie - Estonia
AD productions (Tsirkusepuu / Circus Tree Festival) - Estonia
Kultuurikatel / Tallinn Creative Hub - Estonia
OMAtsirkus / OMAcircus - Estonia
Cirko - Uuden sirkuksen keskus / Cirko -
Center for New Circus - Finland
SirkusInfo / CircusInfo Finland - Finland
Hiljaisuus-festivaali / Silence Festival - Finland
Next Door Circus - Latvia
RE R E R I G A Festival - Latvia
Men spaustuv s / Arts Printing House - Lithuania
Sirkunst - Norwegian circus network - Norway
Circus Xanti - Circus Village Festival - Norway
Cirkus Cirkör - Sweden

CONTACT

Baltic-Nordic Circus

Coordinator of the network:

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Sirkuksen tiedotuskeskus

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BUNDESVERBAND THEATER IM ÖFFENTLICHEN RAUM E.V.

<http://www.theater-im-oeffentlichen-raum.de>

The Bundesverband Theater im Öffentlichen Raum e.V. (hereafter: Bundesverband) is a national association for professionals making theatre for public spaces in Germany. It was founded in 2006. There already exist organisations, associations and unions which represent artists and theatre companies as well as others which represent promoters, producers and organisers.

The major difference between these organisations and the Bundesverband is that the Bundesverband concentrates on the special needs of theatre in the public space and was founded as a structure where both artists and organisers could communicate with each other and work together toward similar goals.

Objectives

The Bundesverband is a platform that:

- Represents this genre in Germany
- Serves as a spokesperson for all matters related to theatre in the public space
- Is a connecting link to other professional organisations for theatre and culture in Germany and beyond
- Facilitates communication between artists and organisers
- Defines and defends the special needs of theatre in the public space

- Becomes actively involved in political discussions about theatre, artforms and cultural development
- Supports the further development of theatre in the public space by developing training as well as production spaces

Their principal objectives are to obtain recognition as an artform and to thus become part of official cultural life and society in Germany, and to have open access to funding and support and a voice within discussions concerning theatre and its development. The assembly of members elects seven persons who form the board of the association for a period of two years.

Activities

- Discussion
- Research into artists, projects, festivals and connected institutions
- Participation in theatre fairs (such as in Paderborn and Freiburg)
- Participation in round-table discussions
- Wintertagung – an annual conference about theatre in public spaces, in Berlin in the winter

- Website
- Newsletter

The Bundesverband is a founding member of the IFAPS (International Federation of Art in Public Spaces), launched in March 2015. The Bundesverband is also a partner of Performance Internationale Kuluturbörse in Paderborn (September 7-9 2015).

CONTACT

The Bundesverband Theater im Öffentlichen Raum e.V.

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CIRCUSINFO FINLAND

<http://www.sirkusinfo.fi>

CircusInfo Finland was founded in 2006 as the national organisation responsible for developing and supporting Finnish circus. Its aims are to gather and distribute circus information, to create and maintain international relationships and contacts in the field, to support the international dissemination of the circus arts, to promote the artistic development as well as the cultural and social status of the art, and to provide cultural of-

icers and decision-makers with up-to-date information about the situation and needs of the circus field, both in Finland and abroad. CircusInfo Finland receives yearly funding from the Ministry of Culture and Education. CircusInfo Finland's target groups are circus professionals, circus audiences, arts officials, the media, and international operators in the field.

Activities

CircusInfo Finland provides services and advice; gathers and documents information about Finnish professional circus; compiles reports to inform political decisions; arranges meetings, seminars and public events featuring circus; and provides information about events. They take part in national and international events and arts fairs to distribute circus information and promote the artform. CircusInfo Finland maintains an online database, "Sirkka", on Finnish circus artists, cir-

cus productions and companies in both Finnish and English. CircusInfo compiles statistics and reports related to activity in the circus field to aid political decision-making. It also manages a reference library collecting Finnish and foreign circus literature, promotional material, newspaper clippings, video, etc. Interested audience members and circus professionals, as well as students and researchers, can use the information by making an appointment with the CircusInfo staff.

