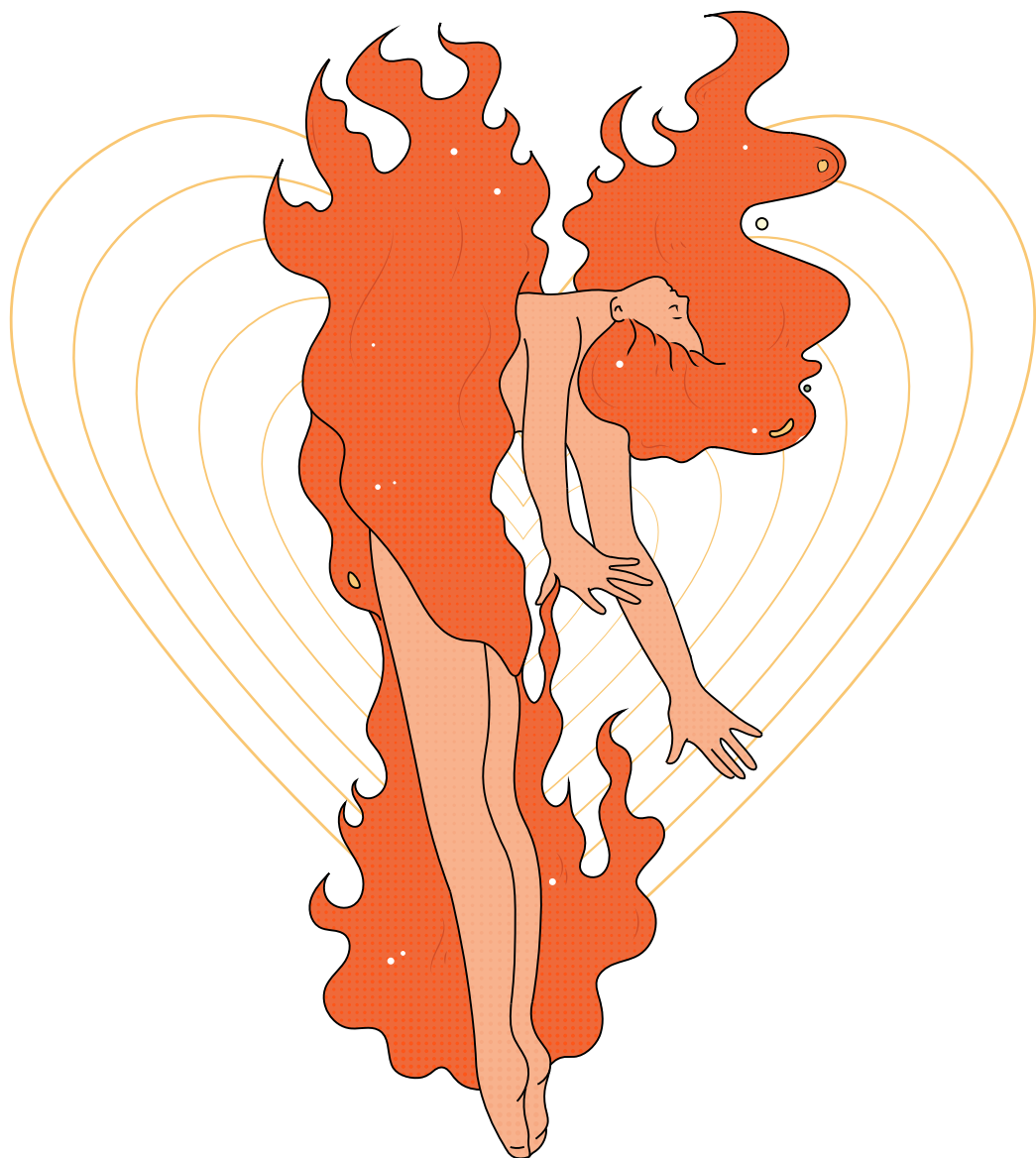




FEMART FESTIVAL 11

15-21 MAY 2023
PRISHTINA & MITROVICA
KOSOVA



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FESTIVAL 11**

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KOSOVA

BURN YOUR FEAR

ORGANIZED BY:

artpolis
art and community center

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BURN YOU FEAR:

FOREWORD BY ZANA HOXHA



Dear artists and activists,

We are commencing the second decade of the FemArt Festival with a call about self-reflection, well-being and equality. At a time when courage, love and solidarity with each other is needed more than ever before, towards liberation, societal emancipation, and personal and collective accomplishment.

We are enthusiastically marking the 11th edition of FemArt with artists and activists with whom we share the desire for positive change in ourselves and society. Under the motto “Burn Your Fear” FemArt unites artists and activists with a rich feminist program, where we will see their unique artistic expressions. We proudly say that on May 15-21, 2023, cultural life in Kosovo will be enriched with some of the most prestigious artistic troupes in the world.

FemArt, for a decade now, continues to be an inducement for equality and justice, added value for feminism in the world, and an endless universe for those who want to fly towards things we don’t even dare to talk about! Artists and activists have always been at the center of positive changes and social movements. They have consistently dared to challenge patriarchy and multiple social oppressions. With each step forward today, we honor those who are gone, and we give courage to those who will come.

In this edition, we will shed light even there where the shadows of fear have been resting for a long time. In this exciting journey with many challenges, we walk together, again. Together we light up the city! Together we “Burn the Fear”! Together we find the freedom, for each, for all!

Zana Hoxha

Founder/Executive Director of Artpolis and FemArt Festival



**FEMART
FESTIVAL 11**

15-21 MAY 2023
PRISHTINA & MITROVICA
KOSOVA

BURN YOUR FEAR

11TH EDITION OF FEMART - INTERNATIONAL WOMEN
ARTIST AND ACTIVIST FESTIVAL

BURN YOUR FEAR

Burn your fear away! Allow newness, courage and love to be born.

Courage is a prerequisite to overcome fear. We were taught to be silent for too long, and now it is time to dare to speak. We will speak out and burn our fear away bravely and with love at the 11th edition of the FemArt Festival.

On May 15-21, 2023 and every other day, we will speak out on behalf of women whose voices are not heard, and on behalf of girls who dare to dream. We have so much to say through the theater shows, panel discussions, exhibitions, conferences, performances, workshops, through songs and dance.

Art and activism are our space of freedom, a space of our life narrative, of our endless curiosity and enchantment. Through our art we speak out our thoughts and beliefs, and through diversity we show who we are. Our ethnic, religious, racial and gender differences, unite around our feminism in yet another edition of FemArt. We want to reclaim what is rightfully ours – a fulfilled life. We will do it now! With courage for liberation.

Burn the fear of patriarchy! Burn the fear of prejudice! Burn the fear of failure! Burn the fear of everything that stops you from moving. Enough with being a step behind! We burn our fear together! And together we move one step forward!

Therefore, dare to move even in the dark of night. And if you are afraid to move in the dark of the night, together we light up the city!

Dare to burn your fear and make room for self-love and love for others!

Berat Bajrami

PREMIERE FOR FEMART THEATER PERFORMANCE

FEFU AND HER FRIENDS

KOSOVA



DAY 1 - OPENING OF THE FESTIVAL

MAY 15, 2023

MONDAY

Time: 20:00 – 21:00

Location: Menza Ramiz

Sadiku, Prishtina

Author: Jules Aaron, Maria Irene Fornes

Director: Arlinda Morina – Liki

Physical Master: Robert Nuha

Actresses: Aurita Agushi, Zhaneta Xhemajli, Qendresa Kajtazi, Donikë Ahmeti, Kaltrinë Zeneli, Blerta Gubetini, Dora Xhemajli

Assistant director: Sidarta Krasniqi

Costume designer: Yllka Brada

Production Assistant: Elira Lluka

Light Designer: Lulzim Luigji Bejta

Sound Designer: Besfort Matoshi

Production: Artpolis - Art and Community Center

Fefu, a middle-aged woman, invites her friends for dinner. They come joyful, happy and full of ambition for life. The party takes a dramatic turn when they end up sharing their uncomfortable confessions that the hermetic, toxic patriarchal system has provided them with throughout their lives. Revolt shows the violence, abuse, and consequences on their broken lives.

