



# Newsletter No. 7

March 2009

[www.atworknetwork.org](http://www.atworknetwork.org)

**Dear friends,**

here we go again. The @work newsletter goes in its third year, and there are once again lots of activities going on. Most all, we are looking forward to **workspace #2** which will take place in Lappeenranta, Finland in May, thanks to the activities of the Finnish house. We had most of the information about this in the last edition, so this time we only have a short reminder: The deadline for registration has been extended to the end of March, so all your registrations should be in by now. As soon as all the participants have registered there will be more info on the proceedings directly from Finland. See below for more information on the plans of some of the houses for this event. It seems we are also going to see a new group there, **Dirty Deal Teatro** from Latvia, a new satellite to the Danish house.

Two other interesting items you can read more about below are the **funding** for the Civilisation Project that had been awarded to the network by **Nordic Culture Point** thanks to the efforts of Essi, Dorte and Anders. And the **@work archive** at **Marx Memorial Library** is now ready to begin their collection of the traces of our efforts from the @work project.

It is good to see that there are still so many activities going on throughout the network in spite of financial shortages and other projects of the houses and their inhabitants.

I do hope spring has arrived to wherever you are, and that everything is good for all of you. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone connected to your houses or otherwise interested in our activities. You can also mail me the addresses of people you wish to include on the mailing list.

Yours  
Jörn

PS. The next newsletter is due in June with reports from the Lappeenranta Workspace and whatever other exciting things will be going on by then. Please mail your submissions, texts and photos as always to [joern.burmester@googlemail.com](mailto:joern.burmester@googlemail.com). Looking forward to hearing from you until **June 15**.

## **The @work network awarded three-year network grant**

The Nordic Culture Point awarded the @work network with **60,000 € for the Civilisation Project**, the network's research on the subject of civilisation. The funding line is "long term network funding" and the grant will be used over a period of three years. The funding is for the Nordic Collaboration within the @work network and will be used to cover the costs of Reality Research Centre, Teatermaskinen and TeaterKunst. All three Nordic groups co-finance the Civilisation Project. Reality Research Centre is in charge of the project; all the finances and reports go through RRC. Even though the grant is for the Nordic collaboration, it supports the whole network as it enables the network to continue its activities and work on the theme of civilisation.

The plan for the next three years is to arrange a series of workspaces that result in individual performances in different countries. All the performances will be staged at a festival in the end of the three year period. The first workspace will take place in Lappeenranta, Finland on the 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> of May.

## News from the Danish House: Walls of night time, South Africa and history

By Nina Larissa Basset

TeaterKUNST has been very busy doing workshops on language, attending seminars and completing the **In the Nude** tour in Copenhagen after an exciting journey.

Currently we are working on a project about the night called **Nightfall**, an alternative sightseeing tour in a bus, addressing issues with the audience of who belongs in the night. In this connection we have been working with kids in the city and suburbs. Opens April 30th.

Shortly Layla and Nina will be going to **Durban, South Africa** to work with a group of local kids and architect/activist Doung Jahangeer, who became an honorary member of TeaterKUNST during our Wall 2 Wall workshop last summer.

TeaterKUNST will be attending the workspace in Lappeenranta in May, to begin our new project **History Repeating**. Attending will be (old face) Sheila and new faces; Paco Fernandez and Fadime Turan. Please give them a warm @work welcome!



*Creature of the Night in Copenhagen.*

Finally we are preparing for the **Wall 2 Wall** performance under the Metropolis Biennale in August 10th to 23rd and look forward to seeing Jörn and Joy here in that context.

### New TeaterKUNST satellite

Ivo Briedis has hooked up with the exciting Latvian company **Dirty Deal Teatro**, a production house working with several independent theatre companies. We visited them during the In the Nude tour and think they will be a great addition to the @work network. Five members of Dirty Deal Teatro will attend the Lappeenranta workshop – welcome! Along with the workspace program they are going to discuss possibilities to organise an @work network meeting in Riga this year.

## News from the Swedish House

By Anders Olson

### Skogsfolkens språk (The language of the forest people)



*Workspace Teatermaskinen: Martin Küchen.  
Photo: Teatermaskinen*

The work continues and there is now a new culture living on the island in Skildammen. The project has developed further and we do now situations and happenings where visitors come to the island. We are exploring how reality is created. Researcher Peter Ericson has entered the project and is visiting the quota to pose questions to the forest people.