International affairs

CircusInfo coordinates the circus field's export project as part of the Finnish cultural export strategy. The project has now been working to promote international networking and activity amongst professional circus groups since 2007.

The project supports international tours and organises Finnish circus showcase events along with training and study trips for Finnish circus professionals. CircusInfo Finland is an active member in several international networks in the field.

Member organisations

Any registered association or other incorporated society that is active in the circus field may apply for membership of CircusInfo Finland.

CONTACT

Sirkuksen tiedotuskeskus

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EUROPEAN CIRCUS ASSOCIATION

<http://www.europeancircus.info>

The European Circus Association (ECA) is a non-profit organization established in 2002 to unite Europe's circuses and promote and preserve circus arts and culture as part of Europe's cultural heritage. The ECA represents

more than 130 circuses, festivals, animal trainers and artists in 29 countries, including nearly all renowned European circuses and associated members worldwide. The work of the ECA is funded by member fees and additional donations.

Objectives

The ECA protects its members' interests through monitoring and outreach in Brussels and the Member States in support of appropriate and workable laws and regulations in the fields:

- Cultural recognition: As a result of ECA's work, the European Parliament adopted in 2005 a resolution acknowledging that the circus is part of European culture. Today the ECA is working to support recognition of circus as culture in the Member States.
- Travelling children's education: Children living with their families in travelling circuses must have access to schools and appropriate distance learning programmes.
- Animal welfare: ECA works to ensure high quality health and welfare standards for animals presented in circuses and promotes governmental regulation. For this purpose, the ECA has developed a model regulation for the training and keeping of animals.

● EU regulations: ECA works with authorities in Brussels to identify solutions to facilitate the travelling of circuses throughout Europe and the timely issuance of visa and work permits for its artists and staff. This includes work on tax issues, social security and other regulations.

● Technical standards: As a special topic, ECA is working to promote harmonized regulations for temporary structures such as circus tents throughout the European Union.

The European Circus Association (ECA) was established to promote circus arts and culture. Initiated by ECA, the European Parliament adopted a resolution in 2005 recognizing the circus as a part of Europe's culture.

International activities

In all its activities the ECA enjoys close collaboration and cooperation with other professional organizations representing the same interests:

- Fédération Mondiale du Cirque under the patronage of Princess Stephanie of Monte Carlo
- European Showmen's Union (ESU)
- European Network for Traveller Education (ENTE)

● European Federation of Professional Circus Schools (FEDEC)

● Performing Arts Employers Associations League Europe (PEARLE)

● Berufsverband der Tierlehrer e.V., Germany

CONTACT

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FÉDÉRATION DES ARTS DE LA RUE SUISSES (FARS)

<http://www.federation-arts-rue.ch>

The Fédération des Arts de la Rue Suisses (FARS - Swiss Federation of Street Arts) was founded in

2009 by a group of artists, administrators, directors and other street art professionals.

Objectives

The federation has the following goals:

- To unite Swiss street artists
- To encourage its members to share knowledge and skills
- To sustain the Swiss urban scene in the long term
- To act as an interface between street arts and public authorities
- To represent Switzerland with the IFAPS (International Federation for the Arts in Public Spaces)

