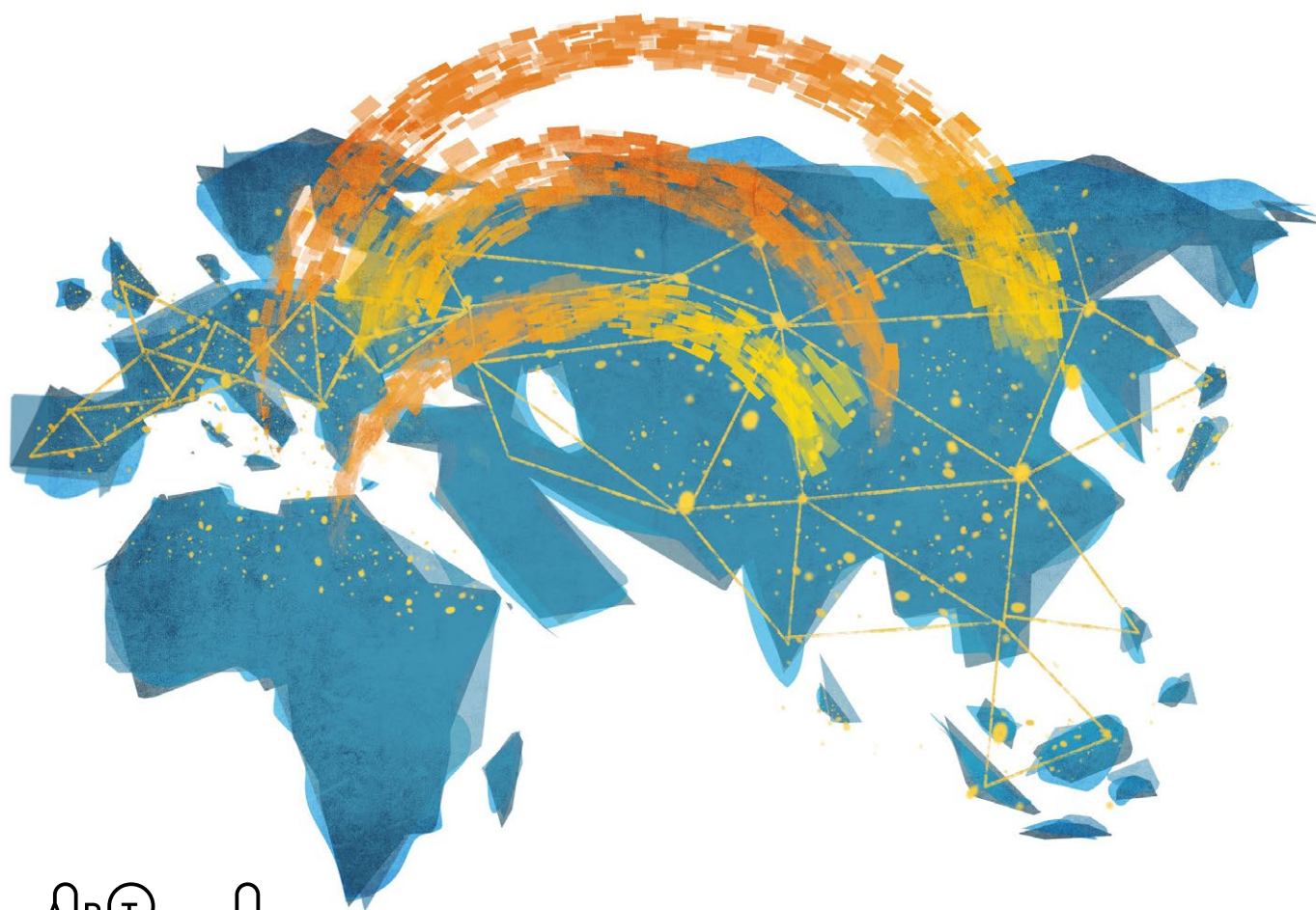


MOBILITY
GUIDE

SOYA STIRRING OPPORTUNITIES WITH YUMMY ASIA

CIRCUS AND STREET ARTS MOBILITY GUIDE #1 ASIA - EUROPE



ARTCENA is the French National Centre for Circus Arts, Street Arts and Theatre, funded by the French Ministry of Culture.

It coordinates the Circostrada network and has a permanent seat on its Steering Committee. It works towards its missions in three main areas: sharing knowledge and resources through a digital platform; supporting professionals via mentoring and training; promoting and strengthening the circus, street arts and theatre fields by carrying out international development projects.

This publication
was co-edited by
On the Move
and **Circostrada**



Since 2003, Circostrada Network has been working to develop and structure the fields of circus and street arts in Europe and beyond. With more than 100 members from over 30 countries, it helps building a sustainable future for these sectors by empowering cultural players through activities in observation and research, professional exchanges, advocacy, capacity-building and information.

Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union

FOREWORD

One could possibly argue that in the past few years the relationship between Europe and Asia has never been more intertwined and that artistic collaborations have been flourishing like mushrooms after the rain. However, one could also acknowledge the fact that little or very fragmented information is available or easily accessible to cultural professionals eager to walk the long path towards sustainable international cooperation, especially for those who are passionate by circus and street arts.

Following a research trip to Japan which took place in December 2016, Circostrada welcomed its first member from Asia, Setouchi Circus Factory, a pioneer non-profit organisation based in Takamatsu (Shikoku Island) working towards the development of contemporary circus through a festival, several artistic residencies, as well as a resource centre. Ever since, the network has also been witnessing a dramatic increase in artistic collaborations between Europe and Japan, as well as a strong interest into keeping the ground fertile for future partnerships and synergies (e.g. the ongoing connection between Circostrada and the Circus Asia Network - CAN).

In order to keep the excitement at its peak and to foster new opportunities for professionals working in Europe or in Asia, Circostrada decided to organise a second research trip to Asia in October 2018, focusing this time on South Korea for a week-long exploratory journey in the frame of Seoul Street Arts Festival and Performing Arts Market Seoul (PAMS), which will present in parallel a specific European focus. It goes without saying that each research trip is followed by a dedicated publication, allowing any professional to find up-to-date information on the current local panorama, as well as some hands-on tools on how to best undertake new projects.

In a fruitful partnership together with On the Move, Circostrada took a step forward and delved deeper into the connections between Europe and Asia, by exploring the needs of the professionals working in the circus and street arts fields and by sharing the inspirational experiences of those network members already working across the Eurasian continent.

The strengths of this publication constitute also its very limits. It is not meant to be an ultimate guide decoding international artistic collaborations between Europe and Asia, because it is actually conceived as a practical work-in-progress guide helping professionals making their best possible choices when working internationally. It does gather existing online information through already-produced guides and toolkits, and it presents a mapping of 54 Asian festivals and European festivals with Asian focuses, venues and cultural institutions, as well as mobility grant schemes and funding opportunities, administrative and practical tips. Moreover, it is dotted by several inspiring stories and examples of mobility experiences, shared by Circostrada members, revealing their most exciting international collaborations.

Based on Circostrada crowdsourcing and then on up-to-date information, this guide aims to be resourceful and inspirational when considering going to Asia in the circus and street arts sector. There is no magic recipe but three ingredients must be taken into consideration: benchmarking, diversifying and anticipating. Hopefully, no white fruit will be eaten as our Cantonese-speaking friends would say¹!

¹ "Sik bak guo": idiom to describe efforts that are not rewarded.



SOYA MENU

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- Asian circus and street arts context

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¹ Idiom meaning "as close as anything can be."

² Idiom meaning "little money, something so small that it is not worth considering."

³ Idiom meaning "describing patience."

PARTNERS



Co-funded by the
Creative Europe Programme
of the European Union



on the move

On the Move (OTM) aims to facilitate cross-border mobility in the arts and culture sector, contributing to the building of a vibrant European shared cultural space that is strongly connected internationally. OTM shares information on cultural mobility opportunities and funding on a free and regular basis, through its website, monthly e-newsletters and social media platforms; co-produces free guides and toolkits on cultural mobility and related topics; tackles cultural mobility challenges (e.g., visas, administrative and environmental issues) through reports and meetings, and occasionally co-organises training and events for its members and associated partners.

On the Move is funded by the Ministry of Culture-France, as well as through projects' partnerships with European networks and/or local, national, International agencies and organisations.

● [Facebook](#) ● [Twitter](#)

The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors. The Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

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August 2018

Find all the publications
by Circostrada as well
as many other online
resources and news
from the network and its
members on:
www.circostrada.org

APPETISERS

A TASTE OF ASIAN CIRCUS AND STREET ARTS

Asian circus and street arts context

2018 marked the year of several international events and, in the performing arts sector in particular, the most noticeable may well be the 250th anniversary of Philip Astley's first modern circus ring! While there are undoubtedly an increasing number of circus performances, companies, festivals and graduates in Europe, Australia and in the US, what about Asia?

Asian performing arts were also on the rise this year with the creation of new festivals such as the International Theater Institute World Performing Arts Festival in the field of theatre (Vietnam), Motion Mongolia in the field of contemporary dance or Circus cabaret, a new contemporary circus festival launched in South Korea, and - although in a different artistic field - 2018 also marked the first Eurovision Asia Song Contest!

When talking about circus and street arts scene in Asia, one has to take into consideration this common phrase use throughout much of Southeast Asia: "Same same but different". It usually refers to Asian street selling techniques* or some non-Asian palates**. In the case of circus and street arts in a Euro-Asian context, this phrase would apply too. A show performed in Europe or in Asia would be the same show per se but it would be different because of the venue or the audience.

Circus and street arts artistic scene in Asia is multiple, diverse and connected with Europe through artistic collaboration projects. New connections between Europe and Asia are emerging as illustrated by DUET¹ which is altogether an app, an interactive web platform and 8 outdoor public artworks across

cities in India and the United Kingdom. Asia has thus confirmed its potential as a new territory for circus and street arts and as you will see in the next section, mobility projects between Asia and Europe keep being developed and still arouse the interest of circus and street arts professionals!

**"Invest in personal contact.
It's important to share a dinner
and look into each other's
eyes."**
HH Producties

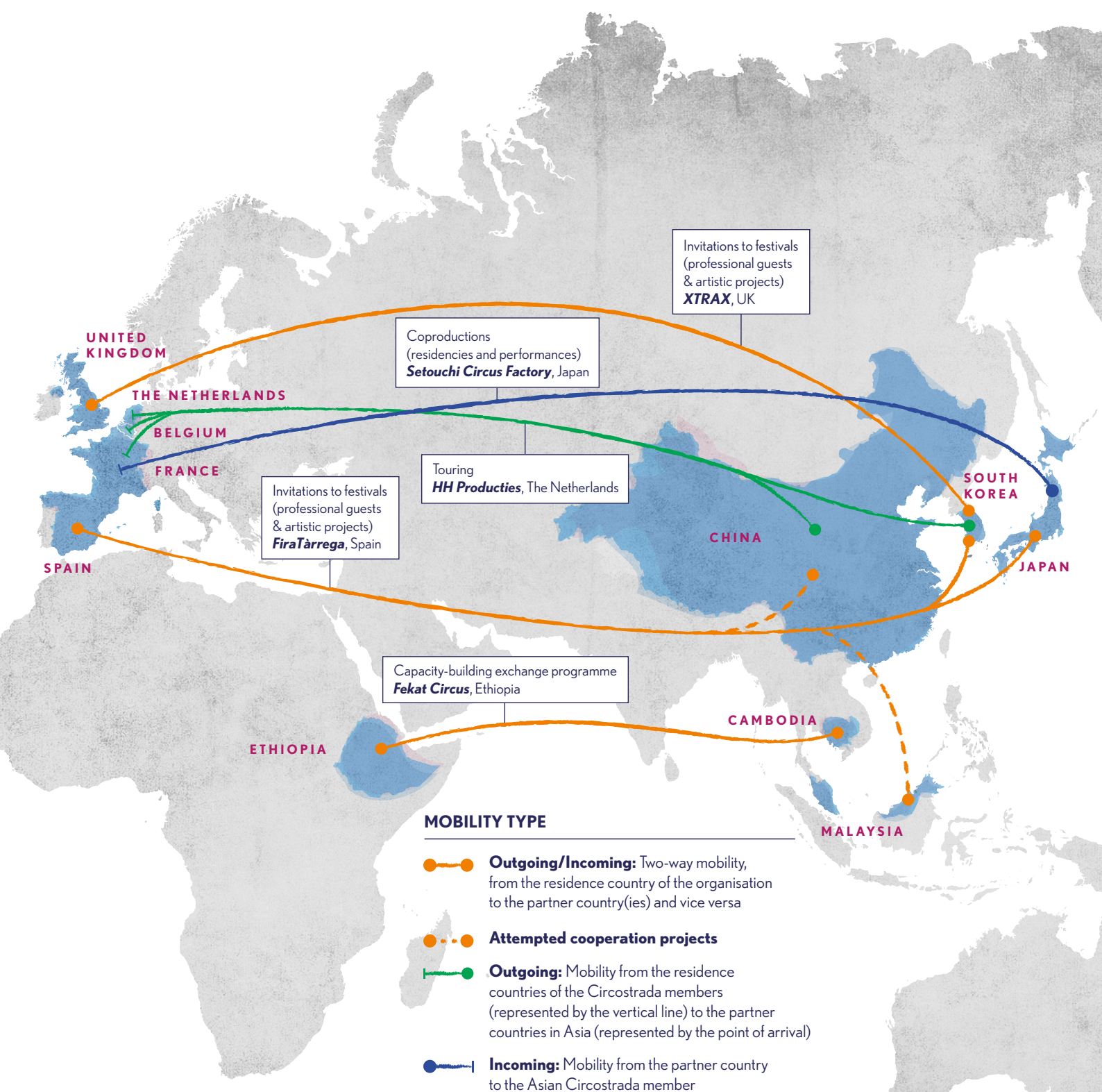
* "Yes, this fake Dior bag looks as good as an authentic one ... but is not"