Committed to her power, Fefu tries to empower women by judging them and comparing them to men, saying that men are more organized and loving among themselves. "More than us, they f*** cooperate with each other, we don't," says Fefu.

With a rifle in her hand, she occasionally shoots her husband, which she explains to her friends as a game. Some of the women are used to her behavior, and some are scared and terrified. The bitter truth of the consecutive events in the drama shows Fefu's sensitive and painful side.

At the end of the play, the directorial approach changes the drama – to kill the system by joining forces and protecting each other. May the love and light within them strengthen them, and the pain be resistance and strength to continue life.

Arlinda Morina

Theater and film director and activist



She studied acting and film directing at the University of Prishtina, Academy of Arts. She is the director of 14 short films, including Pandora and The Dressmaker. In 2013, she was the winner of 4 awards at the Nine Eleven Film Festival with the film “The Tailor” for best film, best cinematography, best screenplay and best editing. In addition, in 2014 she received the Cinema of the Future award at the Goddess on the Throne Film Festival in Kosova. Currently, she is shooting her debut feature film, supported by the Cinematographic Center of Kosova and the Cinematographic Center of Macedonia.

In addition to her career as a film director, she is a theater director and has directed more than 6 theater performances. They include experimental works that deal with social themes such as “Are you a Girl or a Boy?!” performed at the Oda Theater during the 2020 FemArt Festival in Prishtina, and “Woman” performed at the National Theater of Kosova, a two-woman play that addresses the topic of patriarchy and challenges the ways in which this system oppresses women’s daily lives.

DAY 1

**MAY 15, 2023
MONDAY**

Time: 22:00 – 23:00

**Location: Menza Ramiz
Sadiku, Prishtina**

**DJ MARINA MIMOZA /
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**



AFTER PARTY AND COCKTAILS

After the premiere of the show “Fefu and Her Friends” that opens the 11th edition of the FemArt Festival, there will be a party with electronic music by DJ Marina Mimoza.

The artist from Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina, will bring a collage of house music, but also experimental sounds of a wide range of electronic music.

DJ Marina Mimoza

Marina has been DJ-ing since 2009, actively contributing to the music scene in BiH, and creating music collections that span a wide range of electronics.

During her music journey she performed on numerous cultural events, and parties with many artists from BiH, region, and the world. Her sets are dynamic and based on house music but she loves to experiment with different genres of electronic music.

Marina produced and participated in multimedia performances “Lovevolution” in collaboration with musicians and visual artists from Mostar and Berlin where she experimented with improvisation of experimental ambient sound. Currently, Marina resides in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and is well known as the founder and producer of the Street Arts Festival Mostar and Rezon Association.

THEATER PERFORMANCE

JOGGING

LEBANON

*"Tout ce qui est dans les cieux célèbre
Ses louanges et les oiseaux aussi en
étendant les ailes*

*"The birds, with wings spread, each of
them has known His means of prayer
and exalting Him*



MAY 16, 2023
TUESDAY

Time: 18:00 – 19:30

**Location: Oda Theater,
Prishtina**

Text, Conception,

Performer: Hanane Hajj Ali

Dramaturgy: Abdullah Alkafri

Mise en scène: Éric Deniaud

Lights: Sarmad Louis, Rayyan Nihawi

Costumes: Kalabsha, Louloua Abdel-Baki

Sound: Wael Kodeih

Co-production: Arab Funds for Arts and Culture

Hanane Hajj Ali

Actress, author and activist



When the audience arrives, Hanane Hajj Ali is in place. Dressed in black, she stretches, warms up, prepares her voice for a “single on stage” and runs. A humorous performance that can be very dark, this iconoclastic “Jogging” makes us follow the stories of four women: Hanane herself, but also Medea, the ancient and contemporary who either kills her children or sacrifices them on the altar of the wars that undermine the Middle East. It's all about points of view. An opus inspired by the life of the director “woman, mother, actress, citizen” who runs every day in the alleys of Beirut to prevent stress, depression and osteoporosis... A health journey that she transforms into a dive into the meanders of her dreams and her most intimate fears. A radical challenge to the stereotypes and prejudices that plague women in the Arab world.

Actress, author, and cultural activist, **Hanane Hajj Ali** is a prominent figure of the Lebanese cultural and artistic scene. Her career began in 1978 with the Hakawati Theater (Lebanese Storyteller Theater). Her latest performance, JOGGING, awarded the “Vertebra Prize for Best Actor” at the Fringe / Edinburgh International Festival, is on tour in prestigious international theaters and festivals including the Avignon Festival in 2022 and Amsterdam International Theater Festival 2023.

In addition to her artistic activity, Hanane Hajj Ali teaches in the theatrical studies department of IESAV at Saint Joseph University. As a researcher, she contributed to the writing and editing of numerous works, including “Introduction to cultural policies in the Arab world” and “Theater of Beirut”.

Besides her academic activities, Hanane Hajj Ali continues her numerous contributions in the context of cultural and societal work. She is a founder and member of the board of directors of several cultural institutions and artistic organizations in the Arab world such as “Culture Resource” (Al Mawred Athaqafi), “Action for Hope” and “Ettjahate”. As an activist, she campaigns against the Censorship imposed by the political and religious powers in Lebanon and claims the rights to freedom of expression, public spaces, democratization and the decentralization of culture.

In 2015, she was elected a member of the UNESCO pool of experts for the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. In 2017, she was decorated “Knight in the Order of Arts and Letters” by the French Ministry of Culture. In 2020 she won the Gilder-Coigny prize awarded by “The League of Professional Theater Women LPTW”.

THEATER PERFORMANCE

FIVE KINDS OF SILENCE

SLOVENIA



DAY 2

MAY 16, 2023
TUESDAY

Time: 20:00 – 21:30

**Location: National Theater of
Kosovo, Prishtina**

—
Author: Shelagh Stephenson

Translator: Irena Duša Draž

Director: Maša Pelko

Performing: Ivana Percan Kodarin, Anuša Kodelja, Marjuta Slamič

Dramaturg: Tereza Gregorič

**Choreographer and Assistant
to Director:** Klemen Janežič

Language Consultant: Anja Pišot

Set Designer: Sara Slivnik

Costume Designer: Tina Bonča

Composer: Mateja Starič

Light Designer: Uroš Gorjanc

Expert Counsellors: Tanja Pipan, Maja Plaz, Jasna Podreka, Polona Selič – Zupančič

Production: First Slovene Production

Maša Pelko

Theater director



The murder of a father triggers a police investigation, a psychiatric evaluation, and preparation for defense in a court trial. From the crime to the verdict, through fragments, a shattering history of a family, and, at the same time, the ruthlessness of the social and legal system that makes violence possible, opens.

For three decades Billy, the father, Mary, the mother, and adult sisters Susan and Janet lived locked in the family circle of violent relationships. Through memories and descriptions of situations a story emerges – one of horrifying physical, psychological, and sexual abuse that for years took place in silence: the silence of four family members and the silence of the world outside them.

