



Dear friends,

late again. Very, very late this time. Sorry for that. First it took some time for all the contributions to gather in my mailbox. Then they've been sitting there for a couple of weeks, and I had no time to but them together. But here we are, finally.

The main network event of the summer definitely was the Resistance Festival in Riddarhyttan, which, in spite of the weather not quite doing what it was supposed to, seems to have been a great success. Before and after it there was a symposium on survival strategies for indiependent art and a meeting of representatives of the network groups. Due to the great importance of all these things, we have gathered several reports on these events, giving various perspectives.

Finally I would like to share my new E-Mail address with all of you who don't know already have it. Please mail any contributions for future newsletters to joern.burmester@googlemail.com. Do not use the old tiscali.de address anymore, the service no longer exists. The next newsletter would have been due in January 2009, but because of the dealy with this one and so as not to overstress ourselves I suggest you send documentation and pictures of whatever you are up to this winter to me until **February 15th, 2009** so we get it on the road until sometime in March.

All the best from cold and rainy Berlin
Jörn

News from the Swedish House

The Resistance Festival: Theme Civilisation 27th to 30th of August

The Resistance Festival took place at Workspace Teatermaskinen from the 27th to 30th of August. It was a festival made with great joy and with a very strong programme. The @worknetwork as one of the main organisers contributed strongly to this. At the festival Reality Research Centre presented an adapted version of Portrait of the new worker. The collaboration between Janine Eisenächer of Emanuelle and Iggy Malmborg in the L.I.O.N.S project was performed. TeaterKUNST presented The Naked Lunch. Tourist Theatre gave Cows in Casino. Speeches were given by network members Topher Campbell(The Red Room), Marillii Mastrantoni(Theatre Entropia), Ingemar E L Göransson, Mike Smith(TUC), John Callow (Marx Memorial Library). Teatermaskinen



Andrea Guerra, artist from Uruguay. Photo Ingemar E L Göransson

contributed with the monologues Delete, Curfew, Ålskling, måste jag slå ihjäl dig, sa han, Den vackraste prinsessan. Project Riddarhyttan where the working methods of the @work project are developed was presented and concerts by Jonas Engman and Where

everything falls out were given in the evening programme. On the island The language of the forest people was happening.

The Systems of survival symposium 26th to 27th of August

The systems of Survival symposium took place just before the festival kicked off and gathered participants from six countries to discuss cultural policies and survival strategies for independent art. The symposium was intense with thorough descriptions on the situation in the different countries and a set of suggestions, examples and ideas on how to navigate in a shifting European landscape. A report will be filed shortly at www.teatermaskinen.com

The @worknetwork meeting 31st of August

The meeting took place at the end of the festival gathering members from all Houses. Focus for the meeting was the development of the network and the archives of the @work/The story of work project. A report from the meeting will be sent out separately to all the Houses for further distribution.

The residencies, the Symposium Systems of Survival and the Resistance Festival has been made in collaboration with the @worknetwork, Bergslagens folkhögskola, ABF Västra Västmanland and Arbetaren, Brödet och fiskarna, JAK, Ordfront, RAT, Riddarhyttans Hembygds- och intresseförening, Romska ungdomsförbundet, Rädda Barnen och Skinnskattebergs Teaterförening and with generous support from Ett kulturliv för alla, Stiftelsen framtidens kultur, Kulturkontakt Nord, Landstinget Västmanland, Riksteatern Västmanland, Skinnskattebergs kommun, Statens kulturråd and Västmanlandsmusiken.

Teatermaskinen wishes to thank everyone in the @work network that have made the symposium, the festival and the network meeting possible.

Application to Kulturkontakt Nord

The Swedish House has taken small part in the application work to Kulturkontakt Nord made by Essi Aittamaa of the Finnish House.

Performing in London



London. Photo Ingemar E L Göransson

In mid October Teatermaskinen went to London to perform Delete and to team up with members of the @worknetwork. The performance was organized by the WEA, part of the UK reference group. We also met with Mike Smith and Ingemar E L Göransson and Topher Campbell and discussed future collaboration. The Delete performance was well received and opened up for further collaborations within the unions and with cultural operators in the UK. We also met with Lisa Goldman that was part in the beginning of the @workprocess. She is now executive at the Soho Theatre and we saw a very strong performance there called Overspill.

@work Network Meeting-Report

By Janine Eisenächer/Emanuelle

Riddarhyttan, 31st August 2008. Present: Jussi Johnsson, Pilvi Porkola (Reality Research Center), Marilli Mastrantoni (Theatre Entropia), Topher Campbell (The Red Room), Nanna C. Rohweder, Dorte Pedersen, Layla Mollerup (TeaterKUNST), Anders Olsson I (Teatermaskinen), Janine Eisenächer (Emanuelle), John Callow (Marx MemoriaLibrary), Kolina van den Berg, Åsa Linder (In the end it was basically Marilli, Topher, Janine, Jussi and Anders.)