** "I love Chinese cuisine from spring roll to sushi!"

¹ Collaboration between Invisible Flock (UK) and Quicksand (India), funded by Arts Council England and British Council and supported by East Street Arts and Unbox. The app connected over the course of a year between 2017 and 2018 two individuals from the UK and India and sent them one question a day before exchanging their responses with each other (1000+ people, 350+ questions, 23,000+ messages).

Mobility projects between Circostrada members and Asia

What is the current state of the arts within Circostrada Network regarding circus and street arts mobility projects with Asia? Circostrada consists of more than 100 members from 35 countries in Europe and beyond. Among its members, some of them have been undertaking collaborations with at least five Asian countries – as illustrated on the map below – information provided by six Circostrada members that we wish to thank again for their valuable contributions. There is a rich diversity of experiences with both artists and cultural practitioners involved in outgoing and incoming mobility projects such as touring, invitations to festivals and cooperation projects.




FEKAT CIRCUS

Fekat Circus is an open creative space, where youngster from the community can learn, practice and perform free of charge. It works to develop the circus arts sector in Ethiopia. It was created in 2004 in the outskirts of Addis Ababa by a group of young Ethiopian jugglers and acrobats with a passion for circus. In 2015 it founded the first African Circus Arts festival in Addis Ababa.

About the mobility project:

Fekat Circus had an exchange programme with Phare Phonleu Selpak from Cambodia.

In March 2017, three members of Fekat Circus spent 10 days both in the [Performing Arts School](#) and the [Performing Social Enterprise](#). The second part of the exchange took part in March 2018, when three members of Phare came to take part in the African Circus Arts Festival. In September 2018, a staff member of Fekat Circus performed a 3-month internship in Phare Ponleu Selpak to develop skills to launch Fekat Circus Social Enterprise and a crowdfunding campaign for the purchase of Fekat Circus big top.

RESIDENCE COUNTRY	PARTNER COUNTRY	MOBILITY TYPE	FUNDING
ETHIOPIA	CAMBODIA	OUTGOING/INCOMING 	PROHEDEV - Promoting Heritage for Ethiopia's Development (EU funding)


HH PRODUCTIES

HH Producties is a street arts, circus and theatre agency based in Amsterdam. They represent companies from Europe around the globe and cooperate with national and international companies and organisations. They assist productions in the area of marketing, administration and financial settlement, and offer programming and consultancy services to festival organisers.

About the mobility project:

HH Producties scheduled the company Gijs van Bon (NL) to tour in China in 2017, and three companies to tour in South Korea in 2018:

- Cie Dyptik (FR) with [D-Construction](#)
- Circus Katoen (BE) with [Ex Aequo](#)
- Gijs van Bon (NL) with [NYX](#)


RESIDENCE COUNTRY	PARTNER COUNTRY	MOBILITY TYPE	FUNDING
THE NETHERLANDS FRANCE GERMANY	SOUTH KOREA CHINA	OUTGOING 	French fund: Spedidam (Cie Dyptik)

FIRATÀRREGA

FiraTàrrega is the international market for performing arts that takes place every year in Tàrrega during the second weekend of September. Founded in 1981, it is a great shop window of what is going on in performing arts, with special emphasis on street arts, visual and unconventional shows. As a meeting place and an international point of reference for debate, the main objective of FiraTàrrega is to boost the performing arts market, opening the door to the internationalisation of the companies.

About the mobility project:

FiraTàrrega has developed collaborations and invitations to festivals with different countries in Asia. A first participation as guest of the event was made at the Ansan Festival (South Korea). It was the beginning of an informal exchange of invitations, professional guests and artistic projects between our events. This same model of collaboration was extended to Japan, with an initial participation in TPAM (Yokohama) and an invitation of 10 key Japanese promoters to FiraTàrrega. Other attempts have been implemented with other countries like China or Malaysia with irregular results and no continuation, but doors keep open.

RESIDENCE COUNTRY	PARTNER COUNTRY	MOBILITY TYPE	FUNDING
SPAIN	SOUTH KOREA JAPAN CHINA MALAYSIA	OUTGOING/ INCOMING 	Local and national funds (City Council of Tàrrega, the Diputació de Lleida, the Generalitat de Catalunya, Institut Ramon Llull, Acció Cultural Española and the Ministry of Culture) Other funds (KAMS-Korea Arts Management Service, Japan Foundation)

XTRAX

XTRAX supports inspirational outdoor performance running projects, festivals and showcases designed to promote innovative outdoor work from UK and international artists. It is based in Manchester with a global reach. XTRAX also manages Without Walls, a collective of leading UK outdoor festivals, who combine resources and expertise to commission work of a high artistic quality.

About the mobility project:

Starting in 2011, XTRAX has developed a transnational collaboration with South Korea, which started with invitation to speak at Korean Street Arts conference. In 2015 a presentation of a show¹ was made at Hi Seoul Festival. XTRAX held a stand at PAMS and met with over 50 Korean professionals. Since then, a transnational collaboration started. This was designed to promote UK Street Arts and to facilitate UK promoters in making strong connections with South Korean promoters and artists, which could be built on in terms of potential exchange projects in both countries for 2017 and 2018. To name a few: South Korean delegation were invited at XTRAX/Greenwich + Docklands International Festival showcase, a UK focus was made at the Seoul Street Arts Festival, companies from UK and South Korea were invited in both countries.

RESIDENCE COUNTRY	PARTNER COUNTRY	MOBILITY TYPE	FUNDING
UNITED KINGDOM	SOUTH KOREA	OUTGOING/ INCOMING 	National funds (<u>Platform 4</u> :UK/Arts Council England) Match funding including in-kind (KCCUK - Korean Cultural Centre UK, KAMS through Center Stage, GDIF, SIF, SSAF, British Council Korea (as part of the UK/Korea year of Culture initiatives), Korean Street Art Association and XTRAX)


¹ As *The World Tipped* by Wired Aerial Theatre.

SETOUCHI CIRCUS FACTORY

Setouchi Circus Factory is the first organisation in Japan specialised in contemporary circus creation. Based in Takamatsu City, in the south west of Japan, its mission is to develop circus arts in Japan.

About the mobility project:

Setouchi Circus Factory has collaborated with several French artists such as Camille Boitel, *L'immédiat*, GdRA and Jean-Baptiste André for residencies, performances and workshops in Japan since 2014. It will develop together with the CNAC¹, a new collaborative project with Japanese artists in relation with vineyards.

RESIDENCE COUNTRY	PARTNER COUNTRY	MOBILITY TYPE	FUNDING
JAPAN	FRANCE	INCOMING 	INSTITUT FRANÇAIS

¹ Centre National des Arts du Cirque (French national centre for circus arts).

SMALL PLATES: LIKE WHITE ON RICE? ¹

AN OVERVIEW OF CIRCUS AND STREET ARTS
FESTIVALS AND VENUES IN ASIA



¹ Idiom meaning "as close as anything can be."

Mapping of circus and street arts festivals and venues in Asia



Asia – as a whole – is a specific performing arts market with many national specificities. Asian countries may be geographically and culturally close but provide very diverse contexts and different artistic scenes and/or presentation opportunities.

The circus and street arts scene in Asia is not like white on rice from one country to another. It is simmering in India or the Russian Federation while it is booming in South Korea or Vietnam and the balance between local and international artists performing either in festivals or seasons is variable.

Cooperation under the shape of international artistic co-productions, training opportunities or social enterprises has played a key role in the development of circus and street arts in Asia. International artistic co-productions and training opportunities

have been usually fuelled by historical and diplomatic links but also personal interests of artists in a specific Asian culture. As for social circus, this innovative tool for the education and social inclusion of children, young people and adults with fewer opportunities, is more and more used via the transfer of contemporary circus techniques and learning methods.

Benchmarking the Asian circus and street arts market is therefore a prerequisite before going Asia. It relies on information that can be differently available for language or more general communication reasons – are all events promoted?

The map shows 47 festivals and venues presenting circus and street arts performances and covers 15 Asian countries from

"Make a good study of the countries you are interested in connecting with in order to see if they are suitable to your market".

FiraTàrraga

Iran to Japan including the Russian Federation which confirms how diverse the Asian artistic scene is. It is presented according to three regional zooms to facilitate the immersion. The map is followed by description of the Circus and Street Arts (CSA) artistic scene¹ for each country as well as details of every key structures.

Index of festivals and venues by country

China + Hong Kong (2)

HKAF Hong Kong Arts Festival, Hong Kong
ACT Shanghai International Theatre Festival, Shanghai

Cambodia (1)

Tini Tinou International Circus Festival, Battambang

India (1)

UnBox Festival, New Delhi

Iran (1)

Mariwan International Street Theater Festival, Mariwan

Japan (7)

Awaji Art Circus, Awaji island
Seto La piste - Festival, Takamatsu
Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre, Tokyo
Za-Koenji Theatre, Tokyo
Setagaya Public Theatre, Tokyo
Owlspot Theatre, Tokyo
Bird Theatre Festival TOTTORI, Tottori

Lao PDR (1)

Vientiane Performing Arts Festival, Vientiane

Macao (3)

Macao Arts Festival, across Macao
Macao City Fringe Festival, across Macao
Macao Cultural Centre, Sé

Malaysia (3)

George Town Festival, George Town
Urbanscapes, Kuala Lumpur
The Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre, Kuala Lumpur

Pakistan (2)

Karachi Biennale, Karachi
Lahore Biennale, Lahore

Philippines (1)

Fringe Manila, Manila

Russian Federation (2)

Balansirovskaya Festival, Saint Petersburg
PERM Festival of Contemporary Circus and Street Art, Tchaikovsky

Singapore (6)

Singapore Night Festival, Singapore
Singapore International Festival of Arts, Singapore
Singapore Fringe Festival, Singapore
Aliwal Urban Art Festival, Singapore
Aliwal Arts Night Crawl, Singapore
TIFFFA Tua-Tiu-Tiann International Festival of Arts, Tua-Tiu-Tiann

South Korea (7)

Ansan Street Arts Festival, Ansan
BIPAF Busan International Performing Arts Festival, Busan
Busan International Performing Arts Street Festival, Busan
Goyang Lake-Park Arts Festival, Goyang
Hi Seoul Festival/Seoul Street Arts Festival, Seoul
Circus Cabaret, Seoul
LG Arts Center, Seoul

Taiwan (4)

Weiwuying Arts Festival, Kaohsiung
Taiwan International Festival of Arts, Taichung
Taipei Arts Festival, Taipei
Taipei Fringe Festival, Taipei

Vietnam (5)

Hanoi Opera House, Hanoi
Saigon Opera House, Ho Chi Minh City
Lune Performing Center Hoi An, Hoi An
Festival Hue, Hue
La Vie VuLinh, Vu Linh

¹ In the next section it will be specified as such: (C/SA): Circus and Street Arts / (SA): Street Arts / (C): Circus

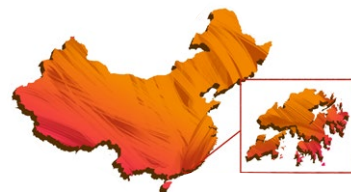


Zoom on Western/Central Asia

6 countries/11 festivals or venues

9 CHINA + HONG KONG (2)

Contemporary circus has been introduced in China through the presentation of international companies and usually in international events such as Croisements Festival (focus only on France and China). Nonetheless, the country will soon experience its first contemporary circus production and first contemporary circus festival.