Maša Pelko studied Comparative Literature and Philosophy at the Faculty of Arts in Ljubljana. She completed the third year of her education at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic. During her studies, she started working as a film and literature critic at many Slovenian magazines and web platforms and published theoretical essays regarding theater and philosophy. After finishing her studies at the Faculty of Arts she was accepted to the Academy of Theater, Radio, Film, and Television in Ljubljana, to a program in Radio and Theater Direction. She graduated by directing the world premiere of a Croatian play Olympia Stadium (Trilogy) by Dino Pešut, which was also the main topic of her final dissertation titled Hope, Despair, and Revolt.

In 2017 she received the student award Goldilocks for best direction and performance in total for “Play a Tumour in the Head!” which also went on a tour to the festival Setkani/Encounter in Brno, Czech Republic. In the following year, she was awarded the same award for best direction and performance in total for “Winter’s Tale”. The play “King of Betajnova” was chosen as one of the Accompanying Performances in the 49th Week of the Slovenian Drama Festival in 2019 and the same year, in March, she received an award for directing an original radio play called “The Victims of Radio Boom Boom” in UK International Radio Festival in Canterbury.

She also works as a playwright and she received The National Grum Award for Best Young Dramatic in the 48th Week of Slovenian Drama in 2018 for her play “The Royal Children”.

Since she graduated, she directed in Anton Podbevšek Theater (Gloomy Days, Beautiful Times by short stories of J. D. Salinger), Celje City Theater (Power of Darkness by Leo Tolstoy), Theater Glej (Not

Dead Enough / Western) and Prešeren Theater Kranj (beautiful vidas burn beautifully by Simona Semenič). She is currently doing her master's in theater direction.

Ivana Percan Kodarin

Actress



Ivana Percan Kodarin, the youngest member of the SNT Nova Gorica ensemble, studied at the Conservatory of Music and Ballet in Ljubljana, majoring in violin; one year she studied at the Academy of Music; then she was accepted to the Academy of Theater, Radio, Film, and Television in Ljubljana to a program in Drama Acting. In 2021, she graduated with the role of Girl in Jagababa by Dane Zajc, for which she received the Student Prešeren Award. She is currently finishing her Master's studies in Drama Acting. Since 2018, she is also a member of the theater and music group Karavana.

During her studies, she played in several performances in various Slovenian theaters. As The Summer-She in the Slovene National Theater Drama Ljubljana, she participated in an authorial project Wives in Dough based on the motifs of Slovenian folk songs, which at the 53rd Week of Slovenian Drama received the Šeliga Award for the best performance. At the Slovene National Theater Nova Gorica, she already played the role of a Girl in the poetic family drama 52 Hertz by Tijana Grumić, which received the Tantadruj 2022 award for the best performance. The performance was also selected in the competition of the Maribor Theater Festival.

Anuša Kodelja

Actress



Anuša Kodelja was a member of the Amateur Youth Theater (AMO) in Nova Gorica for ten years before attending university. She appeared in the professional production The Wizard of Oz as Dorothy at the age of 16. She studied at the Academy of Theater, Radio, Film, and Television in Ljubljana in a program in Drama Acting. She graduated in 2019 from Maša Pelko's Olympia Stadium. In 2020, she obtained her master's degree from the same academy.

She worked with several Slovenian theaters as a student, mostly with Ljubljana City Theater and Anton Podbevšek Theater. For two years, she was a full-time member of the SNT Nova Gorica ensemble, but also works aboard (Istrian National Theater), in independent theaters (Glej Theater, Scaramouche Institute), and on her own projects.

Her film debut was Marko Šantič's film *Together*. Soon after graduation, she was cast as Tanja in the TV series *Our Bridges* that ran for three seasons, and immediately afterward as Nina in *Bitch, a Derogatory Term for a Woman* directed by Tijana Zinajić, which won her a Vesna Award for the Best Actress in a Supporting Role at the Festival of Slovenian Film. The film was presented at several important festivals (Sydney FF, Fest FF, Mostera Valencia).

Marjuta Slamič

Actress



Marjuta Slamič graduated from the Guildford School of Acting in the UK. Since 2000, she has been a member of the SNT Nova Gorica ensemble. In over two decades, she has co-created more than sixty plays and has shaped a wide range of different acting creations. She received the Tantadruj Award for Acting 2018 for her roles as Pasqua in the production of *Squabbles* and Hekabe in the production of *The Trojan Women*. For her role of Bodgana in the production of *rowan, strudel, dance, and more* she has received several awards, including the Tantadruj Award for Acting 2021, the Stane Sever Award 2021, the 52nd Slovenian Drama Week Award for Best Actress, and the Borštnik Award at the 57th Maribor Theater Festival.

She has made fifteen films and received several awards in this field too. She won the Vesna Award for Best Actress in a Leading Role at the 11th Slovenian Film Festival for her role of Tania in *Forever* and the Stop Actress of the Year Award in 2008 (the film also won the Golden Sun Award for Best Film at the Cine Days festival in Skopje). In 2011, the cast of the film *Circus Fantasticus* by Janez Burger, in which Marjuta Slamič played the role of the Dead Woman, was awarded the Arena Award for the Best Actress in the International Program of the 58th Pula International Film Festival. In 2013, she received the Vesna Award for Best Supporting Actress at the 15th Slovenian Film Festival for her role in the film *Shanghai* directed by Marek Naberšnik, and in 2016 she received the Vesna Award for Best Supporting Actress at the 19th Slovenian Film Festival for her role as Mom in the film *Nika* directed by Slobodan Maksimović.

THEATER PERFORMANCE

SOBER

KOSOVA



DAY 2

MAY 16, 2023
TUESDAY

Time: 22:00 – 00:15

Location: Dispensary near
QKMF, Prishtina

Author: Duncan MacMillan

Director: Butrint Pasha

Actors: Zhaneta Xhemajli,
Shpetim Selmani, Kumrije
Hoxha, Kaltrina Zeneli, Blerta
Gubetini, Edlir Gashi, Blend
Sadiku, Zana Berisha, Altin
Vraniqi