Examples of activities

- Since 2009, FARS has organised several training workshops for amateurs and professionals, particularly within the framework of *Plage des Six Pompes* in Chaux-de-Fonds.
- In 2012 and 2013, it was in charge of the Swiss editions of *RueLibre - Journée internationale des Arts de la rue*, with the Fédération française des arts de la rue (FFAR - French Federation of street arts). The 2015 edition will take place in Neuchâtel.
- In February 2014, an independent committee from FARS hosted an FAI-AR (*Formation avancée itinérante aux arts de la rue*, Marseille) core training workshop in La Chaux-de-Fonds, in the middle of winter. The three-week mentoring and experimentation workshop was led by actors and other street art professionals.
- Collaboration with the *Société Suisse des Auteurs* (SSA - Swiss Writers Association) led to the creation of a street arts writing assistance competition with a CHF 8000 prize. The first edition of the competition was held in the autumn of 2014, with half the jury made up of SSA members and the other half of FARS members.
- After several misunderstandings between Swiss subsidisers and street artists, interest groups (atp-ktv, FARS) and the funding organisations concerned (Pro Helvetia, SSA, La Chaux-de-Fonds Cultural Affairs) agreed to organise a street arts seminar held in August 2014.

Results

With some sixty individual members, FARS continues to use every opportunity to grow. The federation's annual meetings have provided an informative opportunity for members to:

- Meet and dialogue with other professionals who they would not otherwise have met
- Be informed of their rights (employment, social security contributions, union membership, creation of associations, funding)
- Launch and join new projects
- Help create and join a knowledge and skills network

CONTACT

FARS - Fédération des arts de la rue suisses

fars@federation-arts-rue.ch

Le Pantin / 5, rue de la Ronde, CH-2300 La Chaux-de-Fonds (Switzerland)

FEDERAZIONE NAZIONALE ARTE DI STRADA (FNAS)

<http://www.fnas.org>

The Federazione Nazionale Arte di Strada (FNAS) is the Italian association for street arts. It

exists to gather artists, companies and promoters active in street performance.

Services to members

FNAS is able to provide several services to artists:

- An office for information and financial assistance
- An annual national training programme with several workshops open to artists (members as well as non-members)
- The monitoring of municipalities adopting regulation in favour of free street performance
- The annual FNAS publication "Kermesse - Yearbook of Italian Street and Circus Arts", the only official publication for this sector, issued with the support of the Ministry of Cultural Activities
- The website of the Federation (www.fnas.org), which is the quickest and most efficient online tool for contacting the whole of the Italian street arts world

The members are also invited to participate to work groups, for a better participative development of the Federation.

FNAS has also proposed new services dedicated to the street arts sector and its professionals, such as: web services and the development of the online Kermesse; an online version of a periodic newsletter to be made available to artists and professionals; the launch of a new mailing service as a useful tool for the promotion of shows and the activities of artists and promoters; and a chat service that facilitates direct contacts between artists, promoters, and street arts fans.

Besides its online services, the Federation has agreed a legal service that will provide free legal assistance to members in the case of payment disputes or problems with police concerning unauthorised performance in public space.

Activities

Within the institutional activities of the Federation, activities are focused on:

- The National Training Programme for Professional Artists, which takes place every year at the FNAS training centre of Certaldo (Florence)
- The National Award "Cantieri di Strada", an annual award for brand new productions staged by artists and companies

- The Federazione Nazionale Arte di Strada is also a member of the International Association for Open Cooperation in Street Arts, which has organized, since 2010 an Open Street Showcase

CONTACT

Federazione Nazionale Arte di Strada (FNAS)

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LA FÉDÉRATION NATIONALE DES ARTS DE LA RUE

<http://www.federationartsdelarue.org>

The Federation works on the consolidation and development of street arts in three main areas: professional and artistic recognition; the deve-

lopment of fundraising for this field, its companies and structures; and opening up dialogue with all artistic and cultural agents.

Objectives

Created in 1997, the Federation attempts to guide the evolution of the sector by implementing working groups and joint actions that advance street arts in these three main areas. The two central focuses of the Federation are to work on the structuring of the sector and to lobby on a regional, national and Eu-

ropean scale. As a membership organisation where the members are all street arts professionals, the Federation has a constitution that ensures its activities are connected directly to the evolution of the sector and its partners.

Operation

● The organisation's Board of Trustees is made up of 20 members elected on a yearly basis and meets at least four times a year to make decisions on the major directions.

● the Bureau, elected from within the Board of Trustees, has six to nine members in charge of relations with national institutions in particular.