As for street arts, square dancing is the most related artistic discipline and has inspired artists abroad such as the British choreographer Rosemary Lee for her piece *Square Dances*.

HKAF Hong Kong Arts Festival (C)

Location: Hong Kong

Creation: 1973

Periodicity: Annual

Description: HKAF is a major international arts festival committed to enriching the cultural life of the city by presenting leading local and international artists in all genres of the performing arts as well as a diverse range of educational events each year.

● Recent CSA focus: *Bosch Dreams (The 7 Fingers)*

Next edition: February-March 2019

Contact: Tisa Ho (Director) | [Website](#)

ACT Shanghai International Theatre Festival

Location: Shanghai

Creation: 2005

Periodicity: Annual

Description: ACT Shanghai International Theatre Festival, hosted by Shanghai Dramatic Arts Centre, is an annual platform presenting international and Chinese performing arts in Shanghai. It does not only introduce exciting contemporary theatre productions and performances from all around the world to local audiences, but also provides a platform for arts professionals from home and abroad to discover inspiring international works.

Next edition: To be confirmed

Contact: Ophelia Huang (Director) | [Website](#)

Insight from China Cheung Fai - CEO of Fever China



With 30 years of experience in the performing arts, marketing and media sectors, Cheung Fai has held multiple advisory positions, produced festivals and projects in Asia and is now the CEO of Fever China. Since 2012, he has contributed to the promotion of contemporary circus arts.

● **2016:** creation of Circus Bridge

It is a collaboration between three Finnish organisations and Fever China aiming to build a bridge between the fresh Finnish contemporary circus and the ancient traditions of Chinese circus and acrobatics. Meeting points for Finnish and Chinese circus artists have been organised and the first Finnish-Chinese circus performance will be premiered in 2018.

This bilateral network was launched at EARS/ Europe-Asia Roundtable Sessions in Helsinki. Created in 2012 and held in Europe and Asia (Helsinki, Beijing, Shanghai and Mumbai), EARS is a platform supporting creative industry collaboration between Europe and Asia and showcasing the latest trends from Asia from the fields of design, media and marketing, music and performing arts. The festival includes panel discussions, encounter sessions and a range of curated showcase performances and screenings.

● **2017:** publication of the book *Crossing Boundaries* on European contemporary circus (first Chinese book on this topic).

Another book on Chinese contemporary circus will be published in March 2019.

● **2019:** creation of the first contemporary circus festival in China

It will take place on 29 March-7 April 2019.

📍 INDIA (1)

As of 2018, the only Indian contemporary circus company touring internationally is the Grand Indian Circus created by Rhythms and Ragas and Access All Areas with Rajasthan's elite street circus performers, under the personal direction of internationally renowned Kristian Kristof.

A collaboration between Romain Timmers (French artist) settled in Pondicherry and Sharanya Rao (Indian dancer), has also led to a "first of a kind" contemporary circus performance in India mixing circus, traditional and contemporary dance, acrobatics, music and acting called *Alchemiya*. It was premiered in the Sri Aurobindo Auditorium in Auroville in February 2018.

Besides, the national sport *mallakhamb* (meaning wrestler of pole) is more and more connected to circus arts – it was presented at the Cirque de Demain festival in 2017 in Paris. This discipline dates back over 800 years and is a two-metre wooden pole in pyramid shape used to develop speed, reflexes, concentration and coordination.

The street arts scene is quite new and becomes visible thanks to events like UnBox Festival.

UnBox Festival (SA)

Location: New Delhi

Creation: 2011

Periodicity: Irregular

Description: UnBox celebrates interdisciplinary collaborations, with the festival being the central manifest for inspiration, dialogue and hands-on action. It brings together creative, academic and development professionals keen on pushing the boundaries of their practice through panel discussions, workshops, labs, performances, exhibitions, community meals and excursions into the city.

Next edition: End of 2018/beginning of 2019

Contact: Avinash Kumar (Co-founder) | [Website](#)



📍 IRAN (1)

Iranian theatre is riding high in Europe – *Summerless* by Amir Reza Koohestani was premiered at Kunsten-festivaldesarts (Belgium) in May 2018 and also presented at Festival d'Avignon (France) in July 2018.

Conversely, circus and street arts are less visible in Iran except for the Mariwan International Street Theater Festival or the more political Tehran Carnival. The latter is an all-girl artistic collective creating unprecedented temporary urban art interventions and collaborates for the Circus biennale in Berlin with the German collective Charivari that mixes visual arts and acrobatics.

Mariwan International Street Theater Festival (SA)

Location: Mariwan

Creation: 2005

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Mariwan International Street Theater Festival is a four-day festival, held in Iran's capital of street theatre and features performances by both local and international companies.

Next edition: 1-4 September 2018

Contact: Jalal Ghalekhani (Director) | [Website](#)



9 MACAO (3)

The Macao circus and street arts scene relies on international companies with few venues and festivals presenting shows. Macao was home to Cirque du Soleil between 2008 and 2012 and Zaia was the company's first resident show in Asia based at the Venetian Macao.



Macao Cultural Centre (C)

Location: Sé

Creation: 1999

Description: With its two auditoriums, Macao Cultural Centre is the prime venue for cultural performances in Macao, from dance to theatre to multimedia shows.

● Recent CSA focus: *Bosch Dreams (The 7 Fingers)*

Contact: Nelma Wong Morais Alves (Director) | Website

Macao City Fringe Festival

Location: Various venues across Macao

Creation: 2001

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Macao City Fringe Festival is a non-mainstream art festival featuring alternative and experimental performances and art activities. The festival has adopted the slogan "All around the city, our stages, our patrons, our artists" which encourages artists to bring their creativity to life in unconventional spaces around the city, having arts infiltrated into our everyday lives.

● Recent CSA focus: *On the Move (Nuno Soares x Álvaro Barbosa)*

Next edition: January 2019

Contact: Cultural Affairs Bureau | Website

Macao Arts Festival (C/SA)

Location: Various venues across Macao

Creation: 1989

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Macao Arts Festival presents international, national and local performing arts programmes as well as community activities around a theme ("Origin" in 2018) to create a multi-layered artistic landscape.

● Recent CSA focus: *Outdoor Performing Arts Showcase/Performing Arts Gala*

Next edition: May 2019

Contact: Cultural Affairs Bureau | Website

9 PAKISTAN (2)

Pakistani circus still resonates with travelling shows under a big top from town to town while Pakistani street arts make a little breakthrough with the development of art biennales.



Karachi Biennale (SA)

Location: Karachi

Creation: 2017

Periodicity: Biennale

Description: Karachi Biennale is Pakistan's largest international contemporary art event with over 140 artists from Pakistan and across the globe, in 12 different venues such as schools, heritage sites, cinemas, and public parks. This two-week long event includes free public exhibitions, performances and screenings.

Next edition: 2019

Contact: Niilofur Farrukh (CEO) / Amin Gulgee (Chief curator) | Website

Lahore Biennale (SA)

Location: Lahore

Creation: 2018

Periodicity: Biennale

Description: Lahore Biennale values the specificity of geographical and social context and actively supports art related projects across Pakistan. It provides critical sites for experimentation in visual expression and experience through public art projects and performances.

Next edition: 2020

Contact: Qudsia Rahim (Artistic director) | Website

📍 RUSSIAN FEDERATION (2)

Some circus and street arts initiatives exist such as festivals and training opportunities in the Russian Federation. Based in Perm and member of FEDEC¹, the Radostev centre of circus arts was founded in 1997 and specialises in professional artistic training for children aged from 4 to 18 to develop techniques both athletic and aesthetic.

Russian street arts can also be to some extent illustrated by political interventions in public spaces created by *Chto Delat*² which is a multidisciplinary collective founded in 2013 in Saint Petersburg.



Balansirovka Festival (C)

Location: Saint Petersburg

Creation: Not specified

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Balansirovka Festival is run by Upsala-Circus which has been implementing a unique social project with children in Russia set up in 2000 by a German student. Upsala-Circus produces and presents performances that organically combine acrobatics, juggling, pantomime, parkour and break-dance.

Next edition: To be confirmed

Contact: Larisa Afanasieva (Director) | [Website](#)

PERM Festival of Contemporary Circus and Street Art (C/SA)

Location: Tchaïkovski (previously Perm)

Creation: 2012

Periodicity: Annual

Description: PERM festival reflects the original trends of the new European circus. In the history of Russian circus, it is the first organiser of circus festival presenting leading European contemporary circus companies, winners of international festivals and competitions.

Next edition: To be confirmed

Contact: Boris Radostev | [Website](#)



Zoom on Central Asia/ Eastern islands

3 countries/20 festivals or venues

📍 JAPAN (7)

For some years now, several Japanese venues and festivals present circus and street arts shows created by international but also local companies.

Training has been central in the development of the local artistic scene and will be developed further by Setouchi Circus Factory, founded by Michiko Tanaka in 2014.



Awaji Art Circus (C)

Location: Awaji Island

Creation: 2015

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Awaji Art Circus is an international performing arts festival held annually which is based in Awaji Island, considered as the island of Japan's origin. Artists from around the world gather on the island and perform for about one month at multiple venues, schools and local events. The festival selects the artists via a call for proposals. In 2017, it received 325 applications from 68 countries and presented 17 companies from 17 countries.

Next edition: 29 September-28 October 2018

Contact: Pasona Group | [Website](#)

Bird Theatre Festival TOTTORI (C)

Location: Tottori

Creation: 2008

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Bird Theatre Festival TOTTORI features companies from around the country and from overseas and also invites the audience to experience a variety of programmes including "Experience-Tottori Programme" which focuses on the natural resources and cultural heritage of the region.

● [Recent CSA focus:](#) *Lento* (Nuua), *Il n'est pas encore minuit* (XY), *Cooperatzia* (G. Bistaki)

Next edition: To be confirmed

Contact: Makoto Nakashima (Director) | [Website](#)

¹ European Federation of Professional Circus Schools, based in Brussels.

² Literal meaning: What is to be done?



Interview of Michiko Tanaka Setouchi Circus Factory, Director



"Hello Michiko! You are the director of Setouchi Circus Factory (SCF) in Japan. Can you please first tell us how you came to contemporary circus?"

Hello! Actually, contemporary circus came to me. It was by coincidence but it changed my life. In 2002, I first saw a documentary on television about the first Japanese enrolled at CNAC¹ in France which left me an unexplained positive feeling. Then two years after, I was a journalist in charge of cultural events for Hokkaido Shimbun Press and I covered an event with a circus company in Sapporo. My previous unexplained positive feeling came back. I met other circus artists whose body consciousness boosted their self-confidence and I decided to investigate further on contemporary circus.

How did you proceed?

In 2007, I went to France and I did a one-month internship at La Villette and a three-month internship in HorslesMurs² which was launching the Circostrada network. During this period, I could meet companies, festivals, venues or schools involved in enhancing the artistic visibility of contemporary circus. I also travelled to Belgium and Tunisia. All these research materials were compiled in the book "Circus ni Aitai", the first introductory guide about French contemporary circus in Japan published in 2011. Afterwards, I quit my job and I set up SCF in 2014 in Takamatsu in the region of Setouchi with the help of six other founding members.

Why in the region of Setouchi?

I was inspired by the concept of cultural decentralisation implemented in France. It was thus important not to settle in Tokyo. Setouchi is a bit special as it attracts many tourists for its nature-based activities but the Seto Inland Sea area where it is located used to be devitalised and with a conservative approach regarding the arts. So I thought that circus could draw some interest there especially for young people who had started to enjoy contemporary art thanks to the Setouchi Triennale³.