Choreographer: Robert Nuha

Composer: Adhurim Grezda

Costumes and Scenography:
Alma Krasniqi

Lighting: Mursel Bekteshi

Translation: Brezar Xërxa

Technical assistant: Elira Lluka

Makeup: Myrvete Tahiri and
Flori Hasani

Photo: Esad Duraki

Production: Artpolis – Art and
Community Center

Butrint Pasha

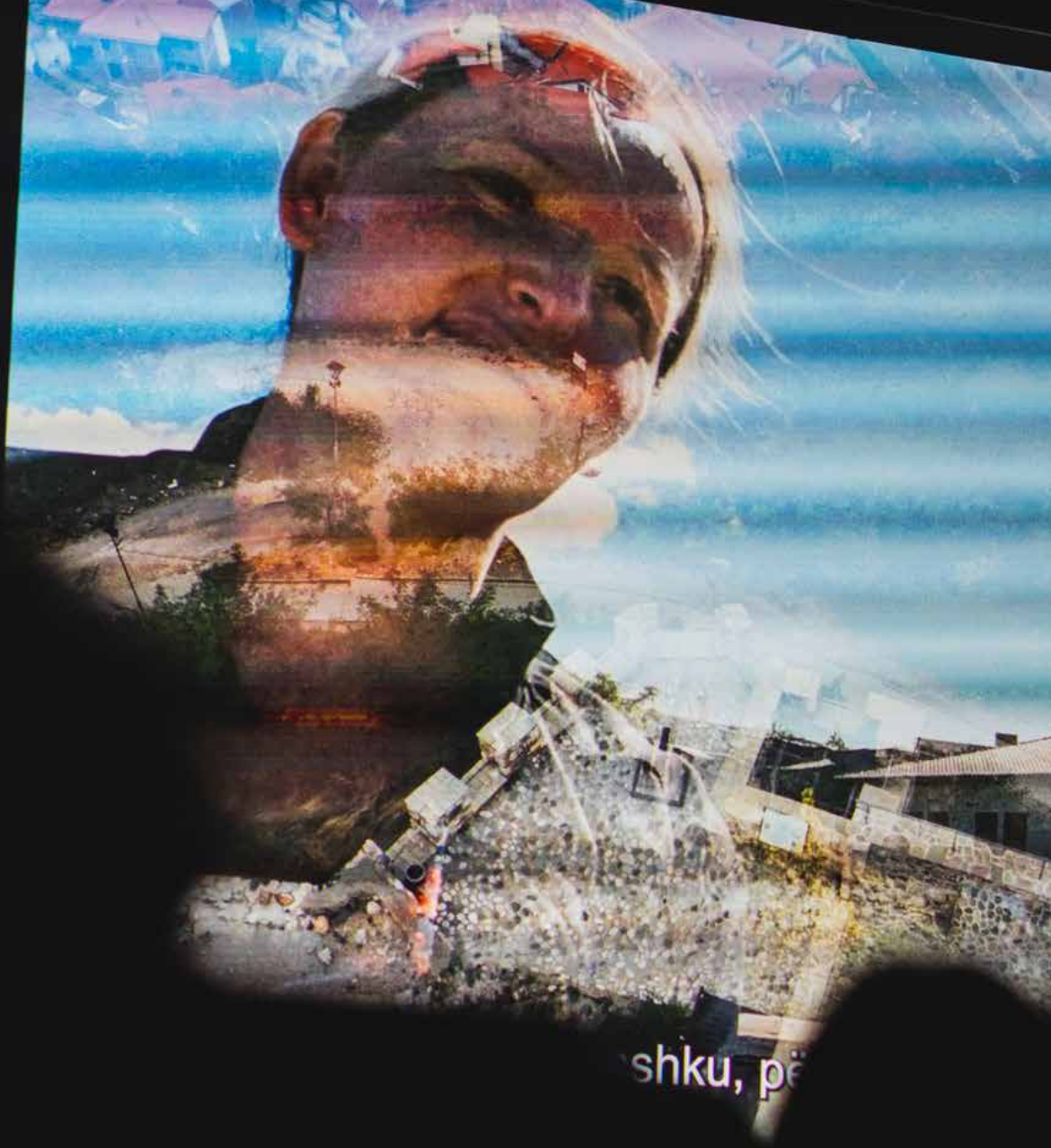
Theater director



“Sober,” which is based on Duncan MacMillan’s “People, Places and Things,” is a success story of a man overcoming drug addiction, a worldwide phenomenon that continues to kill people and destroy families. Based on a sentimental story of a girl suffering from alcoholism and drug addiction who is being rehabilitated in a center, Emma comes as the personification of many people stigmatized by society due to the insecurity created by addiction, which has also affected in her character.

Butrint Pasha is a Kosovar director, born in 1992. He studied at the Academy of Arts in Prishtina, the Theater Directing module.

He has directed various plays that are mainly focused on social, family and delicate themes: “Front Room” by Richard Kalinoski - Prod. Dodona Theater, “SOBER”, based on Duncan Macmillan “People, places and things” - Prod. “Artpolis” - Art and Community Center, 2022, “Jerusalem” by Jez Butterworth - Prod. Theater “Bekim Fehmiu” - Prizren, 2021, “Farce of Walworth” by Enda Walsh - Prod. “Hadi Shehu Theater” - Gjakovë 2021, “Beast in the Moon” by Richard Kalinoski - Prod. “National Theater of Kosova”, 2019.



DOCUMENTARY AND PANEL DISCUSSION

BIBA MAY – NO MORE

KOSOVA

MAY 17, 2023
WEDNESDAY

Time: 17:00 – 19:00

Location: 7Arte, Mitrovica

Written and Produced: Shqipe Malushi

Executive Producer and Artistic Direction: Zana Hoxha

Director: Arlinda Morina

Contributing Director: Burim Haliti, Mahiema Anand, Arzana Pireci, and Jeton Pireci

Director of Photography: Michael Stoeger

War footage and video clips: Nafis Lokvica

Editing: Berat Kryeziu and Arlinda Morina

Makeup and Costume Design: Ganimete Sava

Drone: Visar Selimi

Music and Original Song: Memli Kelmendi

Vocalist: Klea Dina

Music selection and Voice-over: Samer Agolli

Colors: Rron Ismajli

Design: Arbër Matoshi

Panelists: Resmije Rahmani, Shqipe Malushi, Igballë Rogova, Merita Voca and Valbone Sadiku

Twenty-two years after the war in Kosova, a single woman resides in the city of Prizren watching the world go by from her wheelchair. Her name is Resmie Rahmani, but most call her Biba May. Born of Bosnian origin in the early 1980s, Biba May suffers from a progressive muscular dystrophy, a disease that has taken hold of her entire lower & middle body.

Though she is confined to her wheelchair, Biba has not allowed her physical condition to deter her from making a difference; an advocate for women's equality and justice, Biba May has spent her life working in the city of Prizren, to unite women and youth with disabilities and special needs of different cultural backgrounds, religions, beliefs, traditions, gender, and age.

Despite her challenges, obstacles and losses, the love and support of her family and friends drives Biba May to stroll towards her vision to aim for a better world and possibilities for others like herself. Biba May's mission is to spread ideas of peace, equality, and justice for all people with different abilities. This film reflects a true spirit of a warrior woman and what is possible.

Resmije Rahmani – Biba

Activist



Resmije Rahmani (Biba) was born 1980 in Prizren. As a person with muscular dystrophy herself, she is also the founder of the Organization for people with muscular dystrophy Kosova (OPDMK). She is an activist and she has advocated and lobbied for the rights of women with disabilities and human rights for people with disabilities in Kosova for more than 20 years. She took part in numerous public events like Dokufest, NGOM Fest and much more, as well as taking part in promotional videos, in documentaries about rights for people(women) with disabilities, against discrimination, violence and for equality. She received the Crown of Success award for the year 2022, which is awarded to strong and successful women in Kosova.

She received the annual award dedicated to the deceased feminist activist Sevdija Ahmeti at the annual membership assembly of the Kosova Women's Network, which is awarded for activism and contribution to the improvement and empowerment of girls and women with disabilities.

Shqipe Malushi

Poet, author and activist



Shqipe Malushi is a writer, poet, performer, public speaker, gender counselor, an empowerment trainer and leadership trainer, using storytelling to raise awareness, build leadership, and build peace through intercultural issues. Originally from Kosova, she moved by transforming from an immigrant into a world citizen. She now lives and works in Kosova contributing to the literary and artistic scene. She motivates, inspires, and influences a positive change through her performances and lectures.

Her books have been published internationally, such as: poetry "Kosova, the Haunted Land", "For You", "Gift of the Prophets", "The Secret of Dreams", "Beyond the walls of the forgotten earth, Albanian mythological tales as told by her grandmother!", "World of Blue Dreams" and "Midnight Journey" etc.

MAY 17, 2023
WEDNESDAY

Time: 19:00 – 20:00

Location: 7Arte, Mitrovica

Soli Kapadia
Singer



CONCERT BY SOLI KAPADIA / INDIA

Soli Kapadia is a singer from India and an international celebrity with a warm, sonorous voice that continues to touch the souls and win the hearts of his fans worldwide. A versatile singer-composer known for his performances of Bollywood songs, Gujarati-Hindi Geet-Ghazals, Devotional music, traditional folk songs, semi-classical and light vocal music. Besides India, Soli has wide-spread popularity in the USA, the UK, Europe, Egypt and Middle East with around 4000 concerts worldwide.