● All of the Federation's members work on projects on a volunteer basis, depending on their areas of interest.

International activities

Construction of a common European organisation for the street arts. During the very first meeting, which took place at Aurillac in August 2008, the professionals there (coming from Germany, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal and Switzerland) agreed on a few aims for working on a European scale:

● To exchange on both common and varied artistic practices

● To circulate work more easily around Europe

● To be as well regarded as the other, more conventional performing arts

● To develop opportunities for artists to work and play in open spaces

● To act on the legislation affecting open and public spaces

The National Federation of Street Arts is one of the founding members of the IFAPS (International Federation for the Arts in Public Spaces).

The National Federation of Street Arts has also developed Rue Libre! (Free Street!) on a European scale.

CONTACT

Fédération nationale des arts de la rue

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Maison des Réseaux Artistiques et Culturels,
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INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ARTS IN PUBLIC SPACES (IFAPS)

The IFAPS (International Federation of Arts in Public Spaces) was created on 1st March 2015 during the founding meeting in Berlin (Germany),

with representatives from the French, German, and Swiss federations and ACMUR Burkina Faso.

Members

The project was initiated by the Fédération des Arts de la Rue Suisses (FARS - Swiss Federation of Street Arts), Bundesverband Theater im Öffentlichen Raum e.V. (German Association of theatre in the pu-

blic space professionals) and ACMUR Burkina Faso ("Association for arts, clowns, puppets and music in our streets") in collaboration with the French Federation of Street Arts.

Board

The general meeting elected a Bureau made up of:

● President: Clair Howells (Germany)

● Treasurer: Peggy Desmeules (France)

● Secretary: Natacha Kmarin (Switzerland)

Objectives

Each country within the international union of national federations has one vote and elects 3 members at large.

The IFAPS acts as a political and transnational voice that defends the particular interests of artistic creation in public spaces. The Federation will also have the mission of using shared experience, working methods and resources to support the development of new structures in countries yet to have a national federation.

Privatisation of the public space and censoring in some countries, especially in Europe, is one of the first joint projects on which it is working.

CONTACT

**International Federation
of Arts in public spaces - IFAPS**

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INDEPENDENT STREET ARTS NETWORK (ISAN)

<http://www.isanuk.org>

ISAN is a membership organisation of producers, presenters, promoters and artists from the UK and Ireland working in outdoor arts. ISAN is a strategic organisation that develops the outdoor arts sector through networking, lobbying, information-sharing, training, research, and advocacy support and advice for their members. ISAN came into existence in the late 1990s when a group of like-minded promoters began to meet, network, pool resources and lobby for greater in-

vestment in outdoor arts, particularly from Arts Council England and local authorities. Since then the organisation has gone from strength to strength. ISAN has been commissioned to undertake ground-breaking projects and advocacy programmes, and has produced guidance and publications which are acclaimed not only in the outdoor arts sector but which reach further, across boundaries, into events practices of all genres.

Activities

ISAN overall aim is to develop outdoor arts in all their forms. They do this by:

- Commissioning and publishing research and guidance (eg Health and Safety guidance, Access Toolkit, etc)
- Providing a forum for networking and discussion
- Organising general meetings (about two a year) where members discuss and debate key issues, network, collaborate on shared programming, and establish priorities for ISAN in coming months. The General Meetings also approve ISAN financial accounts and elect the ISAN board on an annual basis
- Organising conferences and symposia events on specific themes – open to members and non-members
- Running training courses and a professional development programme
- Highlighting and facilitating UK and international collaboration opportunities for members
- Sharing information via email for members
- Investing in and encouraging investment in new work
- Acting as an independent voice for outdoor arts – doing presentations throughout the UK and making the sector's views heard by Government, Arts Councils, Regional Arts Boards, and local authorities

- Having a Code of Practice for all members to abide by, based upon eight clear principles; equal opportunities practice; and good practice with application to different contexts including presenting, commissioning, consultancy, and residencies and workshops.