What activities do you run at SCF?

SCF produces shows with different artists and companies every year, organises the Festival Seto La Piste and provides training opportunities for artists and technicians. However, the public funds for contemporary creation are limited in Japan and the awareness about contemporary circus is still emerging. So we will continue to organise cultural events either shows or workshops for municipalities and will launch circus classes for children later this year.

France has played a major influence in shaping SCF. Are you still collaborating with French artists and/or organisations?

Since 2012 and with the support of the Institut français, SCF has collaborated with several French artists such as Camille Boitel, GdRA and Jean-Baptiste André for residencies, performances and workshops in Japan. We have also benefited from the expertise of CNAC for our festival and we will develop together a new collaborative project with Japanese artists in relation with vineyard. To a lesser extent than Châlons with champagne, Setouchi is known for its muscat grapes!

Has SCF developed other initiatives to support Japanese contemporary circus?

Yes, with two contemporary circus networks to develop international projects. On the one hand, there is a Japanese network which is not launched yet with the aim to share information about this sector, invite international artists in Japan and co-produce shows. On the other hand, an Asian network directly inspired by Circostrada and called Circus Asia Network (CAN) was officially created in 2017 thanks to 12 founding organisations based in 8 Asian countries. Its main objective is to cultivate an environment for contemporary circus companies and organisations in Asia thanks to the collaborations of its members. The next meeting will be held in September 2018 during the Seto La Piste festival and the participants will finalise the network mission statement as well as the membership conditions.

¹ Centre national des arts du cirque.

² Became ARTCENA - French national Centre for Circus, Street Arts and Theatre in 2016.

³ Founded in 2010, it features Japanese and international site-specific art projects enhancing local resources.

Seto La piste Festival (C)

Location: Takamatsu

Creation: 2015

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Seto La Piste is the first Japanese circus festival organised by Setouchi Circus Factory showcasing local artists and collaborations with foreign artists such as GdRA.

Next edition: 15-16 September 2018

Contact: Michiko Tanaka (Director) | [Website](#)

ZA-KOENJI Public Theatre (C/SA)

Location: Tokyo

Creation: 2009

Description: ZA-KOENJI Public Theatre is a theatre for contemporary performing arts. It produces, presents and supports a wide range of cultural activities for the community of Sugunami, enabling people of all ages to see and take part in many art forms from drama and dance to music and storytelling.

● Recent CSA focus: *Piste and love* (Le cirque inachevé), *Mobile* (Jörg Müller) + Koenji Bikkuri Street Performance Festival (creation in 2009, annual periodicity, next edition in April 2019)

Contact: Makoto Sato (Artistic director) | [Website](#)

Setagaya Public Theatre (C)

Location: Tokyo

Creation: 1997

Description: Setagaya Public Theatre is a theatre that explores the possibilities of new performing arts through specialised activities focusing on contemporary theatre and dance, together with free production and participation activities by members of the public.

● Recent CSA focus: *Limits* (Cirkus Cirkör)

Contact: Mansai Nomura (Artistic director) | [Website](#)

Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre (C)

Location: Tokyo

Creation: 1990

Description: The Tokyo Metropolitan Government aims to promote art and culture and its globalisation among the citizens by presenting quality programmes mainly in the fields of music, theatre, opera and dance. It has also been actively presenting original productions as well as co-producing programmes with outside organisations known for their outstanding artistic performances.

● Recent CSA focus: *L'homme de Hus* (Camille Boitel)

Contact: Keiko Miyamura (Director) | [Website](#)

Owlspot Theatre (C)

Location: Tokyo

Creation: 2007

Description: Owlspot Theatre presents performances ranging from family-friendly and seasonal programmes to cutting-edge works and international co-productions. As a Toshima Ward public theatre, Owlspot Theatre runs all sorts of workshops and outreach programmes. It also stages performances aimed at local people and holds lectures to draw new talents into the arts sector.

● Recent CSA focus: *Intérieur nuit* (Association W/Jean-Baptiste André), *Machine de cirque* (Machine de cirque)

Contact: Masato Kishi (Director) | [Website](#)

9 SOUTH KOREA (7)

Circus and street arts in South Korea benefit from a more and more visible scene with several venues and festivals presenting international and local companies.

In line with these active developments, Circus Cabaret is the first contemporary circus festival in South Korea and was organised on 12-13 May 2018 by Seoul Street Arts Creation Centre. This centre was created in 2012 as a base camp for circus and street arts experiments in South Korea thanks to different support programmes.



Seoul Street Arts Festival (C/SA)

Location: Seoul

Creation: 2003

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Seoul Street Arts Festival (previously known as Hi Seoul Festival) is the largest street arts festival in South Korea providing high-standard street performances presented in the "Official programme" and the "Off programme". The festival works as an art market by helping the selected pieces to be distributed and to be expanded into local and international art festivals.

Next edition: 4-7 October 2018

Contact: Jong-seok Kim (Director) | [Website](#)

Ansan Street Arts Festival (C/SA)

Location: Ansan

Creation: 2005

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Ansan Street Arts Festival is street arts gala as a part of performing arts held every May. It is a representative street art settling and telling about such citizens' daily life stories in South Korea as theatre, dance, music, and multiple arts staged on common meeting grounds.

Next edition: May 2019

Contact: Kyu Choi (Director) | [Website](#)

Goyang Lake-Park Arts Festival (SA)

Location: Goyang

Creation: 2008

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Goyang Lake-Park Arts Festival is an annual international street arts festival which presents various performances such as theatre, dance, mime and music.

Next edition: 4-7 October 2018

Contact: Young-jun Kim (Director) | [Website](#)

BIPAF Busan International Performing Arts Festival

Location: Busan

Creation: 2003

Periodicity: Annual

Description: BIPAF is the biggest performing arts festival in Busan around the theme "Play, Ocean, Festival". The festival has been taking the lead in introducing prominent works from overseas and communicating with the citizens.

Next edition: To be confirmed

Contact: In-beom Ko (Director) | [Website](#)

LG Arts Center (C)

Location: Seoul

Creation: 2000

Description: LG Arts Center is a globally renowned multi-arts performance center where the audience and the performers come together as one to share the passion for the contemporary arts and create experiences that are unique and mutually beneficial.

● Recent CSA focus: *Cirkopolis* (Cirque Eloize)

Contact: Jeong Jae-wal (General manager) | [Website](#)

Circus Cabaret (C)

Location: Seoul

Creation: 2018

Periodicity: To be confirmed

Description: It is the first Korean contemporary circus festival which presents circus performances from overseas¹ and from Korean artists who have trained in the SSACC² since 2015. Korean and international circus professionals also have the opportunity to exchange about the vision of circus arts in Korea in a forum.

Next edition: To be confirmed

Contact: SSACC | [Website](#)

Busan International Performing Arts Street Festival

Location: Busan

Creation: Not specified

Periodicity: To be confirmed

Description: It is one of the Busan Cultural Foundation's promotional projects for street arts. The festival is organised by Kim Nam-Jin Physical Theater and presents Korean and international performances (Spain, Belgium, Japan, Finland, Ukraine, China).

Next edition: To be confirmed

Contact: Kim Nam-Jin Physical Theater | [Website](#)

📍 TAIWAN (5)

Considered as acrobatics by-product, circus and street arts have been rapidly developing for 10 years with the creation of companies already touring abroad such as Formosa Circus Art - FOCA. Besides, recent initiatives like Thunar Circus created in 2016 and Future Circus Lab created in 2017 by Hsingho Co. Ltd³, support the development of a platform for contemporary circus in Taiwan.



Taipei Arts Festival (C/SA)

Location: Taipei

Creation: 1998

Periodicity: Annual

Description: The festival features a series of themed performances held in a variety of performance spaces throughout Taipei as a hub for international participation. It not only introduces works of originality and creativity but also produces cross-genre performances, cultural exchange with other cities, supports promising artists, and establishes its status in the Chinese speaking world. Besides, a seminar is organised in partnership with Pro Helvetia (CH) to offer up-and-coming young stage practitioners a platform for in-depth exchange in both theoretical and practical fields.

● Recent CSA focus: *Formosa Circus Art*, *Juggling battle* (Ting-Koo-Ki), *Remote X* (Rimini Protokoll)

Next edition: 5 August-21 October 2018

Contact: Austin Wang (Director) | [Website](#)

¹ *Le rêve d'Erica* (Bivouac)

² Seoul Street Art Creation Center.

³ Hsingho Co. Ltd was founded in 2016. They host a large-scale art festival "Circus Platform" in Kao-hsiung, Taiwan. They run also various workshops, training programs globally for both professionals and the public. They plan to build the Asian Circus Center in Taiwan that attracts world-class circus performers to come to Taiwan for exchanging their experiences of circus.

Taipei Fringe Festival

Location: Taipei

Creation: 2008

Periodicity: Annual

Description: This annual festival brings more than 120 artistic groups to the city to perform in multiple locations such as theatres, yachts, coffee shops, tea houses and old mansions.

Next edition: 1 August - 30 September 2018

Contact: Austin Wang (Director) | [Website](#)

Weiwuying Arts Festival (C)

Location: Kaohsiung

Creation: 2016

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Featuring renown artists from Taiwan and around the world, Weiwuying Arts Festival presents a dynamic and imaginative programme that includes dance, music, theatre and circus arts, as well as panel discussions and workshops to bring performing arts closer to the general public. It is carried by the national culture and arts centre, National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts (Weiwuying) which has a dedicated Circus Platform that offers large-scale performing arts programmes and workshops.

● Recent CSA focus: *BPM 2.1* (Cie POC), *Bruit de couloir* (La main de l'homme), *Boom!* (Peter Sweet and David Poznander), *Frantic* (Acrojou)

Besides, Weiwuying Arts Festival offered in 2017 a four-day training session in partnership with Centre National des Arts du Cirque in France and the Taiwanese company Hsing-Ho co. Ltd as well as a professional academy with workshops about outdoor events facilitated by Liz Pugh from Walk the Plank.

Contact: Wen-Pin Chien (Director) | [Website](#)

Taiwan International Festival of Arts

Location: Taichung

Creation: 2008

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Organised by the National Performing Arts Center-National Taichung Theater, the TIFA has become one of the most important international interdisciplinary festivals. The 2018 edition was curated by the choreographer Christian Rizzo based on an open call for proposals.

Next edition: March 2019

Contact: Huey-mei Lee (Director) | [Website](#)

TTTIFA Tua-Tiu-Tiann International Festival of Arts (C)

Location: Tua-Tiu-Tiann

Creation: 2015

Periodicity: Annual

Description: As an independent festival, TTTIFA held every October is a joint venture of entrepreneurs and organisations from the area: Bookstore 1920s, Thinkers' Theatre and the Chiang Wei-shui Cultural Foundation. TTTIFA is a time tunnel connecting 1920s and 2020s and its mission is to hold innovative arts performances that embrace interdisciplinary work and cross-cultural cooperation. In doing so, TTTIFA aims to nurture a platform for Taiwanese and international artists to work together.

Next edition: 1-31 October 2018

Contact: Not specified | [Website](#)



Zoom on Southeast Asia

6 countries/16 festivals or venues

9 CAMBODIA (1)

Circus arts have been part of Cambodian culture for centuries. Sculptures from the 6th century on ancient carvings near the Angkor Wat Temple depict images of Cambodian traditional circus arts: acrobats, contortionists, magicians, jugglers, dancers and clowns.

However, contemporary circus is a recent artistic discipline and has been introduced through a social approach largely adopted and developed by Phare Ponleu Selpak.

Cambodian street arts were showcased at the Our City Festival run from 2008 to 2014 via art and architecture themed exhibitions, events, performances, screenings, educational talks, tours and workshops.

This festival was the first and only festival to bring together creative professionals from Cambodian cities to focus on urbanism and its influences on contemporary culture.



Tini Tinou International Circus Festival (C)

Location: Various cities in Cambodia

Creation: 2004

Periodicity: Irregular

Description: Tini Tinou is a vibrant international circus festival organised by Phare Performing Social Enterprise and the Phare Ponleu Selpak Association. It brings together artists from around the world, providing entertainment to the local communities as well as artistic exchange between dancers, musicians and circus artists.