Here's a summary report form the network meeting:

1. We had a starting round with short reports of each group on current working situation and financial structure, interest in and commitment to the @work network. Each group is committed to the network, but there's no interest in a big common production, rather in smaller collaborations between single people as have already taken place.

2. Dorte and Essi (House OD) have worked out and handed in an application for Nordic Cultural Point funding. This could grant a basis to finance travelling and meetings. The decision might come around mid/end October 2008. Dorte's and Essi's idea of the @work network's future procedure is to have smaller and bigger events regularly. They suggest to have another platform (like CPH) as the next bigger @work network event in 2011. From their point of view, Istanbul 2010 is unrealistic.

2.1 Each group should think about and decide whether Istanbul 2010 is an option for them or not. And communicate this towards the network.



Topher Campbell, Marilli Mastrantoni and Njenga Gikanga discussing during Resitance Festival. Photo Ingemar E L Göransson

3. A majority of members present declined the proposal to make Ingemar a major communicator and caretaker of economic issues for the network due to the facts that he is not familiar with all groups and their work, that he is not an artist himself familiar with production processes, and that all the groups in the network work in different ways artistically, aesthetically and in terms of production. He will become major communicator for Teatermaskinen. If anyone else could take a responsibility similar to that proposed remains open.

4. Talking about future perspectives we agreed to continue with workspaces for those interested.

5. Need for a new artistic steering group? About half the people present couldn't see a reason for a new artistic steering group as long as there are no plans for a larger scale project. On the other hand, an artistic steering group could develop

concepts for new projects. This needs to be discussed more.

6. As already mentioned in Athens in October 07, there is a European fund for networks. An application to maintain the network's sustainability was considered worth trying. The fund is set up for non-profit cultural organizations. A prerequisite is the participation of groups from seven countries with an official company structure. Funding could last from two to five years, and each group would need an accountant to write the application.

Each house should discuss until the end of this year if they are interested and able to join, and if they have facilities to make the effort and contributions. The deadline would be September/October 2009. As Emanuelle and Ivo in Latvia have no company structures or physical presence with an own space etc., it will be difficult to find seven participants. We agreed that each house can recommend another group or country for becoming a new member (house) of the @work network. If the Nordic Cultural Point application goes through, the money could be used as a basis for the EU application.

7. We discussed the @work network archive at Marx Memorial Library. John Callow's new archivist Malcolm will write an email to the network soon including some guidelines for how to prepare the material and where to send it to. The catalogue will be both analogue and online. Each house should start collecting/selecting material.

8. It was discussed controversially whether "civilization" is a good issue. In the end, we all thought it was good to continue with it, and all issues we're tackling are connected to it. We also agreed that "civilization" is like an umbrella and individual projects need a clearer outline, precise concept and shape. A precise mission statement is also needed. Janine and Nina have both have started writing the workspaces on civilization and will be in contact.

9. Was Resistance Festival an @work Festival or not? Unfortunately this question was not really discussed. Anders pointed out that for him it was, with Nina visiting to prepare the symposium, and Janine to talk about the festival in a more general way. And also having Iggy and Janine working there before the start of the festival.

"From my point of view, the Resistance Festival 08 was not a @work network festival. The network was not involved in developing or working on a concept and programme, it was not organized by the network, and even some important changes have not been communicated to it. So, some productions and working there just before the festival doesn't make it a @work network festival. The @work network has been part of the programme and part of the thoughts and artistic research results that were discussed." (Janine)

10. In general we all agreed upon taking better care of communication in the network via email. Besides the newsletters, emails and questions should be forwarded to each satellite and member of the groups by each house, and answered. Especially when it is about organizing new workspaces and application issues, or just simply showing interest.

The L.I.O.N. project premieres at Resistance festival

For this year's Resistance Festival Janine Eisenächer (Emanuelle, DE) and Iggy Malmberg (SE) kicked off THE L.I.O.N. PROJECT – [King Of The Jungle?]. After knowing each other for two and a half years and discussing issues of work, resistance and civilization via email, they had an artistic research phase in Berlin two weeks before the festival. Concentrating on selected material and objects, excessive physical actions, matters of language and communication and on their relation to one another, Janine and Iggy presented their research results in a performance with the subtitle "pt. I: Lust Is Our Nature". While focusing on one's own and the other's lust as a means to resist, both of them – dependent on each other – were wandering on the fine line between trust and violence, tenderness and pain.



Iggy Malmberg and Janine Eisenächer performing THE L.I.O.N. PROJECT. Photo: Ande Somy

News from the Danish House

This autumn TeaterKUNST is considering systems of survival, In the Nude goes on tour and Wall2Wall gets Arts Council funding.