THEATER PERFORMANCE AND PANEL DISCUSSION

OLYMPE ET MOI

FRANCE

DAY 3

MAY 17, 2023
WEDNESDAY

Time: 19:00 – 20:40

Location: Dodona Theater,
Prishtina

Director: Patrick Mons

Actress: Veronique Ataly

Sound design: Aldo Gilbert

Choreography: Dominique
Vallée

Costumes: Fanny Mandonnet

“Olympe et Moi” is an intimate journey as a tribute to the memory of Olympe de Gouges, who was guillotined in 1793 after asking for the right to be heard and dared to write a “Declaration of Woman and Citizen’s right”.

From an original idea of Veronique Ataly and written by Patrick Mons, the character Florence will take us in a soliloquy that will make you lose your head. The free speech of Olympe will come and save her at the right time, also demonstrating its modern relevancy.

“Olympe et Moi” is a feminist, humanist and loving theater play about one of the greatest figures of the French Revolution, directed by Patrick Mons.

Véronique Ataly

Actress, writer, activist



Véronique Ataly started her professional career as a stonemason. She was only the 3rd woman stonemason of the country which started her questioning of a woman's place in society.

Her work with stones led her to later study to the national school of dramatic arts of Lille. At the end of her studies, she started her work with the company Salamandre from the National Theater of Lille. For 10 years where she worked with them, she played under the directions of some of the biggest French directors: Jacques Lassalle, Gildas Bourdet, Hans Peter Cloos, Jean-Claude Fall, Adel Hakim... and stayed loyal to public theater all throughout her career.

Driven by an insatiable need to challenge herself and acquire more knowledge, she also worked and wrote multiple documentaries about the space such as *Les Vagabondes du Ciel*, *Les contes de l'Univers* etc., produced by French TV channels. She also worked as an actress for multiple TV shows. All this work on TV and on the stage, later led her to her debut on the cinema screen. She worked with some famous directors such as Bertrand Tavernier, Régis Wargnier, etc.

Throughout her career, she has always fought for gender equality. She first created the HF Ile de France, an organization fighting for equality in the workplace especially in the visual art, where she was the vice president from 2009 to 2015. As she grew older, she noticed that less and less actress jobs and opportunities existed. She started questioning the vision society had of older women and especially this phenomenon of invisibility. For the last three years she has been an active member the association "l'AAFA-tunnel de la comédienne de 50 ans" – an organization fighting against sexist stereotypes linked to women's age.

Patrick Mons

Director, writer, actor



From classical theater, contemporary creations, adaptations or street theater, **Patrick Mons** has done it all. For 20 years, he has been a director, a writer and an actor in multiple theater play.

He started his passion for the theater by watching his father, Maurice Mons working as an actor for the cinema and the television. He then went on working for several companies including one under the direction of Nicolas Lormeau from La Comédie Française.

While still being an actor for some companies, he also took the direction of the “Cie la lune et l’océan” which produced two shows that were presented during Avignon’s Festival. He often combines staging and adapting with a strong taste for dialogue between theater, music, dance and modern writing. He has published his first theater play “Un strapontin pour la lune”.

Patrick Mons is the director of “Olympe et moi” that he wrote based on an original idea from Véronique Ataly.

CONCERT

LA CHICA

FRANCE, VENEZUELA



MAY 17, 2023
WEDNESDAY

Time: 21:00 – 22:00

**Location: National Theater of
Kosova, Prishtina**

La Chica “La Loba”

On one side of the ocean is Latin America, an intense and mystical land. On the other side is Paris, Belleville, multicultural, urban and modern land. Through her music, Sophie Fustec known as La Chica reunites these two worlds by bringing a collage of sounds, borrowed from her cultural heritage and various modern influences, breaking the already established codes.

Her universe was built around the piano and keyboard, as she masterfully blended her classical inspirations (such as her love of Debussy) with the depth of the airy layers of analog synthesis.

Undisguised, the French-Venezuelan conveys raw emotions, between abstract thoughts and poetic introspection.

The new album from La Chica, “La Loba” is dedicated to her late brother. It is an intimate, honest opus, filled with magic and ritual. Through these songs, she expresses the first phase of the new life lesson, in the absence of a loved one. She goes through different emotional stages such as anger, endless grief, extreme love, and enlightenment.

**MAY 18, 2023
THURSDAY**

Time: 10:00 - 13:00

**Location: National Library of
Kosova, Prishtina**

Panel discussion: “Beyond prejudice: Empowering Women to Overcome Stereotypes in Art and Cultural Decision-Making”

Panel discussion: “Peace and Security: Overcoming Fear and Building Resilient Communities”

Panel discussion: “Breaking Stigma: Mental Health and Wellbeing in Challenging Times”

CONFERENCE “BURN YOUR FEAR: A CONFERENCE ON COURAGEOUS LIVING” / KOSOVA

The conference “**Burn Your Fear: A conference on courageous living**” will serve as a platform to discuss the above-mentioned topics.

Through this discussion, actionable recommendations needed to drive positive change will be generated, leading to a more equitable and inclusive environment for women in art and cultural decision-making roles, and peace building in the region.

Through the exchange of knowledge, perspectives, and best practices, the discussion also contributes to promoting mental health literacy, destigmatizing mental health, and fostering a supportive environment for individuals facing mental health challenges in difficult times.

Opening Speech

- H.E. Olivier Guérot, Ambassador of France in the Republic of Kosova
- Zana Hoxha, Founder / Director of Artpolis and FemArt Festival

First panel discussion:

- Arta Balaj, Director of Culture, Municipality of Pristina, Kosova
- Alisa Gojani Berisha, Acting Director of the National Gallery of Kosova
- Kshama Bhatia, Ph.D. in International Finance, Haas School of Business, Berkeley USA
- Dijana Milošević, Theater Director, Co-founder and Artistic Director, Dah Theatre, Serbia
- Besa Luzha, Organizational Director of Chopin Piano Fest Prishtina, Kosova

Second panel discussion:

- Igballe Rogova, Executive Director, Kosova Women's Network (KWN)
- Jadranka Miličević, Director and co-founder of the CURE Foundation, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Lepa Mladenović, Feminist Activist
- Nermin Mahmuti, Executive Director, Community Development Fund (CDF), Kosova
- Ines Leskaj, Executive Director, Albanian Women Empowerment Network (AWEN), Albania
- Jelena Memet, Executive Director, Alternative Girls Center, Serbia

Third panel discussion:

- Silvija Mitevska, Executive Director, Sport Social Solutions NGO, North Macedonia
- Fatlinda Nitaj – Rexhaj, Executive Director, Association for Cognitive and Behavioral Therapy Psychologists of Kosova
- Liridona Osmanaj, Co-founder and Team leader, Hajde Folim, Kosova
- Arlinda Morina – Liki, Director and activist



MAY 18, 2023
THURSDAY

Time: 17:00 - 19:00

Location: Dodona Theater,
Prishtina

WORKSHOP WITH PATRICK MONS / FRANCE

A workshop by **Patrick Mons** in which it will be played around the fatality of having a day on stage, a hole, a loss of memory, an oblivion that makes you “fall” in the middle of the stage. What it’s like to get your feet stuck in the word, in your memory, and discover the No man’s land of a border stretched between two places: real and imaginary, an unused space between self and others, and between self and self.

From the texts and choreography learned or acquired, we will work on disconnection, release, that moment when with a signal given by the director, the organs no longer receive instructions from the head and the head no longer has... the words in mind.