Next edition: 2020

Contact: Osman Khawaja (Executive director) | [Website](#)

"Circus is a shared form of expression across the world with the same ABC but different words."



Interview of Osman Khawaja Phare Ponleu Selpak, Executive director



"Hello Osman! When we think about contemporary circus in Cambodia, we think about Phare Ponleu Selpak (PPS). How do you stand regarding this statement as PPS's executive director?"

Hello! When initiated in 1986 in a refugee camp on the border between Thailand and Cambodia by a French humanitarian worker, PPS aimed to rebuild the Cambodian society after the civil war thanks to ... drawing! It was only in 1998 that circus became a personal development tool for PPS and since then we have become the non-profit organisation with 96 staff members dedicated to providing quality arts training, education and social support for 1000 direct beneficiaries in Battambang.

How does PPS contribute to the artistic circus scene in Cambodia?

We provide vocational training programmes and jobs to Cambodian circus artists. Moreover, we run Phare the Cambodian Circus/Phare Performing Social Enterprise (PPC-PPSE) and offer performances under our big top in Siem Reap. Our shows mix circus, dance and theatre and reflect another French influence regarding contemporary circus. They are not talent shows but tell stories inspired by Cambodia or the life of our students who are characters capable of creating emotional bonds with audiences.

PPS and PPC-PPSE also organise the Tini Tinou International Circus Festival. Can you tell us more about this event?

Started in 2004 and held in various cities in Cambodia (Battambang, Siem Reap, Phnom Penh), the Tini Tinou International Circus Festival is a unique event in Cambodia and the most famous circus festival in Southeast Asia. It presents Cambodian and international circus artists which nurtures the local artistic scene and entertains the local communities. Despite the support of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts as well as the Institut français, funding is still a challenge. Therefore, the next edition will only take place in 2020 and maybe include some shows under a new big top in Phnom Penh.

Internationalism seems to be part of PPS's DNA as illustrated by whom founded the organisation and the influence of French contemporary circus. What about international tours?

PPS is indeed intrinsically international. We have been touring overseas for over 15 years in Europe, Australia, US and also neighbouring Asian countries such as Lao PDR. There are student tours and professional tours presenting different shows from our repertoire. The positive impact is tremendous on our artists either emerging or already professional and is in line with our vision about the power of arts for social change: they came back very inspired artistically, more open-minded and motivated to give back and engage with their community. Some students also got scholarships to study abroad: two of them studied at the National Circus School of Montreal in 2011 and then became the first Cambodians to perform with Cirque du Soleil!

PPS was a partner of the 3-year Erasmus+ project Flying Circus Academy which finished in April 2018. What is the main added-value of such international cooperation project?

Together with partners from Tanzania, France and Germany, we worked on the development of non-verbal learning methods and produced 6 video tutorials available online as a supplementary tool for young circus artists, circus teachers but also social workers. We are very interested in carrying out similar projects and extending it for instance to a broader collaborative online library with contents shared and uploaded by users. This intercultural experience also confirmed that circus is a shared form of expression across the world with the same ABC but different words.

You are very enthusiastic about PPS that you joined quite recently. Can I ask you what you did before and why PPS attracted you?

Thanks! I am from Pakistan where circus arts are still quite traditional in hands of few travelling families with little stands. I moved to Cambodia to work for NGOs not related to the performing arts sector and I got to know PPS by attending their shows and following the development of their social enterprise including a donation! Then I got the opportunity to join the team which is very exciting for me since PPS is as much a social enterprise as an artistic company."

9 LAO PDR¹ (1)

Over the past 50 years, the Lao circus arts' development relied on joint international Lao PDR -Vietnam Circus weeks based on a cooperation agreement between the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism of Lao PDR and its Vietnamese counterpart.

International companies have also been presented but more on a one-off basis – example with Be clown at the French Institute of Vientiane – or in emerging festivals.



Vientiane Performing Arts Festival (C)

Location: Vientiane

Creation: 2015

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Organised by the Khao Niew Theatre group, this festival gives a space for local and international artists to showcase their artistic talents/skills.

● Recent CSA focus: Phare Ponleu Selpak

Contact: Lattanakone Insisiengmay (Director) | Website

9 MALAYSIA (3)

Created in 2010, Psyscux is the leading contemporary circus company in Malaysia and has been raising awareness about circus arts to the public through performances but also events (Rendezvous, Camp out). International circus companies presented in festivals have also contributed to this artistic evolution.



Urbanscapes (SA)

Location: Kuala Lumpur

Creation: 2002

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Urbanscapes is one of the longest-running creative arts festival in Malaysia. Initially founded with the aim to bring together Malaysian creative communities from the fields of music, performing arts and other creative disciplines, the festival has now grown to include the best from around the world too and spreads in various parts of the city in Kuala Lumpur.

Next edition: 3-18 November 2018

Contact: Adrian Yap (CEO) | Website

The Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre (C)

Location: Kuala Lumpur

Creation: 2005

Description: This venue is one of the most established centres for the performing arts in Malaysia. It is a non-profit company whose aim is to cultivate and sustain the performing arts for the enrichment of communities within the Klang Valley.

● Recent CSA focus: Cre (CreArts Asia)

Contact: Joe Hasham Oam (Artistic Director/Co-Founder) | Website

George Town Festival

Location: George Town

Creation: 2010

Periodicity: Annual

Description: George Town Festival is an annual, month-long celebration of culture, heritage, art, and community. It transforms the city into a global stage, showcasing world-class performances, installations, and collaborations from international and local artists alike. With over one hundred unique events each year, the festival seeks to create new and vibrant connections between the traditional and the contemporary, the past and the future.

● Recent CSA focus: *Smashed* (Gandini Juggling), *Blind* (Desvio Coletivo)

Next edition: Summer 2019

Contact: Joe Sidek (Director) | Website

¹ Official name of Laos.

📍 PHILIPPINES (1)

Circus and street arts have been timidly introduced in the Philippines mainly through aerial arts¹ and the Fringe festival.

Fringe Manila (C/SA)

Location: Manila

Creation: 2015

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Fringe² Manila is an “open access, non-curated, uncensored arts and community festival that aims to showcase fresh, daring, and ground-breaking material, highlighting the unique point of view of emerging and established artists from the Philippines and all over the world in theatre, literature, music, dance, visual art, film, cabaret, performance art, circus and every other artistic genre in between”.³

Next edition: February 2019

Contact: Andrei Nikolai Pamintuan (Artistic director) | [Website](#)



📍 SINGAPORE (5)

Singapore enjoys a plethora of stages and cultural events presenting circus and street arts performances mostly from abroad. Local circus enters into social circus such as Circus in Motion which offers both performances (first company in Singapore to perform the Cyr wheel) and social development or team building workshops.

Singapore Night Festival (C/SA)

Location: Singapore

Creation: 2007

Periodicity: Annual

Description: For two weekends every August, the Singapore Night Festival features a theme and transforms the Bras Basah/Bugis⁴ heritage precinct into a midsummer's celebration of sorts. On top of light installations, the festival also presents performances by local and international artists.

● [Recent CSA focus: Globe \(Close-Act Theatre\)](#)

Next edition: August 2019

Contact: Angelita Teo (Director) | [Website](#)

Singapore Fringe Festival (SA)

Location: Singapore

Creation: 2018

Periodicity: Annual

Description: The Singapore Fringe Festival is an annual festival of theatre, dance, music, visual arts and mixed media created and presented by Singaporeans and international artists. Themed differently each year, the festival aims to bring the best of contemporary, cutting-edge and socially engaged works to the Singapore audience.

Next edition: 16-27 January 2019

Contact: Sean Tobin (Director) | [Website](#)

Singapore International Festival of Arts (C)

Location: Singapore

Creation: 1982

Periodicity: Annual

Description: SIFA is an annual arts festival organised by Arts House Limited and is one of the most significant events in the regional arts scene. It incorporates theatre, dance, music and visual arts by local artists and international artists (70%). In 2018, the Arts House was transformed into Festival House for Singapore International Festival of Arts: a mix of intimate spaces for performances, interactions and engagement for audiences and festival artists.

● [Recent CSA focus: Sodade \(Cirque Rouages\)](#)

Next edition: 17 May-2 June 2019

Contact: Gaurav Kripalani (Director) | [Website](#)



¹ Airdance is one of the Philippines' pioneering companies.

² "The Fringe" is an artistic festival initiated in Edinburgh, which has spread through all over the world. Over 200 Fringe festivals now exist.

³ Sources Fringe Manila website: <http://www.fringemanila.com/about-fringe/>

⁴ Bras Basah/Bugis is the arts and cultural district in the heart of Singapore's civic centre.

Aliwal Arts Night Crawl (SA)

Location: Singapore

Creation: 2012

Periodicity: Annual

Description: The Aliwal Arts Night Crawl is an annual multidisciplinary arts festival held in Kampong Gelam. It aims to promote the eclectic mix of traditional and contemporary artists based in Aliwal Arts Centre, while paying tribute to the rich cultural heritage of Kampong Gelam.

Next edition: Summer 2019

Contact: Aliwal Arts Centre | [Website](#)

Aliwal Urban Art Festival (SA)

Location: Singapore

Creation: 2013

Periodicity: Annual

Description: The Aliwal Urban Art Festival is an annual celebration of Singapore cool organised by Aliwal Arts Centre and presents a carefully – curated selection of art inspired by international street culture including graffiti, installations and performances.

Next edition: January 2019

Contact: Aliwal Arts Centre | [Website](#)

📍 VIETNAM (5)

Established in Saigon in 2012, Lune Production is behind the rise of Vietnamese contemporary circus based on the successes of the show Lang Toi (My village) from 2009 to 2012 with over 300 performances in Europe and Asia. This show is a mobility project created by two brothers born in France of Vietnamese parents and involving 20 artists from the Vietnamese National Circus influenced by the Chinese, French and Russian traditions. Lune Production goes further with the opening of a venue and the presentation of its shows in historic opera houses. Besides, the French influence also operates in smaller events such the Festival LaVieVuLinh.



Festival Hue (C)

Location: Hue

Creation: 2000

Periodicity: Biennial

Description: It is a cultural event that presents Vietnamese and international companies and aims at promoting local cultural and artistic heritage.

● [Recent CSA focus:](#) Vietnam circus federation

Next edition: 27 April-2 May 2019

Contact: Che Cong Chung (Director) | [Website](#)

LaVieVuLinh (C)

Location: Vu Linh

Creation: 2008

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Every year, the festival offers the opportunity for the local people to celebrate their culture but also discover new entertainment perspectives with the participation of foreign artists.

● [Recent CSA focus:](#) Collectif VTV, Compagnie Be Clown

Next edition: April-May 2019

Contact: Frédéric Tiberghien (Director) | [Website](#)

Lune Performing Center Hoi An (C)

Location: Hoi An

Creation: 2018

Description: Opened in February 2018 and built as an iconic moon-shaped big top inspired by oriental cultures and their lunar calendar, Lune Performing Center Hoi An will host Lune Production's performances as well as other local and international circus and performing arts companies'.

Contact: Tuan Le (Show director) | [Website](#)

Saigon Opera House (C)

Location: Ho Chi Minh City

Creation: 1918 (first performance), 1998 (reopening after renovation)

Description: The theatre is a venue for many high-profile events and cultural activities of the city including the Ho Chi Minh City Ballet Symphony Orchestra and Opera.

Contact: Lune Production | [Website](#)

Hanoi Opera House (C)

Location: Hanoi

Creation: 1997¹

Description: Hanoi Opera House is one of Hanoi's cultural centres where art shows, concerts, dance performances and other events usually take place, with the scale ranging from national to international.

Contact: Nguyen Thi Minh Nguyet (Director) | [Website](#)

¹ Date of the election of the management board.

Little Extras...

Mobility can be outgoing and incoming so here is a short list of performing arts festivals specifically or not including circus and street arts performances in Europe with a focus on Asia including Spring run by a Circostrada member!

📍 BELGIUM (1)

Festival Europalia

Location: Brussels and across Belgium

Creation: 1969

Periodicity: Biennial

Description: Europalia is an international arts festival held every two years from October to January to celebrate one invited country's cultural heritage through performing arts shows and exhibitions.