### Forest week/Indigenous week

In late May – early June we will make a forest people week where we will address the questions of reality and civilisation from several different perspectives. More information about this in a separate newsletter.

### Zoembient

is the name of our new production opening in the fall of 2009. In this performance we will explore the world beyond language and language as the world. We have started working and it feels very exciting. The script is written by Johan Jönson currently nominated for the Nordic Literature Prize.



*Workspace Teatermaskinen: Flamenco Erik Steen.  
Photo: Teatermaskinen*

**Projekt Riddarhyttan (Project Riddarhyttan)** is the project developing in our village. In this we explore the life in Riddarhyttan in historical, present and future perspectives. This project has been very successful during 2008 and for 2009. We are developing the levels of participation and will also look at the long-term survival and development of the village.

#### **Workspace Teatermaskinen**

is fully active. January – March we have organised a series of events addressing civilisation. We do clubs every last Saturday under the heading of Point Zero and Beyond, We also do a series of lectures where the conflict between Western Society and other cultures is addressed.

#### **Poetry Project**

is a new initiative that starts in the end of March where we will work with actors, musicians, film makers and to do karaoke poetry on different occasions.

#### **Monologues**

In spring of 2009 we are producing two new monologues; one about assistant nurses addressing the issues of health care and existence and „Jag vill inte dö (I don't want to die)“ which addresses environment from internal and external perspectives.

For us, a new thing, is to do auditions for the monologues. For the assistant nurse we had 12-15 applications and we have now found an actress from the western part of Sweden who will do the performance.

#### **The Machine project**

After a heavy 2008, the Machine Project is now on the roll. Our architect Axel Tangerding has together with Sven Ostner created a new model adapted and developed for our work. We now aim to start building directly after summer.

#### **Announcement:**

If you have contacts at the Nordic scenes (Kiasma, Esbo, Copenhagen International Theatre and so forth), we would welcome your contacts for the Nordic Tour of Zoembient.



*Workspace Teatermaskinen: Teater Albatross – Bortom Havet  
Photo: Teatermaskinen*

We also welcome contacts to persons or organisations working within the fields of spiritual work, culture anthropology and mythology.

## News from the Greek house/Theatre Entropia

By Marilli Mastrantoni



*F.E.S. 6 – Theatre Group E.R.E.T.A.*

From the 9 to the 14 December 2008 **ENTROPIA's 6th Alternative Stage Festival (F.E.S. 6)** took place, with artists and groups from the field of theatre, dance theatre, performance art, multimedia, films, in two spaces of a rioting and burning Athens! An interesting time indeed.

The performance **GENOCIDE** will be presented as a Video/Sound Installation at the 5th International Video Art Festival at Technopolis-Gazi in Athens in spring.

Meanwhile Theatre ENTROPIA has embarked for a new big adventure, our international collaborative **Project CUT**, that deals with the "walls" and "separating lines", 20 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, through research and residencies in still "cut" territories, such as Kosovo, Nicosia, Belfast, West

*F.E.S. 6: Interactive Performance "End the short breaths"*

Bank, with partner organisations there, as well as in Berlin as a reference of historic significance, climaxing in site-specific presentations-events, and concluding into the final multi-lingual, inter-disciplinary, multimedia performance "DE-FENCES" in November '09. Those interested in the complete, detailed concept/proposal, are welcome to ask us to send them one.

About **European Funding Programs**, since they're somehow changed since the last time the Network discussed them, I attach the current Strands and Schedules and through this site anyone can find all details and info.



*Project Cut: De-Fences.*

It seems that the Program suitable for the Network as things are, is the one for multi-annual Co-operation Projects (briefly: lasting from three to five years, with a minimum of six cultural operators from at least six eligible countries, funds of between a minimum of EUR 200.000 and a maximum of EUR 500.000 per year, with EU support limited to a maximum of 50% of the total eligible cost, deadline 1/10/2009). From our side, we're willing to proceed & participate, if most of the Houses agree.