EXHIBITION

STATUS

KOSOVA

DAY 4

MAY 18 – 17 JUNE, 2023
THURSDAY

Time: 19:00 - 21:00

**Location: Boxing Club,
Prishtina**

Artist: Mimoza Sahiti

Curator: Albert Heta

“Status” offers a glimpse into the powerful and developing artistic practice of the promising Kosovar painter, Mimoza Sahiti, born and raised in Offenbach, Germany and a finalist of the “Artists of Tomorrow” Young Kosovar Artist Award, organized by Stacion - Center for Contemporary Art Prishtina.

According to the prize's international jury, chaired by Anne Barlow, director of TATE St Ives, United Kingdom, Mimoza Sahiti's raw and vibrant works challenge traditional conventions in painting. Transmitting a certain passion through the very surface of color, her work reflects a powerful feminism that underpins her approach to capitalism, identity, personal and collective trauma. In her portrayals of the human figure, a sense of fear and vulnerability reflects her concerns about the status of women in society and the precarious nature of human existence in general.

Mimoza Sahiti

Artist



Mimoza Sahiti (b. 1995) has always made art, but during her stay in Kosovo from 2020 to 2022, she finally rediscovered her artistic practice. During this time, Mimoza Sahiti became involved in artist groups and independent art institutions, and the intense exchange and production resulted in an extraordinary body of work and an unadulterated practice. Her work gained wider attention when it was included in the National Collection of Contemporary Art by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Kosovo in 2022 and shown in several group exhibitions, including The Artists of Tomorrow Award 2022, Stacion - Center for Contemporary Art Prishtina; New Grand at Manifesta 14 Prishtina; Club Insistence: After a Party, Toplocentrala - Regional Center for Contemporary Art, Sofia, Bulgaria; Visual Art Pavilion, Varg e Vi, Gjilan; Internal, Room Five Studio, Prishtina. In 2022 Mimoza Sahiti also had her first solo exhibition Milk and Honey at Room Five Studio in Prishtina.

Mimoza Sahiti lives and works between Vienna, Austria and Prishtina, Kosovo. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Economics, studied Art, Media and Cultural Education at Goethe University Frankfurt and is currently studying painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna.

Albert Heta
Curator



Albert Heta (b. 1974) is the founding director of Stacion - Center for Contemporary Art Prishtina, director of Summer School as School and currently a PhD Candidate at the Department of Social Sciences & Social Work at Bournemouth University, United Kingdom.

In his practice, Heta's works are manifested through art, curatorial projects, political research papers, design and socially critical interventions.

His notable works in art include "It's time to go visiting: No visa required", a public intervention on British Airways billboards in Prishtina (2003), 'Embassy of the Republic of Kosova in Cetinje' (2004) for the Cetinje Biennial and "Kosovar Pavilion Venice Biennial 2005".

Albert Heta's extensive observations and research on public policies in arts and culture resulted in the first part of the comprehensive research on art and cultural policy in Kosova "Për të mirë të popullsisë së Kosovës" - Research on Public Art and Cultural Policy in Kosova, Stacion - Center for Contemporary Art Prishtina, 2014, and "Për të mirë të popullsisë së Komunës" - Research on Public Policies on Art and Culture in Municipalities in Kosova, Stacion - Center for Contemporary Art Prishtina, 2014. In February 2023, Heta was invited by the Directorate of Culture of the Municipality of Prishtina to join the team of experts that would research and develop a new cultural policy for the capital of Kosova.

THEATER PERFORMANCE

WOMEN

KOSOVA



MAY 18, 2023
THURSDAY

Time: 20:00 - 21:00

Location: Theater “Muharrem Qena”, Mitrovica

—

Director: Nastazja Domaradzka

Actresses: Edona Reshitaj,
Gresa Pallaska, Lumnije Sopi,
Sheqerie Buqaj, Shengyl Ismaili,
Xhejlane Godanci

Written by: Agnesa Mehanolli,
Brikena Sopi, Ulpiana Maloku

Dramaturgical consultant:
Doruntina Basha

Scenographer: Rudina Xhaferi

Costume designer: Yllka Brada

Lighting: Lucia Sanchez Roldan

Composer: Rona Berisha
Castrioti

Choreographer: Behije Murtezi

Assistant director: Xheraldina
Krasniqi

Dramaturgical assistant: Zoga
Çeta Çitaku

Production: National Theater
of Kosova

The theater performance “Women”, a production of the National Theater of Kosova, is a chaotic theatrical journey, a provocation for the society that refuses to accept its problems. A society which forces women to be silent!

Created by a team of women, extraordinary theater artists, “Women” is a union of bitterness, tenderness and pain. It is a call, a theatrical protest, a question....!

Nastazja is a feminist theater producer and director. She has worked both in the UK and abroad, and her work is rooted in Eastern European practice through using the theater as the tool of resistance and amplifying underrepresented voices. She holds an MA in Applied Theater from The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama and teaches at various drama schools in the UK.

In 2022 she assisted Omar Elerian on his production of *The Chairs* at The Almeida and developed and led the creative program, *NO BORDERS*, at The Royal Court. Directing credits include *Dziady/ Forefathers’ Eve* at The Almeida, *Scream Fire* for The Revolution at Theater Royal Stratford East and Peyvand Sadeghians’ award-winning piece: *Dual*. Recently Nastazja directed “Women” for National Theater of Kosova, a feminist piece of protest theater, award nominated CACEROLEO at Vault 2023 and highly acclaimed production of Tennessee Williams’ *Orpheus Descending* for the National Theater of Albania. She is currently assisting Omar Elerian on his production of “As You Like It” at the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Nastazja Domaradzka

Director



THEATER PERFORMANCE

GIRLS

SERBIA



MAY 18, 2023

THURSDAY

Time: 21:00 - 22:00

**Location: Dodona Theater,
Prishtina**

—

Co-authors and performers:

Jelena Cvetković, Sara Gajović,
Anđela Memet, Adrijana Mulic,
Ana Ninković, Sara Ostojić, Ana
Petrov, Milena Perić, Milena
Šibalić, Lena Vujović

Direction and dramaturgy: Mile-
na Bogavac

Original Music: Bojana Vun-
turišević

**Choreography and stage move-
ment:** Đorđe Živadinović Grgur

Costume designer: Aleksandar
Kovačević

Expert associates: Adriana
Zaharijević, Nada Duhaček, Mar-
ija Ratković, Maja Maksimović,
Jelena Memet

Light design: Milan Janevski

Sound design: Ivan Mirković and
Jugoslav Hadžić

**Organization, executive produc-
tion and assistance in directing:**
Kristina Anđelković, Katarina
Srdanović

Production Director: Vojkan
Arsić

Milena Minja Bogavac

Playwright and theater director



“Girls” is an intimate, personal and feminine play, which brings au-
thentic stories under the spotlight, but at the same time talks about
the prejudices and stereotypes that young women encounter while
growing up. The idea of the play is to empower girls and young wom-
en to be allies and to support each other, but also to send them the
message that GIRLS CAN DO ANYTHING. That all girls in the world
are brave, smart and that all deserve to grow up in a safe and secure
environment.

Ten girls in this play examine the border between the personal and
the political. All the stories they tell are true and special, but at the
same time they were chosen as characteristic of a large number of
girls in our society. This performance is both: art and activism, be-
cause “personal is political”. We talk about ourselves in order to un-
derstand the world.

Milena Minja Bogavac (Belgrade, 1982) is a playwright, theater direc-
tor, screenwriter, poet, activist and cultural worker. Creative director
of the NGO Center E8 and director of the Reflector Theater, an inde-
pendent theater that operates within this organization. She graduated
in Dramaturgy at the Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Belgrade. Her plays
have been translated into numerous languages, included in anthol-
ogies of contemporary drama, performed in numerous Serbian and
international theaters, and presented at relevant festivals.