Asian focus: Several Asian countries were invited such as China in 2009, India in 2013 and Indonesia in 2017.

Comments: Choice of invited countries based on applications.

Next edition: 2019

Contact: Dirk Vermaelen (Artistic director) | [Website](#)

📍 FRANCE (3)

Festival Cambodge, d'hier à aujourd'hui

Location: Paris

Creation: 2018

Periodicity: To be confirmed

Description: Initiated by Cambodia Living Arts and part of Season of Cambodia, this festival is an invitation to discover Cambodia through its contemporary artistic Creations, with a programme including shows, screenings, exhibitions, ceremonies, talks, open air festivities, literature and music nights.

Asian focus: Cambodia

Next edition: To be confirmed

Contact: Jean-Baptiste Phou (Head of Creative Programmes) |

[Website](#)

Festival Spring (C)

Location: Across the region of Normandy

Creation: 2010

Periodicity: Annual

Description: This festival is a regional contemporary circus event during 5 weeks in spring involving 60 local partners and reaching out audiences in small villages. It presents over 50 performances of emerging and established artists, French and international.

Asian focus: Asia together with South America in 2021 (Africa/Australia in 2020)

In March 2019, the festival will also host the Focus Circus co-organised in cooperation with Institut français.

Contact: Yveline Rapeau (Director) | [Website](#)

Taiwan in Avignon/ Festival OFF d'Avignon

Location: Avignon

Creation: 2007

Periodicity: Annual

Description: The objective of the annual presentation of Taiwanese companies in Festival OFF d'Avignon is to open a dialogue between Taiwan and the international artistic scene. The first 11 editions counted 51 shows created by 36 companies and 15 of them have developed touring opportunities in France and other European countries for more than 90 performances.

Asian focus: Taiwan

● [Recent CSA focus:](#) *How long is now?* (Formosa Circus Art – info only in French), *Distance* (Circus P.S)

Next edition: July 2019

Contact: Taiwan cultural centre of Paris | [Website](#)

📍 THE NETHERLANDS (1)

Tong Tong fair

Location: The Hague

Creation: 1959 under the name of Pasar Melam Besar, 2009 under the name of Tong Tong fair

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Held every summer, this exhibition of Indo culture is the biggest Eurasian fair in the world. It offers 3 different programmes: food, merchandise and culture, music and dance.

Asian focus: Indonesia

Next edition: May-June 2019

Contact: Siem Boon (Director) | [Website](#)

📍 UNITED KINGDOM (2)

Festival China Changing / Southbank Centre

Location: London

Creation: 2016

Periodicity: Annual

Description: This festival showcases the energy and diversity of contemporary China by presenting some of the most innovative artists currently practising in China, as well as leading and emerging British-based Chinese artists through performing arts and talks.

Asian focus: China

Next edition: October 2018

Contact: Rachel Harris (Lead programmer) | [Website](#)

Festival Alchemy / Southbank Centre

Location: London

Creation: 2009

Periodicity: Annual

Description: Alchemy is the largest festival South Asian culture outside the subcontinent and celebrates the exchange of ideas and cultural connections between South Asia and the UK with a programme of performing arts, visual art and literature. Alongside Southbank Centre, Alchemy also tours the UK with programme curated for regional audiences.

Asian focus: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Afghanistan, Bangladesh

Next edition: 2019

Contact: Rachel Harris (Lead programmer) | [Website](#)

SOUPS & SALADS: WORTH PEANUTS? ¹

MOBILITY FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



¹ Idiom meaning little money, something so small that it is not worth considering.

Going Asia – or international in general – in the performing arts sector involves a different economy especially with regard to travel costs which are usually more expensive, sometimes included in a set fee and can also be the ultimate mobility obstacle.

Once checked the full costs of a mobility project with Asia, how to make it financially balanced so that going Asia is worth more than peanuts or valuable for the mobility beneficiaries?

Some organisations based in Asia or in Europe offer international programmes to support different types of mobility either incoming and/or outgoing for which circus and street arts artists and cultural professionals are eligible¹. However, they are limited resources which can be compensated via the diversification of funding opportunities. Alternatives can be found in more project-based initiatives either publicly or privately funded. Last but not least, this different economy also calls upon the question of fair collaborations including how artists are paid given different economic and/or performing arts contexts.

International mobility funding opportunities

The following country-by-country list presents by alphabetical order various international mobility funding opportunities whose destination and beneficiaries' nationality or country of residence relates to Asia. It also includes opportunities funded by international organisations. Circus and street arts are either specifically mentioned or included in the broader category of performing arts in the eligibility criteria.

↻ **Outgoing: Mobility from the country of the organisation to the eligible countries.**

↻ **Incoming: Mobility from the eligible countries to the country of the organisation.**

📍 CAMBODIA

Cambodian Living Arts | [Dam Dos²](#) - Mobility Grant ↻ ↻

This small grant programme aims to increase the opportunities for the arts community to create new works and build new networks so as to create positive impacts for Cambodia. The Mobility Grant supports the participation in arts and culture-related projects in Cambodia or internationally.

<u>Type of mobility</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>Eligibility criteria</u>
Workshops	Cambodia or internationally	Status: artists, arts professionals, researchers, scholars, writers and critics
Conferences	<u>Grant coverage</u>	Nationality/residence: Cambodian residents (Cambodian passport, ID card or K-visa)
Artist-in-residence programme	Maximum USD 500	Discipline: not specified
Training	For travel expenses (transport, accommodation, per diems) and registration fees	<u>Application deadline</u>
Research trip		2 months before the travel date

¹ Other international cultural mobility funding opportunities with Asia can be found [here](#).

² Meaning "Plant and grow".

FRANCE

Institut français | Résidences sur mesure "Arts de la Scène et Musique"

This new programme of residencies for performing arts and visual arts aims to better support French artists in the phase of artistic research abroad and build stronger artistic links between France and partner countries.

Type of mobility

Artistic research project
1 to 3 months

Destination

Partner countries
Asia as of 2018: China, South Korea, India, Indonesia, Japan, Singapore, Vietnam

Grant coverage

Monthly allowance: € 3 000 - € 4 500 for 1 month, € 6 000 - € 8 000 for 2 months, € 9 000 - € 11 000 for 3 months

Eligibility criteria

Status: artists
Nationality/residence: French national or residing in France for the past 5 years
Discipline: performing arts specifically including circus and street arts
Application deadline
Next deadline for performing arts in 2020

Institut français | Villa Saigon

This programme supports the artistic dialogue between France and Vietnam with a residency in Ho Chi Minh-Ville in partnership with Vietnamese cultural or academic partners.

Type of mobility

Artist-in-residence programme
4, 8 or 12 weeks

Destination

Vietnam

Grant coverage

Production costs: € 500 - € 2 000
Living expenses: € 125/week
Accommodation: 180 m² flat
Support for translation

Eligibility criteria

Status: artists
Nationality/residence: French national or residing in France for the past 5 years
Discipline: performing arts
Application deadline
Next deadline for performing arts in 2020

Institut français | Villa Kujoyama

Based in Kyoto, the Villa Kujoyama is a centre for multidisciplinary artistic exchanges and encourages the intercultural dialogue between France and Japan. It offers three types of residencies: solo for only one French national or resident, twosome for two French nationals or residents in France, and duo for one French or resident in France together with a Japanese national based in Japan.

Type of mobility

Artist-in-residence programme
2 to 6 months

Destination

Japan

Grant coverage

Transport costs: France-Osaka airfare costs up to € 1 400
Accommodation: 64m² studio-flat
Monthly allowance: € 2 100 (solo) or € 1 600 (twosome and duo)

Eligibility criteria

Status: artists, professional for at least 5 years
Nationality/residence: French national or residing in France for the past 5 years
Discipline: performing arts specifically including circus and street arts
Application deadline
Next deadline in 2019

📍 GERMANY

Goethe-Institut | International co-production fund

This funding is intended for co-productions in the field of performing arts in which hybrid and interdisciplinary formats and the use of digital media may be key components. The target group comprises professional artists and ensembles which demonstrably lack sufficient resources to realise their co-production project on their own.

Type of mobility

Co-production / joint development of artistic project

Destination/partner countries

Non-European countries, in particular transition countries

Grant coverage

Maximum € 25 000

For travel expenses including accommodation and subsistence costs

Eligibility criteria

Status: artists

Nationality/residence: at least 1 partner/co-producer based in Germany and 1 from abroad

Discipline: performing arts

Application deadline

For projects beginning in 2019: 15 October 2018, 15 April 2019

📍 INDONESIA

Kelola Foundation

Kelola promotes cultural exchanges by facilitating artists and art practitioners to engage in dialogue, gain and share skills and knowledge, as well as to build networks within Indonesia and with the international cultural communities. Its programmes range from workshops, learning opportunities and international residencies.

In 2015, they set up a residency for Indonesian choreographers held by the American Dance Festival in the US. The Indonesian participant received a grant to cover a return airfare, visa and international living expenses.

📍 JAPAN

Japan Foundation | Performing Arts Japan / Programme for Europe

Launched in 2006, this programme aims to revitalise and facilitate the exchange between leading artists in Europe and Japan. The main feature of this scheme is that this grant is made available for organisers based in Europe who are planning to organise Japan-related performing arts projects in European regions.

Type of mobility

Touring (presentation, multiple cities in Europe, outside major capital cities)

Collaboration (development phase, potential for a touring project)

Destination

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Vatican City

Grant coverage

Maximum € 22 500 and maximum 50% of the total costs in 2017-2018

a) Expenses for invited Japanese artists/professionals:

- International airfare (discounted economy class)
- Travel costs within Europe (deemed appropriate)
- Lodging and per diems
- Freight

b) Expenses for the Translator/Interpreter:

- Translation and interpreting costs (between Japanese and European languages) related to the project

Eligibility criteria

Status: professional artists but applications from festivals, theatres or arts promotion companies

Nationality/residence: Japanese national

Discipline: performing arts

Other: at least two European locations for touring grants, new work jointly developed by Japanese and European artists for collaboration grants

Application deadline

1 deadline/year

To be confirmed for projects 2019-2020

Via the Grant programme for Dispatching artists and cultural specialists, the Japan Foundation also supports the participation in cultural events (e.g., performing arts, demonstrations, lectures, and workshops) overseas with the aim of introducing Japanese arts and culture or of contributing to international society through arts and cultural projects.

● Recent CSA focus: [Circo de Sastre at Naves Matadero](#)

📍 MALAYSIA

CENDANA | Mobility Funding Programme

CENDANA is a government initiative which positions itself as an umbrella body reaching and improving the cultural sector of the creative economy in Malaysia. The Mobility Funding Programme seeks to extend the reach of Malaysian high-quality works by broadening the range of venues presenting it as well as forging stronger relationships between artists, audiences, producers, venues and promoters.

Type of mobility

Touring

Participation in festivals, exhibitions, trade fairs, biennales, conferences

Destination

Outside Malaysia

Grant coverage

Maximum MYR 30 000¹

Transport costs: return airfare

Other: cargo freight for touring equipment

Eligibility criteria

Status: new, emerging and established artists actively engaged in the Malaysian arts and culture sector with no extensive international experience

Nationality/residence: Malaysian citizens or Malaysian permanent residents

Discipline: performing arts, visual arts and independent music

Application deadline

To be confirmed for projects 2019

📍 MONGOLIA

Arts Council of Mongolia | Arts Development Programme

The Arts Council of Mongolia exists to ensure that the arts and culture of Mongolia are sustainably developed, promoted and preserved.

The objective of the Artist Development Programme is to contribute to the sustainable development of Mongolian arts and cultural organisations and artists through supporting their innovative and creative projects, building their capacity and expanding their international collaboration and exchanges.

In 2018, the Arts Council of Mongolia organised Motion Mongolia International Contemporary Dance Festival on 7-14 May for the first time. Cultural diversity is thus promoted and international cooperation in the performing arts sector expanded thanks to the performances of international artists - Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company (USA), Bill Coleman Dance (Canada), Tuda-Suda dance duet (Russian Federation). There is no regular call for fundings or proposals, information are provided in the section Opportunities for artist.