Now, after having led the research « Audience finder », ISAN and The Audience Agency are currently investigating the following areas for further research: economy, wellbeing, society, culture.

CONTACT

Independent Street Arts Network (ISAN)

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INITIATIVE FÜR NEUEN ZIRKUS E.V. (INZ)

<http://www.initiative-neuerzirkus.de>

The Initiative was founded in Cologne in 2011 by a group of ten professionals working in circus arts. It functions thanks to private commitment and is financed through private means. This initiative gathers artists, companies, schools and institutions wishing to represent contemporary circus in Germany.

The objective is to work towards the recognition of this genre as an artform. INZ aims to create a network for artists in Germany, stimulate exchange between members, encourage artistic training, and create a platform in order to facilitate a dialogue between artists and cultural representatives.

Objectives

- The recognition of contemporary circus as an artform on a cultural politics level
- Giving the genre a voice, being a contact institution for politicians, researchers and the media
- Developing a strategy for the creation of circus structures in the German artistic landscape that meet circus' current needs

Aims

- Being a network for artists
- Creating festivals for contemporary circus in Germany
- Holding round-table discussions

Examples of activities

- INZ has launched a dedicated website and a newsletter
- INZ is also partner of projects like Zirkus Wissenschaft, Stammtische Neuer Zirkus, Labor Cirque, Forum Neuer Zirkus, CircBIB, festival Circ'ouleur, the Netzwerk Zirkus and the European project CircusNext
- INZ has published *Zirkus Heute. Neuer Zirkus in Deutschland und Seine Companien*

Founding members

- Atemzug e.V., Cologne : <http://atemzug-ev.de>
- Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Zirkuspädagogik, Berlin : <http://www.bag-zirkus.de>
- Circus Schatzinsel, Berlin : <http://www.vuesch.org/schatzinsel/>
- Kaskade - Europäische Jonglierzeitschrift, Wiesbaden : <http://www.kaskade.de>
- Katakomben - Center for Performing Arts, Berlin : <http://www.katakomben-berlin.de>
- Ute Classen Kulturmanagement, Aachen : <http://www.ute-classes.de>
- ZAK Zirkus und Artistikzentrum, Cologne : <http://www.zak-koeln.com>

CONTACT

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IRISH STREET ARTS, CIRCUS & SPECTACLE NETWORK (ISACS)

<http://www.isacs.ie>

The Irish Street Arts, Circus & Spectacle Network (ISACS) is a collaborative enterprise between professionals from the street arts, circus and spectacle artforms in Ireland. The idea for this network arose from a number of informal conversations held between organisations and in-

dividuals from the sector who felt that an umbrella organisation would benefit practitioners. ISACS 52 members are individuals and organisations who actively support, create, participate and encourage the development of Street Arts, Circus and Spectacle arts across Ireland.

Objective

The core aim of this network is to establish itself as a support and advocacy organisation, for the development of these collective art forms.

Activities

They aim to raise the profile, increase recognition and support the development of the sector by:

- Information and resource sharing
- Advocacy and Policy development
- Training and Professional Support
- National and International Networking

N.E.S.T., New Emerging Street Talent has been launched in 2014. It is a new mentoring initiative for the sector, in partnership with Spraoi, Waterford. Con Horgan of FCFI, Tralee has been invited to curate N.E.S.T. 2015. The selected artists receive a deeper reach to new audiences, a heightened profile among programmers national and international and ongoing mentoring, support and guidance from all the NEST partners.

ISACS are currently in the process of building a databank of audience numbers and reach, to demonstrate their strength as an art form in connecting with lots of people from a wealth of

backgrounds. In 2014, they worked in partnership with Kath Gorman in 2014 and presented an initial report : « ISACS audience research » and a short guide to being « Audience Aware » was created by Debbie Wright and the University of Limerick.

ISACS are now putting together a plan with the Irish World Academy, University of Limerick to roll out a piece of academic research into this area.