Motståndsfestivalen – report by Nanna Rohweder.

August 25th - 30th TeaterKUNST attended Motståndsfestivalen in Sweden as part of the Systems of Survival symposium, the @work meeting and with the Naked Lunch meeting. The programme of The Motståndsfestival in Riddarhyttan was as ambitious and stringent. Civilisation was covered all sorts of cultural perspectives concerning contemporary resistance and how it has developed through years and borders artistically, politically and culturally. With this in mind a more multicultural combination of participators and audience would have strengthened the programme.

At the Systems of Survival Symposium, diverse participants provided much inspiration about how to continue the good work in the immediate and far future. Whether from rich, urban Western Europe, the poor rural Northern part of the continent or South America, we all agreed that cultural politics lack survival strategies for artists and cultural workers. Tools to face Systems of Survival and reclaim Living Art were proposed.

- Make proposals and interfere with cultural politics locally and internationally – educate politicians!
- Discuss what we want to achieve with our perspectives on art and culture
- Avoid European Cultural Cities unless we can change it from being the "Olympics of Culture" to long-term thinking and community-based programmes.
- Use thematic issues that provides sustainability
- Kill idea of "audience" and start develop the participants.

A full length report of the symposium will be provided. Part II of this symposium will be held in Copenhagen in 2009.

Wall2Wall continues

The Wall2Wall project held a final workshop in Copenhagen, attacking walls surrounding art. The project has just received funding from the Danish Arts Council to complete the project in 2009 and be presented under the Metropolis Biennale.

In the Nude – Helsinki, Montreal, Riga & Copenhagen

TeaterKUNST is now preparing for the In the Nude tour with Janne Saarakkala and Ivo Briedis after a great final presentation at Hotel Skt. Petri in Copenhagen. The performance will premiere in Helsinki at the Theatre Now Festival 6-12. October. Then go to Montreal, Canada, invited by the Danish Art's Council for CINARS 17-23. November and continuing in Riga 1-7. December, ending in Copenhagen in January 2009.



Other news

Nina Larissa Bassett will be going to Riga in the beginning of 2009 to explore possibilities of an @work platform in Latvia with Ivo Briedis.

Wall2Wall brought TeaterKUNST in contact with architect and activist Doung Jahangeer from South Africa and director of Dala. Two members of TK have applied for funding to visit Durban and work with Jahangeer on the supplementary project Walks & Talks.

In the Nude – partly dressed.

News from the Greek house/Theatre Entropia

By Marilli Mastrantoni

I followed the whole Resistance Festival in Sweden. I participated in the Symposium and made a presentation of our work on "Genocide", since the performance finally didn't happen, due to lack of sufficient funds. Riddarhyttan's beautiful (it was of course my first time there) and the experience interesting, though I was surprised and sorry not to see some of you there. I suppose the Network's meeting's discussions will be sent to you by TEATERMASKINEN and we'll take it from there.

Meanwhile, I'm back to Athens, it's still summer here, and busy with the preparations and proposals of the coming season (Genocide, Fes 6, Cut etc.). In October I'm invited to CIFET, the Cairo International Festival of Experimental Theatre.

Greetings from Finnish House

By Jussi Johnsson

Dear Circle of Friends,

This autumn has been a big chance for me professionally. I have started a job as an actor at the Lappeenranta City Theatre with a two year's contract. This means that I will have less time to participate in the Reality Research Center's activities than before but I will try to take part in our Civilisation project and serve as a contact person of the Finnish House as much as possible. I feel that I have brought seven year's fruitful work with live art to some conclusion and started something new and still unknown with theatre.

A Tentative invitation to Workspace II

My new work seems to benefit the @Work Network too. I'm very pleased to invite you tentatively to participate in Workspace II that our Finnish House has planned to arrange from 12th to 14th May 2009, in Lappeenranta. The Workspace will be arranged in cooperation with Lappeenranta City Theatre and the Baltic Circle Theatre Festival. We negotiate with the city theatre about providing us with locations for Workspace and accommodation for at least some of you. Workspace II in Lappeenranta will coincide with the Baltic Circle Theatre festival in Helsinki. We have been asked to demonstrate some results of our process by the festival organization between 15th and 16th of May in Helsinki. Therefore, we will ask the festival organization to share costs of the Workspace. Lappeenranta is a town with 70 600 inhabitants and it's located 223 km northeast of Helsinki by the lake Saimaa and only 30 km from the Russian border. It takes about 2 hours and 20 minutes by train and 40 minutes by plane from Helsinki to Lappeenranta. Flight tickets cost approximately the same as train tickets if you book them early enough.

Plans for Workspace II



Lappeenranta.