📍 RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Russian Theatre Union | Art baggage

RTU is a nationwide professional society in the performing arts and aims at the comprehensive promotion of the sector in the Russian Federation via numerous professional training events, travel grants, study and research grants, dedicated support programmes for young theatre professionals, co-organisation of festivals and professional meetings, financial assistance, and special grants to stimulate artistic work and new productions. Art baggage is an individual travel grant for performing arts professionals.

Type of mobility

Participation in festivals, showcases, conferences or workshops

Research trips

Destination

Russian Federation

Grant coverage

Travel expenses
(airfare and accommodation)

Eligibility criteria

Status: cultural professionals

Discipline: performing arts

Application deadline

Ongoing process

¹ Approximatively € 6250.

📍 SINGAPORE

Singapore National Arts Council | Market and Audience development grant

The NAC nurtures and champions Singapore's arts community by providing a funding infrastructure that is flexible, sufficient and sustainable. Each year, through its Grants Framework, the NAC empowers artists and arts organisations across a variety of fields.

Via the Market and Audience development grant, it supports international activities to build audiences to complement artistic efforts at home and abroad.

Type of mobility

Touring

Participation in international festivals

International visit programmes

Destination

Outside Singapore

Grant coverage

See the table below

APPLICANT TYPE	FUNDING CAP FOR ALL PROJECTS EXCLUDING TRAVEL	FUNDING CAP FOR TRAVEL-RELATED PROJECTS	
		AIRFARE AND FREIGHT	ASSOCIATED TRAVEL COSTS
Individuals and non-profit organisations	Up to 50%	Up to 100%	Up to 50%
For traditional arts non-profit organisations	Up to 70%		
For-profit organisations	Up to 30%		Up to 30%
Capped at		3 travel-related grants per financial year	
		\$70,000 per financial year for each applicant	

Eligibility criteria

Status: individuals actively contributing to the local arts scene or organisations whose core business is related to the arts

Nationality/residence: Singapore citizens or Permanent Residents, preferably residing in Singapore

Discipline: not specified

Application deadline

6 deadlines/year (15 April, 15 June, 15 August, 15 October, 15 December, 15 February)

📍 SOUTH KOREA

ARKO Arts Council Korea | International Exchange

ARKO provides a platform to support artistic work in diverse disciplines, including performing and visual arts, by increasing funding opportunities for artists and arts organisations, undertaking outreach initiatives, enabling Korean artists to reach the world stage, and encouraging cultural exchange.

The International Exchange programme aims at creating a supportive environment for Korean and international artists to interact with one another by developing new platforms for creative activities and international exchange including overseas artist-in-residency opportunities.

Information regarding specific international exchange grants are currently being updated.

KAMS Korea Arts Management Service | Center Stage Korea

KAMS is a non-profit public foundation for the development of Korean performing arts and diverse research, consulting and educational programmes for those in the field to boost the industrial competitiveness of the Korean arts. For that purpose, the KAMS forms various exchange strategies tailored for different regions, and helps tap on overseas markets through its network of international partners.

Type of mobility

Touring

Destination

Outside South Korea

Grant coverage

Part of travel expenses and freight costs

Eligibility criteria

Status: international presenter in charge of a festival, venue or network seeking to organise a programme featuring Korean artists/groups

Other: presentation of multiple Korean artists/groups or one artist/group in several venues

Application deadline

1 deadline/year

To be confirmed for projects 2019-2020

● Recent CSA focus: 2018 Center Stage Korea support to Creative Dandi for *Frameshift* presented at the 31st International Festival of Street Theatres in Poland on 5-8 July 2018

📍 SPAIN

Associacio de Professionals del Circ de Catalunya

APCC represents the different branches of Catalan circus professionals and brings together different sectors of the Catalan circus to promote and standardise this artistic scene in all its forms.

Among its different activities, APCC shares on its website [international calls for proposals](#).

📍 SRI LANKA

Sura Medura | Residency programme

Created by Neil Butler (artistic director of UZ Arts), the Sura Medura Arts Centre is the offspring of the former Chandrasevana Creation Centre that was created after the Tsunami of 2004 hit Sri Lanka. Hikkaduwa Area Relief Fund was set up in 2005 to give support to local residents after the tsunami destroyed much of the area and in its wake the lives of many residents. Sura Medura has now evolved into an International Artist Residency Centre in cooperation with the [IN SITU network](#), enabling artists from all over the world to engage with the unique environment Sri Lanka can offer.

Type of mobility

Artist-in-residence programme

4 weeks to 3 months

Destination

Sri Lanka

Grant coverage

Transport, food, accommodation and fees

Local support for production

Eligibility criteria

Status: artists

Disciplines: all

Other: project linked to the “evolving exploration of publicly engaged practice” + production of an exhibition or performance in Sri Lanka at the end of the residency

Application deadline

Calls published on the website

Contact Sura Medura's team for funded residencies supported by organisations based in the UK, Czech Republic and European countries in the IN SITU network

📍 SWITZERLAND

Pro Helvetia | Residencies

Pro Helvetia has a network of regional liaison offices in different countries. In order to enhance cultural exchange and artistic collaborations between Switzerland and these regions Pro Helvetia offers residencies in both directions.

The aim of the residency is to find inspiration, establish networks and contemplate new projects and cooperation.

Type of mobility

Studio residencies (3 months)

Research residencies (4 weeks)

Destination/partner countries

Afghanistan¹, India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Switzerland

Grant coverage

Travel expenses including accommodation, insurance and per diem expenses

Place to work and special coaching for studio residencies

Eligibility criteria

Status: artists or cultural practitioners

Nationality: Afghanistan, India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Switzerland

Discipline: music, literature, visual arts, design and interactive media, theatre and dance

Application deadline

Studio residencies: 1 March 2019 (projects in 2020)

Research residencies: any time

📍 TAIWAN

National Culture and Arts Foundation | Overseas Arts Travel

Founded in 1996, the NCAF aims at creating a healthier environment in Taiwan for the development of culture and the arts. It provides grants, funding, and other assistance to artists and non-profit arts organisations involved in literature, the visual arts, music, dance, traditional and contemporary theatre, cultural heritage preservation, audio/video arts, and arts environment and development.

To support the development and expansion of Taiwanese art groups and artists' international networks, the NCAF developed a number of internationally-focused policies in 2015. Not only did NCAF increase its grant schemes, but it also launched the "Projects for International Arts Networks Development" scheme, featuring cooperation through international partnerships. The NCAF has begun reviewing and evaluating its international development work of the past three years, with an aim to integrate external and internal resources, and at the same time, to adapt to the needs of various arts forms. In the future, as a national organisation with a leading role, the NCAF aims to actively develop more international networks of exchanges and build long-term stable partnerships with international arts and cultural organisations.

The Overseas Arts Travel encourages young artists to expand their horizons and enhance their professionalism through gaining experience overseas.

Information regarding Overseas Arts Travel are currently being updated.

¹ Afghanistan and Bhutan nationals can apply for a residency in Switzerland but Swiss nationals can not apply for a residency in these 2 countries.

📍 UNITED KINGDOM

Daiwa Foundation Japan House | Small grants 🔗 ↻

Based in London, the DFJH's purpose is to support closer links between the United Kingdom and Japan. It offers a wide programme of lectures, seminars, book launches, courses and exhibitions as well as meeting rooms for Japan-related activities and facilities for visiting academics. It also awards scholarships to study Japan and its language and provides small grants for all fields of activity.

Type of mobility	Destination/partner countries	Eligibility criteria
Educational exchanges	UK/Japan	Status: individuals, societies, associations or other organisations
Research trip	Grant coverage	Nationality/residence: UK or Japan
Conferences	£ 3 000	Discipline: not specified
Exhibitions		<u>Application deadline</u>
Performances		2 deadlines/year: 31 March, 30 September

📍 INTERNATIONAL

Asia-Europe Foundation | Mobility First! 🔗 ↻

Launched in 2017 and funded by 51 Asian and European countries, the European Union and the ASEAN Secretariat in the framework of the Asia Europe meeting (ASEM), this initiative supports the cultural mobility for cross-border activities in Asia and Europe.

Type of mobility	Destination	Eligibility criteria
Workshops or trainings	ASEM countries + from Asia to Europe,	Status: artists or cultural professionals
Conferences or forums	Europe to Asia or within Asia	Nationality: ASEM country national
Festivals, biennales or international exhibitions	Grant coverage	Discipline: not specified
Artist-in-residence programmes including writers	SGD ¹ 2 000 for travel from Asia to Europe or Europe to Asia	<u>Application deadline</u>
Partner meeting/s to set up or maintain an existing partnership	SGD 1000 for travel within Asia	3 deadlines/year
Practice-led research		In 2018: 25 April, 30 May and 30 June
"Go and see": short-term exploration / networking		

Prince Claus Fund | Mobility Fund 🔗

The Prince Claus Fund's Mobility Fund supports the cross-cultural exchange of artists and cultural practitioners.

Type of mobility	Destination/partner countries	Application deadline
Meeting, festival, conference for the first time to expand professional networks	DAC countries	At least 8 weeks before the intended date of travel
Capacity development training (e.g. workshops, talent development programmes)	Grant coverage	
Participation in a local arts and culture scene followed by knowledge-sharing with local and/or international peers	Travel expenses, only economy class plane or train tickets	
Setting up new (experimental) cross-border partnerships for upcoming projects, particularly those in the preparation or development phase	Eligibility criteria	
	Status: Artists and cultural practitioners	
	Nationality/residence: DAC countries	
	Other: Priority given to emerging artists (< 10 years of experience), female artists and LGBTQI community related projects	

¹ SGD local currency of Singapore, 2000 SGD worth around €1260.

Organisation internationale de la Francophonie | Programme En Scène!

OIF supports circulation opportunities for professional artists and productions in the field of performing arts and visual arts outside their country of Creation. The programme En Scène! also encourages interactions between South and North French-speaking countries¹ around common artistic projects.

<u>Type of mobility</u>	<u>Eligibility criteria</u>	<u>Application deadline</u>
Touring	Shows produced in a South French-speaking country	Next deadline in 2019
<u>Destination/partner countries</u>	Applications submitted by organisations, companies or artistic entities with a legal status and in charge of programming	
From Asia: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Vietnam		
<u>Grant coverage</u>		
Maximum € 12 000		

European Commission | Erasmus+

The European Union's Erasmus+ programme is a funding scheme to support activities in the fields of Education, Training, Youth and Sport. It offers opportunities for individuals to spend a mobility or volunteering period abroad and to receive linguistic training and for organisations to collaborate in project partnerships in the fields of academic and vocational training, schools, adult learning and European sport events.

Erasmus+ includes a strong international dimension: cooperation with Partner Countries outside the European Union notably in the field of higher education and youth, through institutional partnerships, youth cooperation and mobility worldwide. The grant coverage is of maximum € 150 000 and the next application deadlines will be announced end of 2018.



Inspiring CSA² initiatives between Europe and Asia

Flying Circus Academy

The Flying Circus Academy uses circus performance practices to help disadvantaged young people get involved in society. This comprehensive training programme for circus instructors seeks to professionalise the circus field. Partners will use their expertise and the benefits of international cooperation to share good practices that already exist in this cross-continental consortium of circus players.

Sixteen circus instructors and social workers from Cambodia, Tanzania, Germany and France have implemented an educational exchange programme for 32 local participants. In turn, these participants trained 60 young people in each country. The international team developed the training programme for circus instructors and provide intercultural expertise. Activities were evaluated to ensure the training programme is successful in terms of its concept, quality and approach. A teaching repertoire was developed and standardised for each country and non-verbal communication were covered in training materials for circus instructors.

Partners: Babawatoto Centre for Children and Youth (Tanzania), Collectif clowns d'ailleurs et d'ici (France), Goethe-Institut Tanzania (Tanzania), Phare Ponleu Selpak (Cambodia), Phare Ponleu Selpak Germany e.V. (Germany), ufaFabrik International Culture Centre (Germany)

Duration: 1 May 2016-30 April 2018

Funding: (Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices): € 150 000

Long-term results: 6 video tutorials (non-verbal communication, circus techniques, social development) available on Youtube



¹ List available in the guidelines.

² CSA: Circus and Street Arts

EU-Japan Fest

The EU-Japan Fest is the cultural exchange platform between the European Union and Japan. Since 1992, it has worked to create exchanges between the Cultural Capitals of Europe (ECoC) and Japan with regard to both traditional and innovative culture.