She is the winner of the Sterija Award (2018 for the play “Jami Dis-
trict”); as well as the awards: “Borislav Mihajlović-Mihiz” - for dramat-
ic creation; “Josip Kulundžić” for “outstanding success in the field of
theater”; two annual awards of the Little Theater “Duško Radović”;
“Anđelka Milić Awards” for a work of art that uses feminist theories;
“ProFemina” Awards for Public Advocacy for Women’s Rights; “The
Good Example of New Optimism” Awards for Human Rights and En-
couraging Youth Activism... and several others, for individual texts or
performances at festivals, in the country and abroad. From 2002, she
works as a part of BITEF festival team.

On BITEF festival, she received the Award “Polyphonic Author”,
with four performances in the program Bitef Polyphony. Regardless
of her permanent engagement in Center E8 and Reflector theater,
she writes, directs and working as a playwright, within various insti-
tutions or companies from the independent art scene in Serbia and
region.

THEATER PERFORMANCE

DANNY AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA

KOSOVA



DAY 5

MAY 19, 2023

FRIDAY

Time: 19:00 - 20:10

**Location: Dodona Theater,
Prishtina**

Author: John Patrick Shanley

Director: Ana Bateva

Actors: Liridona Shehu, Alban Krasniqi

General Director: Burim Mustafa

Artistic Director: Fatos Berisha

Composer: Stefan Zdraevski

Stage Manager: Mahir Musliu

Follow-up technician: Fikrim Menekshe

Tone: Flamur Krasniqi

Wardrobe: Vjollca Hoxhaj

Makeup artist: Canan Clbo

Prop: Arben Rashkaj

This is a compelling and intimate drama that tells the story of two broken souls with a dark past: Roberta and Danny. They meet by chance in a gloomy, empty bar, each looking for peace and quiet. Their attempts to talk are derailed early on by verbal sparring and threats, but something ignites a spark in their relationship.

Danny, a day laborer who lives with his mother, has a problem with his violent rages, seething with need and pain after a street brawl in which he fears he killed someone.

Roberta, a single mother who lives with her foster parents and spends her nights out partying late, is looking for reasons to prove her worthlessness to herself. What starts as a bitter argument in a bar turns into an inexplicable understanding between them. Their natures are compatible enough to challenge and question each other's self-destructive tendencies without losing trust.

Ana Bateva

Director



Ana was born in Skopje, North Macedonia and since 2009 is based in Sofia, Bulgaria.

In 2013 she graduated in theater directing at the National Academy for Theater and Film Arts “Krastio Sarafov”, Sofia, Bulgaria, and in 2020-2021 she completed her master’s degree in Art Management at the National Academy of Music, Dance and Fine Arts “Asen Diamandiev”, Plovdiv, Bulgaria.

Ana is the initiator and one of the founders of the independent organization “SPAM Studios”.

The monodrama “Everything on the table” by Charles Bukowski, the play “POLLA” by A.P. Chehov and Nikolay Kolyada and the cabaret show “QYÇA PLUTI” by Dejan Dukovsky are just some of the shows with which her name is associated in Bulgaria.

In the last five years, performances under the direction of Bateva have been included in the selections of international festivals in Bulgaria, Turkey, Macedonia, Albania, Kosova, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Russia, etc., while in December 2019 she presented her association SPAM studios within the framework of the prestigious Vakhtangovski festival for theater managers in Moscow.

Liridona Shehu

Actress



Liridona graduated in 2013 from “Hasan Prishtina” University in Prishtina, Department of Dramatic Arts - Acting.

She has successfully performed her roles in several theater shows produced by the National Theater of Kosova, the “Bekim Fehmiu” Theater, as well as the Gjilan Theater, where she has worked with prominent theater directors such as: Fadil Hysaj, Agim Sopi, Ilir Bokshi, Fatos Berisha, Meli Qena, Butrint Pasha, Ana Bateva, Agon Miftari and Andreas Pronegg etc.

Recently, he played in the play “Faustus” directed by Fadil Hysaj, “Danny and the Deep Blue Sea”, by Ana Bateva, “Jerusalem” directed by Butrint Pasha, “Andorra” directed by Kushtrim Bekteshi, etc.

Alban Krasniqi

Actor



Alban graduated from the Faculty of Performing Arts in Tirana, acting department.

His artistic activity so far is related to the “Bekim Fehmiu” Theater in Prizren, where he has been part of several theater performances.

He played in “Im at donte Adolfin” directed by Agim Sopi, “Bridges” by David Gothard, “Public Dinner” by Agim Selimi, “Monserati” directed by Roland Roshi, “A Lost Letter” directed by Agim Selimi, “Doll’s House” directed by Sokol Plakolli, as well as “Vigil” directed by Agon Myftari.

Recently, he played in the play “Danny and the Deep Blue Sea” directed by Ana Bateva.

THEATER PERFORMANCE AND PANEL DISCUSSION

OLYMPE ET MOI

FRANCE



DAY 5

MAY 19, 2023

FRIDAY

Time: 19:00 - 21:00

**Location: City Museum,
Mitrovica**

—

Director: Patrick Mons

Actress: Veronique Ataly

Sound design: Aldo Gilbert

Choreography: Dominique
Vallée

Costumes: Fanny Mandonnet

“Olympe et Moi” is an intimate journey as a tribute to the memory of Olympe de Gouges, who was guillotined in 1793 after asking for the right to be heard and dared to write a “Declaration of Woman and Citizen’s right”.

From an original idea of Veronique Ataly and written by Patrick Mons, the character Florence will take us in a soliloquy that will make you lose your head. The free speech of Olympe will come and save her at the right time, also demonstrating its modern relevancy.

“Olympe et Moi” is a feminist, humanist and loving theater play about one of the greatest figures of the French Revolution, directed by Patrick Mons.

A woman in a grey sweatshirt is the central figure, her right fist raised high in a gesture of solidarity or protest. She has a determined expression and is looking directly at the camera. Her hair is pulled back. In the background, other people are visible, including a woman in a black top and yellow skirt to the left, and a man in a blue shirt and camouflage pants to the right. The scene is lit with blue and purple stage lights, creating a dramatic atmosphere.

THEATER PERFORMANCE

WOMAN AND LIFE

POLAND

MAY 19, 2023

FRIDAY

Time: 21:00 - 22:30

**Location: Oda Theater,
Prishtina**

—

Author: Malina Prześluga

Director: Piotr Łukaszczyk

Actors: Anna Błaut, Anna Kozłowska, Ewelina Paszke-Lowitzsch, Katarzyna Pietruska, Jolanta Solarz-Szwed, Magdalena Taranta, Krzysztof Boczkowski, Albert Pyśk, Dominik Smaruj, Chrystian Talik

Choreography:

Marta Wołowiec

Set design and costumes:

Mateusz Stępiak

Graphic design: Marta Frej

Video: Filip Wierzbicki

Music and musical setting:

Filip Zawada, Albert Pyśk

Vocal preparation: Agnieszka

Bogdan

Stage manager: Elżbieta Kozak

Lightning: Janusz Kaźmierski

Sound: Maciej Duszyński

Projections: Agnieszka

Piesiewicz, Piotr Postemski

Malina Prześluga's play *Woman and Life* is a story inspired by the women's protests which took place on the streets of Poland in the autumn of 2020.

It is a performance about the desire for freedom. Freedom from expectations and obligations. Freedom from social and cultural roles - conditioned by gender, imposed by the family, work, relationships or the media. It is also a performance about solidarity and the growing sense of strength from a common rebellion.

Malina Prześluga

Playwright



Professionally associated with the Animation Theater in Poznań, a graduate of Cultural Studies at Adam Mickiewicz University.