*Project Cut: De-Fences.*

Finally, ENTROPIA intends to participate in **WORKSPACE #2** in Finland and we're willing to organise one as described by Essi's report (good work!). Hopefully we'll have the chance to discuss further details & answer questions in Finland soon!

## News from Emanuelle/The Berlin House

by Jörn J. Burmester

### Re-Structuring the Unstructured

As of the beginning of this year 2009, Emanuelle has ceased to exist as a legal company. The decision was taken due to our conviction that official-legal structures are hampering our kind of creativity as well as for practical reasons. First of all we don't have the infrastructure to employ a producer, which leaves all the funding, tax and all other official matters to the artists, keeping them from doing what they should be doing. We have also found that the loose structure of a network with shifting focuses and activities suits our working style better, with all of us involved in various different activities across Europe with many different collaborators from various fields.

### Report from our last complete (!) meeting this January

by Joy Harder

Dear @work network friends and colleagues,

after many months of individual activities and open networking, collaborations with other artists and projects in smaller combinations of *Emanuelle* members, Jörn J. Burmester, Janine Eisenächer, Florian Feigl, Nicolas Galeazzi and Joy Harder all sat down together in one room on January, 15th 2009 in order to exchange information on our current states of being and opinions on *Emanuelle's* future status as well as her participation in the @work network. This is to give you all an idea about the results of our meeting.

*Emanuelle* wishes to communicate a strong interest in the future development of the network and her appreciation for the values that have been created in the social performance that is the @work network. Most importantly the creation of new approaches towards the artistic collaboration between people from different cultural and artistic backgrounds. The format of the @work network workspaces as experienced during WORKSPACE # 1 in Copenhagen is to be understood and taken seriously as such an approach.

*Emanuelle* herself currently exists as a structure and a source of content rather than a material body. She can be identified as the former **Berlin n@work** and keeps considering the creation of performances and presentations but characteristically, *Emanuelle's* components operate independently on various levels of artistic production, research and exchange of all sorts. Sadly, due to her infrastructural limitation *Emanuelle* will not be able to contribute essentially to any @work network EU-application in the near future. If it is so desired by the other members of the network she would participate in searching for new houses/satellites to partake in such an endeavour. However, *Emanuelle's* contribution to the development of the @work network will consist of the following concrete activities:

- Collaboration and artistic exchange with members of the network on an individual level.
- Emanuelle is planning to attend the @work network WORKSPACE # 2 and has applied for travel funds.
- Jörn J. Burmester keeps organising the distribution of the @work network newsletter and supports the creation of the @work archive at the Marx Memorial Library in London.
- *Emanuelle* is planning to mobilise the necessary infrastructural conditions to create and organise an @work network WORKSPACE in Berlin in 2010/11.

We hope this gives you a good idea about what is going on in the German house these days. Feel free to contact any member of *Emanuelle* if you need more detailed information, or if you want to exchange opinions about any of the issues mentioned.

Best Wishes,

*Emanuelle*

PS. We just received the sad news that the Berlin Senate did not deem the Workspace #2 important enough to grant us even the funds for two cheap airline tickets. This is a great disappointment, and we will most likely not be able to participate.

### The E-Mail about European Funding

We have received only two answers to Janine's E-Mail concerning the willingness and ability of the houses to participate in a new European Funding Effort. The Finnish house needed some time to figure out what they would be able to do, while the Danish house said that they were unable to go to any further co-financing commitment beyond the Nordic Culture Point.

## @work archive ready to be launched

by John Callow

The Marx Library is happy to host the archives of the @work network.

Scripts, photos, programmes and research papers can be sent in (as hard copy) to:

**Marx Memorial Library,  
37a Clekenwell Green  
London  
EC1R 0DU  
Great Britain**

for cataloguing. Materials will be housed within the library for future generations of writers, performers and researchers, and records of them will be available through the on-line library catalogue.

In due course, a web page will be created to showcase the collection.

### **Small comment on this**

by Jörn J. Burmester

I suggest we use the opportunity of the meeting in Lappeenranta to discuss procedures for handing in the materials a little further. Experience shows that while we are all excited about the opportunity to have the archive at Marx memorial library, we need some sort of structure for anything to happen at all.