ISACS are partnered with the MA in Festive Arts at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick.

CONTACT

Irish Street Arts, Circus & Spectacle Network (ISACS)

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MANEGEN

<http://www.manegen.org>

Manegen is a Swedish national federation for professionals in circus, variety and street performance. Manegen promotes the artforms and supports its members (companies, creators, producers, presenters, educators, etc) in their professional work with circus, variety and street performance. Becoming a member of Manegen means having access to the network and its resources, experience and knowledge, and taking part in improving the conditions for these artforms.

Manegen is, in spite of the impact and strength of the artforms it represents in Sweden, still quite a

young organisation. It was founded in 2008. The development of Manegen is undertaken by its elected board. As a group the board members bring experience of: large and small companies, a Bachelor degree in circus, training for children and youth, street performing, variety, national and international networking, financing and sales, artistic development, community work, event organisation, business, and producing and administration – and all within the fields of circus, variety and street performance.

Objectives

Through joint efforts and activities Manegen wants to spread circus, variety and street performance to new kinds of practitioners and audiences, to increase media coverage, to encourage the support of local and national authorities, and last but not least to create opportunities for professional and artistic development. Manegen aims to give circus, variety and street performance a new meaning to the general public in Sweden and to put these fields on the national cultural agenda.

Manegen aims to increased professional conditions:

- Establish a high quality daily training for professionals in the Stockholm region
- Support high quality daily training for professionals in other parts of Sweden
- Establish an incubator for artists to provide them with reflection and input on new acts and artistic ideas
- Arrange masterclasses in different disciplines, advanced rigging, etc

Example of activity

- Sharing job advertisements, inventories of venues, newsletters, research and information regarding the artform, and with a special focus on laws and regulations affecting street performers

- Spreading information externally about the artform, Manegen and its members to journalists, researchers, politicians, international networks and other artforms through the website and through newsletters, semi-nars, meetings and lobbyin

CONTACT

Manegen

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STREET ARTISTS (NASA)

<http://nasauk.org>

CONTACT

National Association of Street Artists (NASA)

missioncontrol@nasauk.org | members@nasauk.org

NASA c/o Faceless, Unit E Fox Way,
Trinity Business Park, Waldorf Way, Wakefield,
West Yorkshire WF2 8EE (UK)

The National Association of Street Artists is an independent UK network of creative practitioners making work for the outdoors. The management and development of NASA is undertaken by its elected steering group, who meet 4-5 times a year.

Membership Benefits

Membership is open to performers, producers, makers, artists, directors, musicians, emerging artists or students involved in street or outdoor arts of any scale.

- Access to the e-group / online discussion forum
- Listing on the NASA website with a link through to your own website
- Voting rights

- Invitations to participate in all NASA events
- Information sharing
- A strategic voice which benefits all of us
- Option to add your promo to the NASA stand at national and international events (small carriage fee applies)

Activities

NASA is an artist-led association and network, founded in 2006. NASA aims to support and develop the professional practice of UK based street artists by:

- Facilitating information sharing and providing discussion forums and peer support
- Advocating for the sector and networking with key organisations
- Engaging in strategy and policy discussions

- Undertaking research and delivering developmental projects

NASA provides a website and an email group for artists to debate work and share ideas and information: www.nasauk.org. NASA Mission Control regularly attends showcases, meetings and strategically important street arts festivals and events in the UK and internationally.

News

● 'Reframe The Streets' is creating, promoting and facilitating a wider range of constructive and reflective critical conversations about Outdoor Arts. Over the Summer of 2015 two enquiring writers Xavier Leret and Nick Cassenbaum will see and reflect upon a series of outdoor arts productions at three festivals: Greenwich and Docklands International Festival, Winchester Hat Fair, Out There Festival, Great Yarmouth (19th-20th September 2015). The artists/company being reviewed and their audience are invited to

join in the discussion, real time on this website: <http://nasauk.net>

- Outdoor Arts Lab, Bristol (29th September - 3rd October 2015): 'Words and Stories in the Great Outdoors' an inspiring and invigorating Outdoor Arts Lab, a residential course for up to 45 artists, involving 3 intertwined workshop streams on the themes of Words and Stories in the Great Outdoors.