We have planned to approach the civilisation theme via a concept of freedom. A basic idea is to change Lappeenranta into a free city area or at least create a free zone into the town. You could bring your own ideas and interests that you wish to work with in Workspace. Janne Saarakkala, who will start to work at the same theatre as I in March 2009, will direct a theatre production about freedom. Most likely I am going to join Janne's group. This production will contribute Workspace II, which is open for your ideas. Some members of the Finnish House have already said they will bring their own perspectives concerning civilisation to the "free city". The email-discussion has brought up some issues: barbarism vs. humanity, the characteristics of a truly civilized society, a civilisation considered as an artificial construction, seen as a non-human colony or as a metaphor of a game, for example.

Enrollment

Please enroll tentatively in Workspace II to me as soon as possibly by email jussijohnsson@gmail.com. It will help us to make plans for the program and other arrangements of the Workspace. After your enrollment you will get a chance to apply for grants for your participation in your country. Please also let us know your ideas concerning Workspace II. After we have discovered financing for the Workspace and finished talks with our co-operators, we will send you an official invitation, as soon as possible but before New Year, at the latest. Our goal is that we could at least offer a modest accommodation and good food to our guests but we will confirm this in the final invitation.

What else we have done lately?

After Motstånd's Festival in Riddarhyttan all members of the Finnish House have been very busy (what a surprise!) Some of us have participated in productions called "The Realm of the Invisible" (Janne Pellinen and Titta Halinen), "The Lost City" (Janne Saarakkala) and "Tampere – Vakio" (Maria Ruostepuro and Titta Halinen). These performances are all part of the Reality Research Center's 2008 research plan "the body of the spectator-experencer in a performance". We have been very active in other productions of Reality



Lappeenranta Airport.

Research Center, too. I have performed in the last episode our series "As if - #10 Conclusions" with Pilvi Porkola. Janne Pellinen and Maria Nuutinen will start to rehearse third episode of "Toter sucht arbeit" and Janne Saarakkala is directing a new episode of the Finland Project in Pori. You can find information in English on some of these projects on our website: www.todellisuus.fi.



Lappeenranta Spa.

Because we all have been so busy, we haven't had so much time to meet each other and talk about civilisation. It has also been somewhat problematic that the @work network's present theme is not directly connected to the Reality Research Center's research plan this year as it was with "work" a year ago. But we have tried to be active with Civilisation sharing thoughts and ideas by email. We have succeeded in the beginning of the Workspace II arrangements and opened a discussion about the possibility to connect Civilisation to Reality Research Center's research plan next year, when it will deal with emotions from sociology's and anthropology's point of view.

News from Emanuelle/The Berlin House

First show of Emanuelle's Synthesis-project in Dresden



*Synthesis I. Eurydice. Photo
Nicolas Y Galeazzi*

Emanuelle's present working conception is called Synthesis. It provides a framework for topical performances on different subjects. It was put into practice for the first time this June in the city of Dresden during a Festival entitled „What is the VALUE?“. Utilizing the history of the festival grounds around famous Hellerau Festspielhaus, one of the birthplaces of modern dance, we discussed values by a number of activities including a the re-enactment of some images from a dance production of Gluck's „Orpheus e Eurydice“ by Jaques Dalcroze that took part there in 1908.

We also talked to audiences and other artists performing there, build a hut to collect valuable artifacts in (we trashed it in the end, of course) and provided a space for our guest, German philosopher Rainer Schnuppe, who invited guests for Value Counselling.

Unfortunately this has been the only Emanuelle performance in 2008, as most of us had no time for further activities due to their involvement with other stuff.

(e)at_work, Emanuelles active satellite

On september, 13th (e)at_work performed at the pro.existence festival, an international art laboratory asking the question: Which value does a person of our world have? During their one-week long stay at the 800 year old estate and art research location Schloss

Bröllin, (e)at_work applied their knowledge of super-natural phenomena and newly developed artistic interview-methods (see image) in order to explore the nearby district town of Pasewalk. They questioned its inhabitants on the subjects of fear and uniqueness in course of a number of interventions in public space and interviewed representatives from business, administration and public opinion making. (e)at_work got obsessed by and finally hunted down the ghost of exchangeability in a performance which was developed spontaneously from the results of this research. Both their activities outside the art context and their second group performance went by the title INTER-VIEWS: Bröllin – Pasewalk – Bröllin and took place as part of (e)at_work's current working period which focuses on the subjects of work and identity.



(e)at_work researching values in the streets of Pasewalk.



Joël and Jörn sayin' it like it is in Bröllin.

Documentation materials and future projects will be published soon on www.eatwork.de.

Summing up the festival in Bröllin Jörn chaired a symposium on the subject of values (once again, seems to have been the hot topic this summer), collaborating with Belgian artist Joël Verwimp.

Bröllin might also become a major partner in a new performance art network that [Performer Stammtisch](#), Emanuelles Berlin hub, might become a major node of. Stay tuned.