

The speakers



Jo Belloli (UK)

Associate Producer and Programmer at Polka Theatre in London with specific experience in early years theatre spanning twenty five years. Additional freelance work has included research and evaluation, programming and management, training and arts consultation across a range of theatre, arts and early education organisations. Jo currently serves the UK partnership of Small size, and is a member of TYA UK (the UK branch of Assitej)

Bruno Cappagli (Italy)

Artistic co-director of La Baracca - Testoni Ragazzi, where he works as an actor and director of productions for children and young people. He leads workshops for secondary school students and training for university students. In 2008 he directed the final performance of the Small size workshop for teachers and educators during "Visions of future, visions of theatre..."..

Myrto Dimitriadou (Austria)

Artistic director of Toihaus Theater in Salzburg. After a brilliant career as an actress, director and dancer, she currently dedicates herself to theatre for early years. She is founding member of ASSITEJ Austria.

Charlotte Fallon (Belgium)

Author and director at the Théâtre de la Guimbarde in Charleroi. Since a few years ago, she has been dedicating herself to theatre for early years. She has developed projects of animation in kindergartens and

primary schools. She held training courses for teachers of primary schools and kindergartens.

Roberto Frabetti (Italy)

Roberto Frabetti works at La Baracca-Testoni Ragazzi of Bologna as a director, writer, actor and theatre's manager. Since 1987 he coordinates the research "Il teatro e il nido" for devising shows specially created for children between 1 and 3 years.

He cares the artistic direction and the organisation of the "Visioni di futuro, visioni di teatro... - International Festival of theatre and culture for early years", a project by La Baracca - Testoni Ragazzi.

Evelyn Goldfinger (Argentina)

Performer, playwright, director and researcher devoted to Theatre for Young Audiences. She co-created an amateur theater company integrated by young people and Down syndrome teenagers. She is member of ATINA, the association of independent theater makers for children and teenagers in Argentina.

Ketty Grunchi (Italy)

Graduated in Psychology, she has been working in the field of theatre since 1980, focusing especially on plays for schools and on the theme of "youth unrest". Over the past few years, she has been focusing on theatre for early years, working as a playwright, actress and director in close contact with teachers and educators in schools. She

realises theatrical workshop in prisons, as well as for teachers and social workers.

Carlos Herans (Spain)

Director of Acción Educativa of Madrid. Artistic director of the theatre Festival "Semanas Internacionales de Teatro para Niños".

Actor, director and trainer. He edited a number of publications, among them: "Teatro y escuela", ed. Laia. "Teatro, imagen, animación" ed. Laia, with Enrique Patiño.

Lise Hovik (Norway)

Lecturer and assistant professor in drama at Dronning Mauds Minne, College of Early Childhood Education in Trondheim. She has worked as an actress, set designer and director. In 2004 she founded her own company Teater Fot, focusing on very young audiences.

Barbara Kölling (Germany)

Artistic director of the Helios Theater in Hamm. Artistic director of the international theatre festival "Hellwach". She has directed over 40 productions for children, young people and adults. She currently focuses on theatre for early years.

Marina Manferrari (Italy)

Pedagogical co-ordinator of the Municipality of Bologna. She is a member of the "National Group Nursery Schools and Crèches", and is closely associated with Tapirulan. Her work with La Baracca, Testoni Ragazzi of Bologna gave rise to the research project "Theatre and nursery school", aimed at producing theatrical shows and workshops for two- and three-year-olds.

Graziano Melano (Italy)

Artistic Director and General Manager of Fondazione Teatro Ragazzi e Giovani Onlus. Director of the edifice in the City of Turin: La Casa del Teatro Ragazzi e Giovani. Coordinator of the Teatro Ragazzi e Giovani Circuit of Piedmont (regional circuit of children's theatre). President of ASSITEJ – Italy. (ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE du THEATRE pour l'ENFANCE et la JEUNESSE).

Daniela Miscov (Romania)

Daniela Miscov works at Ion Creanga Theatre for children as an editor, artistic counsellor, organiser and co-ordinator of national and international projects.

Secretary general of Assitej Romania. Member of "Epicentre" children theatre network and TIG, Take It Global, international network for young people.

Anne Nøjgård (Denmark)

Actress and puppeteer from Denmark. She graduated from the Actor's School at Aarhus Theatre and worked from 1984-1991 as a freelance actor at various Danish theatres. She founded Teatret Lampe, a touring Danish children's theatre whose shows feature a combination of puppetry, acting, visuals and live music. Since 1991, she is the artistic director.

Stephen Rabl (Austria)

Stephen Rabl is artistic director of DSCHUNGEL WIEN – Theatre for Young Audience. As an actor and director, he produces shows for children and young people. Since 2002 he is member of the World Executive Committee of Assitej International. He is also artistic director of SCHÄXPIR, one of the largest International theatre festivals for young audiences.

Wolfgang Schneider (Germany)

Prof. Dr. phil Wolfgang Schneider, born 1954 in Mainz, Ph. D. in German Literature, 1984 – 1997 foundation director of the Centre for Children's and Young People's Theatre in the Federal Republic of Germany, since 1997 foundation director of the Institute of Cultural Policy at the University of Hildesheim, since 2001 dean of the faculty cultural sciences and aesthetic communication, since 2006 member of the foundation board at the University of Hildesheim, since 1997 chairman of ASSITEJ Germany, since 2002 President of the International Association of Theatre for Children and Young People. Honorary President of EUNETART, Editor of "Theatre for Early Years" (Frankfurt am Main 2009).

Ivica Šimić (Croatia)

Actor and director. Artistic director of the Theatre Mala Scena in Zagreb (Croatia). Founder of the Theatre Epicentre – Theatre Centre for children and young people in Central and South-Eastern Europe. Secretary General of ASSITEJ International.

Gerd Taube (Germany)

Director of the Children's and Young People's Theatre Centre in Germany and the Artistic Director of the biannual national German Children's and Young People's Theatre Festival Augenblick mal! in Berlin. He is Visiting Lecturer at the Goethe University, Frankfurt, Vice-President of the German Union of Federal Associations for Cultural Youth Education and member of the advisory board for Theatre and Dance of the Goethe-Institut. He publishes and edits books, journals and articles about puppet theatre, young theatre and young dramatic art.

Geesche Wartemann

(Germany)

Assistant Professor at the University of Hildesheim, Germany, where she teaches courses in the theory and practice of theatre for young audiences. Her research focuses on aesthetics, concepts of audience education, and processes of participation in contemporary TYA. In 2005 she initiated the international theatre for young audiences research network (ITYARN). Prior to that, she worked as a playwright and theatre pedagogue.

Manon van de Water

(United States)

Associate Professor of Theatre Research/Director of Theatre for Youth Program at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA. She teaches in courses of theatre for youth and theatre research, and directs and supervises the theatre for productions for young audiences. Chairwoman of ITYARN, the International Theatre for Young Audiences Research Network.