NETZWERK ZIRKUS

<http://netzwerk-zirkus.de>

With its numerous variety shows, circuses and theatre performances, Germany is one of the largest markets in the world for artists.

Netzwerk Zirkus promotes dialogue throughout Germany on circus as an artistic medium, whether in its traditional form, in variety entertainment, dinner theatre, contemporary circus, street circus and circus training.

Circus companies are facing increasing difficulty in adapting their models to new realities. Developing new artistic and economic models is a major challenge that requires specific conditions. These include a new schooling and training system, legal security for companies and independent artists, and available space for production and experimentation.

Objectives

The aim of Netzwerk Zirkus is to create these conditions in order to improve circus development. Netzwerk Zirkus is a network of circuses in Germany created to share ideas, promote mutual support and generate new collaborative opportunities. To do so, an information platform was put in place to share and exchange news and information on various issues related to the circus arts in Germany.

The network also works to represent the interests of the circus community with political decision-makers and to raise awareness on circus as a cultural asset. Netzwerk Zirkus's founding principle from the very start has been to create a network of circus companies in Germany and represent their joint interests. On 5 February 2015, Netzwerk Zirkus became an association after two years as a private initiative. The change in legal form was an important step towards legitimacy that will also help the network reach its goals.

Founding members of the association

Base Berlin : <http://base-berlin.de>
Chamäleon Productions : <http://chamaeleon-productions.com>
GOP showconcept : <http://www.gop-showconcept.de>
Initiative Neuer Zirkus : <http://www.initiative-neuerzirkus.de>
Palazzo Produktionen : <http://www.palazzo.org>
Zirkus macht stark : <http://www.zirkus-macht-stark.de>
Gisela Winkler - Zirkusarchiv : <http://www.circusarchiv.de>
Tobias Fiedler - SOLyCIRCO Festival :
<http://www.circus-mignon.de/solycirco/>

CONTACT

Netzwerk Zirkus

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10829 Berlin (Germany)

SIRKUNST

<http://sirkunst.no>

Sirkunst is a national non-profit organisation for everybody who associates themselves with the circus arts field in Norway, serving both professionals and amateurs. It is the largest and oldest organisation of its kind in Norway, built on democratic principles and headed by a board elected from among its members. Circus in Norway is a young and marginal community, consisting of a few professional companies and a handful of circus schools for young people. The activity is spread geographically over the whole country.

Sirkunst was founded in Oslo in 2007 by professionals who felt the need to join forces to improve conditions for everybody in the circus arts field in Norway. The assembly of members elect seven members from the association who form the board of the association for a period of two years.

Sirkunst is a membership organisation open to all individuals, companies and institutions who want to support the goals of the association either through active or supporting membership.

Objectives

Sirkunst principal objective is to strengthen the conditions for circus arts in Norway. Sirkunst is a platform that:

- Represents this genre in Norway
- Serves as a spokesperson for all matters related to the circus arts in Norway
- Serves as a bridge between the Norwegian art scene within circus and street arts and the European circus and street arts communities

- Offers an arena for networking and communication between the members

- Offers workshops and builds important competencies

- Becomes actively involved in political discussions about circus and its urgent need for facilities, training and skills

Activities

- Discussions
- Research into artists, projects, festivals, shows
- Establishing "Young Sirkunst" for members in the age group 13-23
- Offering workshops within the whole circus field, focusing on teaching methods and rigging skills

- Website: <http://sirkunst.no>

- Newsletter

- Hepp! Sirkus festival (next time in 2016)

CONTACT

Sirkunst

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SYNDICAT DU CIRQUE DE CRÉATION

<http://www.syndicat-scc.org>

Solidarity, creativity, diversity and transmission, the core values of the circus, form the foundation of the French Circus Creation Trade Union and direct its activities. As circus has continually reinvented itself over the last forty years, those artists who identify themselves as belonging to the circus world have felt the urge to unite around the art in search of a new recognition.