Some exchanges focus on circus and street arts performances such as the [BLIK BLIK festival of light](#) that featured the outdoors installation *Broken 5.1* by the Japanese artist Yasuhiro Chida as part of [Pilsen 2015](#). As for the upcoming ECoCs, [Plovdiv 2019](#) will organise the urban culture and street art festival [Street masters](#) in June 2019 and has launched a call for proposals in partnership with EU-Japan Fest with a focus on performances and artistic interventions in public spaces with a second application period in September 2018.

[Galway 2020¹](#) has already started to organise the [Wires crossed workshops](#) with Galway Circus Community (tightwire walking) and a [formal invitation](#) to Japanese artists and arts practitioners was announced last February in Tokyo.

Inspiring food for thought!

Aside the international mobility funding opportunities, public and private subsidies can be raised for mobility projects that can be specific or be embedded into broader cooperation projects or crowdfunding schemes.

"Find institutions that could support your project".

FiraTàrrega

Public funding

Local and national institutions may be engaged in international cooperation projects sometimes as part of twinning partnerships. Some have a cultural focus including performing arts and thus circus and street arts which could then support international cultural mobility as illustrated by the three examples below.

● Spain – South Korea

In addition to the funds from KAMS and the Japan Foundation, the mobility projects of [FiraTàrrega](#) with South Korea and Japan received the financial support of the City Council of Tarrega, the Diputació de Lleida, the Generalitat de Catalunya and the Spanish Ministry of Culture to cover the international airfare costs.

● France – South Korea

In connection with the year [France-Korea 2015-2016](#), a [forum for the activation of street arts and circus](#) was organised in November 2016 by the Seoul Foundation for Arts and Culture. The main topic was to compare how to make a living from street arts and circus in France and in South Korea and explore sustainable best practices. It was attended by 80 Korean and foreign street artists/circus artists, officials of cultural and arts organisations and citizens.

● Japan – Sweden

Sweden and Japan have developed a close partnership in a wide range of areas: business, trade, science, innovation, academia, international and social affairs and culture.

In 2018, they celebrate 150 years of diplomatic relations with several events including performances.

[Cirkus Cirkör](#) will be presented in October at Setagaya Public Theatre in Tokyo.

Private funding

More developed in Asia than in Europe, new schemes encourage individuals to donate for the development of the performing arts sector and some circus performances have been co-funded in this way.

¹ Will also host the [Circostrada Fresh Street#3](#) on 22-24 May 2019.

Singapore Matching Cultural Fund

Set up in 2013 by the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, this fund provides one-to-one matching of private donations to eligible arts and heritage organisations. Moreover, it doubles the value of every cash donation for the receiving organisation which can be put to various uses, including developing capabilities for the long-term sustainability of the organisation and the cultural sector as a whole.

Thanks to the fund, Intercultural Theatre Institute has thus deepened donors' commitment and been able to create student scholarships.

FunD'Arts

FunD'Arts is a crowdfunding initiative created in 2017 by Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre (KLPac) with support from Accenture. The objective is to crowdfund for two to three productions a year – first campaign exceeded the MYR 10 000¹ goal by 55%!

Wishberry

Launched in 2012, Wishberry is the most successful crowdfunding platform for creative artists in India with a 70% success rate. The proposals must fit into one of Wishberry's focus areas including Performing Arts which was the case for *Alchemiya* (French-Indian circus performance).

Fair fees

The performing arts sector is committed to ensuring proper and fair payment to artists and cultural professionals in recognition of their status, skills and experience which applies to any artistic disciplines and thus circus and street arts.

The international dimension of a collaboration may shake slightly this principle according to two angles:

● **International travel costs > fees**

International travel costs are expensive and mobility funding opportunities are limited.

Organising a tour instead of one-off performances can help splitting the travel costs among the different presenters and thus maintain fees to a certain standard.

However, touring is not always an option. The international visibility provided by a mobility project is valuable and this value can compensate lower fees.

● **Local fees > foreign fees**

One of the recommendations of the toolkit *Beyond curiosity and desire*² is to « check the local fee structure».

By taking into account the local economy, the extent of budget adjustment that could be required is better understood and set - especially in the case of a company working with local artists.

Example: A Dutch company presenting a show in Hanoi with four Dutch artists and five Vietnamese artists

Are Dutch and Vietnamese paid the same? If yes, according to Vietnamese standards or an in-between rate?

¹ Approximatively € 2080

² IETM publication in partnership with On the Move and DutchCulture.

RICE & NOODLES: BITTER PLANT, SWEET FRUIT?¹



¹Idiom describing patience

Mobility projects with Asia may taste bitter since figuring out the Asian timing and way of working is a case-by-case learning. Anticipation is thus crucial and will sweeten the collaboration's flavour in particular for administrative paperwork.

Raw time

"To learn about the cultural differences between both continents/countries and be open to different ways of working." XTRAX

"Be patient. The EU timeframe is not going to help you."
HH Producties



Asia spreads over several time zones (UTC+3 to UTC+9) and knows largely rainy seasons which impact how circus and street arts performances can be programmed and a tour can be organised in this region. Moreover, Western and Asian presenters

work according to different organisational timelines which can be partly explained by the budget which depends more on private sources of funding – more unpredictable, up to few weeks before the performance date and sometimes to be raised for each perfor-

mance. Lastly, exclusivity and cooperation projects can be privileged over a tour by local partners in Asia and more particularly in Southeast Asia where opportunities are less common.

Administrative sesame



Visa

If the passport validity (six months or more), the permitted length of stay (three months or more), the delay of procedure (one month or more) and the fees are the must-be-checked conditions, opting for the most relevant type of visa when travelling to Asia as an artist is required.

Various working visas exist and four Asian countries have a specific artist visa:

- China

China can issue a Z-visa for commercial entertainment performance – it is also possible to apply for a M-visa for smaller performances.

- Japan

The Artist Visa Certificate of Eligibility is issued for foreign artists engaged in entertainment (performing arts) and for support team members.

- Malaysia

Foreign artists (music, dance, theatre, circus, opera) and experts in arts management are eligible for the Visit Pass (Professional).

- South Korea

Two visas can be issued for foreign artists: D-1 for not-for-profit cultural and artistic activities and E-6 for for-profit activities either touring or performances at a permanent Location.

Besides, Singapore has developed another visa scheme for outstanding international arts professionals to become Singapore Permanent Residents: the Foreign Artistic Talent Scheme. Not only it recognises their cultural significance and contribution to the arts sector in Singapore but it supports their engagement with local communities to benefit from a wider expertise.

Freight

Circus and street arts performances may require a set or props that are administratively considered as goods subject to rules when crossing borders.

ATA carnet is the simplest duty-free and tax-free method of exporting goods on a temporary basis up to maximum 12 months depending on the country of destination. Carnets are 'passports for goods' replacing the need for usual customs documentation and can be used for three main categories of goods. Performing arts related materials are under the category "Goods for

presentation or use at trade fairs, shows, exhibitions or similar events".

This document can be issued for 87 countries including 16 Asian countries: China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Macao, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan and Thailand.

Application can be submitted online via national chambers of commerce. Fees vary from around € 100 depending on the value

of the goods and minimum two days are needed for the application procedure.

Being green¹ when it comes to freight is a challenge as it usually involves CO₂e emissions. Being greener is made possible thanks to some initiatives such as Green Freight Asia. Based in Singapore, it is a network of Asian road freight companies working together to improve fuel efficiency, reduce CO₂e emissions, and lower logistics costs across the entire supply chain.

¹ See also « The Green Mobility Guide for the Performing Arts » by Julie's bicycle available in English, French, Italian, German and Chinese.

SWEETS: TO GO FURTHER...

RELATED RESOURCES

- **Guide: Mobility funding guides (Updates since 2014 – EN and other languages)**

- 22 Asian guides and 33 European guides

Published by On the Move and the Asia-Europe Foundation (for the Asian guides). With the support/in collaboration with ASEF, Creative Europe Desk- Flanders, Flanders Arts Institute, Theatre Institute, Ars Baltica, Touring artists, French Ministry of Culture, DutchCulture, Polish National Centre for Culture, Russian Theatre Union, Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports, Wales Arts International, etc. Including funding opportunities related to other fields than performing arts

- **Guide: Fund-finder, *Guide to funding opportunities for arts and culture in Europe beyond Creative Europe* (2017 – EN)**

Published by IETM in collaboration with On the Move

- **Guide: *Green mobility guide for the performing arts* (2011 – EN, FR, IT, DE, CN)**

Commissioned by On The Move to Julie's Bicycle

- **Toolkit: *Beyond curiosity and desire: towards fairer international collaborations in the arts* (2018 – EN, FR)**

Published by IETM. In collaboration with On the Move and DutchCulture

- **Glossary: *E-connector Asia-Europe / A glossary on cultural mobility* (2016 – EN)**

Supported by ASEF Culture360 in partnership with On the Move, the Luxemburgish Agency for Cultural Affairs and Planting Rice

SOYA SPECIALS: ANNEXES

* You can access each section of the Annexes by clicking on the indicated page number.
For detailed information about international funding opportunities, please see the 4 references listed below.

📍 INTERNATIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

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📍 CAMBODIA

UTC+7

[Emerging CSA scene](#)

1 interview

21

1 festival

20

6 funding opportunities (2 incoming, 4 outgoing)

● 1 outgoing/incoming

28

● 1 incoming

36

● + International fundings

📍 CHINA + HONG KONG

UTC+8

[Emerging CSA scene](#)

2 festivals and venues

13

4 funding opportunities (2 incoming, 2 outgoing)

● 1 incoming

29

● + International fundings

📍 INDIA

UTC+5:30

[Emerging CSA scene](#)

1 festival

14

6 funding opportunities (3 incoming, 3 outgoing)

● 1 incoming

29

● 1 incoming/outgoing

34

● + International fundings

📍 IRAN

UTC+4:30

Emerging CSA scene

1 festival

14

1 funding opportunity (1 outgoing)

- +International fundings

📍 JAPAN

UTC+9

Booming CSA scene

1 interview

17

8 festivals and venues

16

9 funding opportunities (4 incoming, 5 outgoing)

- 3 incoming

29 / 37

- 1 outgoing

30

- 1 incoming/outgoing

35

- +International fundings

📍 LAO PDR

UTC+7

Emerging CSA scene

1 festival

22

4 funding opportunities (1 incoming, 3 outgoing)

- 1 incoming

36

- +International fundings

📍 MACAO

UTC+4:30

Emerging CSA scene

3 festivals and venues

15

📍 MALAYSIA

UTC+8

Emerging CSA scene

3 festivals and venues

22

4 funding opportunities (1 incoming, 3 outgoing)

- 1 outgoing

31

- + International fundings

📍 PAKISTAN

UTC+5

Emerging CSA scene

2 festivals

15

6 funding opportunities (3 incoming, 3 outgoing)

● Incoming/outgoing

34

● + International fundings

📍 PHILIPPINES

UTC+8

Emerging CSA scene

1 festival

23

3 funding opportunities (1 incoming, 2 outgoing)

● +International fundings

📍 RUSSIAN FEDERATION

UTC+2 - UTC+12

Emerging CSA scene

2 festivals

16

3 funding opportunities (2 incoming, 1 outgoing)

● 1 incoming

31

● + International fundings

📍 SINGAPORE

UTC+8

Booming CSA scene

5 festivals and venues

23

4 funding opportunities (2 incoming, 2 outgoing)

● 1 incoming

29

● 1 outgoing

32

● + International fundings

📍 SOUTH KOREA

UTC+9

Booming CSA scene

7 festivals and venues

18

5 funding opportunities (2 incoming, 3 outgoing)

● 1 incoming

29

● 2 outgoing

32

● + International fundings

📍 SRI LANKA

● 1 incoming

33

📍 TAIWAN

UTC+8

Booming CSA scene

5 festivals and venues

1 funding opportunity (1 outgoing)

● 1 outgoing

19

34

📍 VIETNAM

UTC+7

Booming CSA scene

5 festivals and venues

6 funding opportunities (3 incoming, 3 outgoing)

● 3 incoming

● + International fundings

24

29 / 36

+ other incoming and outgoing funding opportunities related to ASEM and DAC countries such as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Indonesia, Mongolia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, can be found p.34