Thus, to support the growth of the development of contemporary circus' activities, companies and sector, the Trade Union of New Forms of Circus Arts (SNFAC) was established in 1998.

The Union was then renamed The Circus Creation Trade Union (SCC in French) in 2004, but throughout its life has existed to support those modes of creation, production and organisation that are undertaken by artistic teams. A representative body for the circus arts, the SCC is a union of employers which envisages a social dialogue beyond the dichotomy of employers / employees. It posits, on the contrary, a social economy in which employees, whether permanent or intermittent, contribute to, and benefit from, their own success.

Outcomes

SCC

- Represents the interests of its members, and the profession as a whole, in communication with public authorities and professional bodies
- Contributes to the structuring of the professional sector of circus in France
- Works to improve conditions for the creation and dissemination of circus works
- Educates local communities and cultural leaders to host circus companies in cities and urban territories, closer to the people
- Promotes the formation of a network of exchanges and initiatives on a national and European level
- Thinks about new ways of approaching management and employment adapted to the cultural performing arts, the so-called "third sector"
- Participates in negotiations for collective agreements in the performing arts and individual agreements in employment and training
- Works on the development of continuing vocational training, improving teaching conditions for circus artists, and better risk management within the disciplines and techniques of circus
- Works to develop new mechanisms of support and to improve cultural policies in favour of the circus arts

CONTACT

Syndicat du cirque de création

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TERRITOIRES DE CIRQUE

<http://www.territoiresdecirque.com>

Territoires de Cirque is an association of currently more than 30 production and distribution organi-

sations that pay special attention to contemporary circus forms.

Objective

Its goal is to create a place for dialogue and professional action that is dedicated to this discipline, as well as to be an active partner to and source of proposals for public, institutional and professional authorities, both nationally and internationally. The members of Territoires de Cirque meet regularly to exchange on artistic projects and professional issues concerning the circus arts field. They

are in particular involved in helping contemporary creation, residencies, distribution, the visibility of circus arts in the media, and the search for a wider audience. Because of its experience and involvement in circus arts development and recognition, Territoires de Cirque has become an identified and solid reference and partner for the public authorities.

Examples of activities

Beyond its work on artistic projects, Territoires de Cirque also undertakes several other activities:

- Territoires de cirque's website includes a calendar that gives some exposure to the association's activities (residencies for creation, productions and distribution), as well as listing events and festivals. With special reports carried out by journalists and public figures to offer different perspectives on circus creation, the website participates in the production of critical and introspective writing on the circus arts.

- The association organises several professional meetings dedicated to circus arts:

- National circus meetings in association with ONDA, aiming to introduce generalist venues to circus arts creations and circus arts' specificities
- Professional meetings during "Midi-Pyrénées fait son cirque" en Avignon, ...
- Furthermore, members of TDC regularly participate in professional meetings to share their expertise and experience in the field of circus arts.
- In March 2015, they ran a seminar « Vers la définition d'outils pour mieux accompagner la diffusion » at La Brèche (Cherbourg). In April 2015, they ran a seminar « Espaces de cirque, laboratoires de politiques culturelles » during the festival Hautes tensions at La Villette (Paris). They have also launched regional studies about contemporary circus.

CONTACT

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Cover

Cie Asphalt Piloten,
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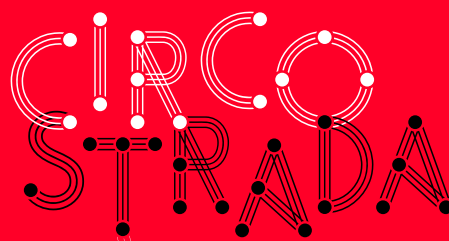
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