Her plays are published in New Plays for Children and Youth Dialog, and staged, among others, in the following theaters: Baj Pomorski Theater in Toruń, Osterwa Theater in Lublin, Wybrzeże Theater in Gdańsk, Lalki i Aktora Theater in Opole, Norwid Theater in Jelenia Góra, Lubuski Theater in Zielona Góra, Polski Theater in Poznań or Guliwer Theater in Warsaw.

Malina Prześluga is an author of six books for children. She is a laureate of the Medal of Young Art, winner of prizes and distinctions at the Competition for a Theater Play for Children and Young People organized by the Children's Art Center in Poznań. In 2013, she won the main prize, the audience prize and the journalists' prize in the Metaphors of Reality competition for her drama "Sour Milk".

In 2015 she received the second prize (the first one was not awarded) in the competition of the Wrocław Contemporary Theater Contact Zone for the drama President's Suit; in the same year she was awarded by the Minister of Culture and National Heritage Prof. Małgorzata Omilanowska for her achievements in the field of literature and drama for children. In 2020, she became a laureate of the Artistic Award of the City of Poznań, the Gdynia Drama Award (for the play Idiot) and the Contact Zone competition (for the drama Woman and Life).

Piotr Łukaszczyk

Actor and director



Graduate of the Aleksander Zelwerowicz Theater Academy in Warsaw. He debuted in the play "Made in China," directed by Redbad Klijnstra, produced with the Warsaw Theater Group, of which he is a member and one of the founders. The play was included in the repertoire of the Rozmaitości Theater in Warsaw, where in 2004 he also played Romeo in the play Benvolio and Rozalina. In the years 2003-2012, he was an actor at the Wrocław Contemporary Theater.

Over the years he has cooperated with outstanding directors, including Krystyna Meissner, Agata Duda-Gracz, Jan Klata, Michał Zadara, Natalia Korczakowska and others. He has played in, among others: The Game, A Case History, Akropolis. Reconstruction, Coming Home, The Trap, The Card Index, White Marriage.

At the 31st Review of Actor Songs in the Off stream, he produced the awarded project "The Searchers of the Lost Element". In 2016, together with Tomasz Cymerman, he created the web series Table. As part of his collaboration with Theater for Beginners, he produced two plays: "Winter Tale" by H. Levin and "Waiting Room 6.2.0" by M. Guśniowska.

At the Wrocław Contemporary Theater, he directed "Tomorrow the Queen Will Come" based on a reportage by Maciej Wasielewski and Strawberries by Mariusz Sieniewicz. Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Acting at the St. Wyspiański Academy of Theater Arts in Cracow (Wrocław branch).



**ÁTARAXIA (MITROVICA
ROCK SCHOOL)**

**MAY 19, 2023
FRIDAY**

Time: 21:00 – 21:30

Vocals: Emira Kurti

Keys: Esra Zhilivoda

Guitar: Era Deva

Guitar: Naida Dolaku

Drums: Erina Aliqkaj

Bass Guitar:
Benjamin Mehmedi

FEMART MITROVICA CLOSING CONCERT / KOSOVA

Emira Kurti continues her studies at “Frang Bardhi” High School. Joined the Rock School since 2021 and is learning vocals and practicing with the band.

Esra Zhilivoda is currently studying at the “Xheladin Deda” high school of medicine, studied piano for 8 years at the “Tefta Tashko” music school and then took a break. Now for almost a year and a half she is part of Mitrovica Rock School.

Erina Aliqkaj continues her studies at the “Xheladin Deda” high school and from 2021 she takes drum lessons at the Mitrovica Rock School.

Era Deva attends classes at “Don Bosco” secondary school. Plays a guitar and in learning band practice at Mitrovica Rock School since 2021.

Naida Dolaku continues her studies at the “Shemsi Ahmeti” school. She is part of Mitrovica Rock School and plays guitar in the band since 2020.

Benjamin Mehmedi studies at UBT college and also plays bass guitar at Mitrovica Rock School, which he joined 5 years ago.

ANISA & ERHANI

Time: 21:30 – 22:30

Performers: Anisa Suhodolli
Mujka, Erhan Mujka

Location:
City Museum, Mitrovica

Anisa Suhodolli Mujka
Pianist and singer



Erhan Mujka
Guitarist



The duo **ANISA & ERHANI** will present a lively and soulful performance of traditional and international songs played on the guitar and voice. This fusion of different cultures and musical genres will create a rich tapestry of sounds and emotions that celebrate the diversity of music. The audience will be invited to sing along and join in the celebration of the beauty and power of music to bring people together. This performance promises to be an unforgettable and exciting experience that will leave everyone feeling energized and inspired.

Anisa Suhodolli Mujka is a very talented pianist, piano teacher and skilled musician. She has played the piano since childhood and has developed a deep understanding and love for music.

Anissa's dedication to her craft has earned her a reputation as a great musician and a sought-after piano teacher. Recently, Anisa has expanded her musical talents to include singing and now performs alongside her husband Erhan, who plays the guitar, at special events.

Anissa's rich and expressive voice and Erhan's expert guitar playing complement each other perfectly, creating a unique and captivating sound that is both soothing and uplifting. Whether performing on stage or teaching her students, Anissa's passion for music shines through, inspiring others to embrace their musical journey.

Erhan Mujka is a guitarist and guitar teacher from Mitrovica - Kosova. He completed his Bachelor and Master studies at the University of Prishtina. For many years, he attended music teaching and performance training at the Academy of Music and Performing Arts - Fontys University - Tilburg, Netherlands.

He works at the Music School in Mitrovica as a guitar teacher and many of his students have achieved great success in many different international guitar competitions and festivals, such as in Kosova, North Macedonia, Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Mt. Black, Turkey and Romania. He was part of the jury and held masterclasses in many international guitar festivals such as: Tremolo Guitar Festival - North Macedonia, Ars Kosova - Kosova, Montenegro International Guitar Competition - Montenegro, National Guitar Olympics of the Republic of Kosova, Guitar Art Festival - Serbia, Transilvania International Guitar Festival - Romania, Albania Guitar Festival - Albania, European Summer Music Academy - Guitar Branch - Kosova. Among the many organizations he does in Mitrovica, the most important are "Mitrovica Music Days", "Mitrovica Guitar Meetings" and the most important "Mitrovica Guitar Days".



FILM

KA ME KALU

BELGIUM

20 MAJ, 2023

SATURDAY

Time: 17:00-18:00

Place: Kino Armata, Prishtina

Director: Flonja Kodheli

Written by: Flonja Kodheli,

Leenda Mamosa

Cast: Serge Hologne, Flonja Kodheli, Mathilde Rault, Ilire Vinca, Denis Laujol, Sebastian Moradillos, Zenel Laci, Thibaut Wauthélet.

Camera: Virginie Surdej

Editing: Damien Keyeux

Sound: Paul Heymans, Corinne Dubien, Olivier Struye, Antoine Petit, Etienne Carton.

Producer: Sebastian Schelenz

Costumes: Jackye Fauconnier

Decor: Maude Piette

Production: Velvet Films

Flonja Kodheli

Director



“Ka me Kalu” is a dramatic narrative about family trauma. Stela, from Albania, returns to her mother’s home in Brussels to attend her grandmother’s funeral. She notices suddenly that her mother is possessed by fear rather than by grief. Her behavior seems confused, absurd and even, sometimes, paranoid. The trauma resurging from the past invade their lives.

Flonja Kodheli was born in Tirana. Her family fled Albania to Belgium, after the fall of the communist dictatorship. She then studied at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Mons where she obtained a first prize in piano and chamber music.

Subsequently she became more and more interested in acting and decided to devote herself to it by joining the Cours Florent in Paris. In 2013 she obtained the leading role in the film “Bota” by Thomas Logoreci and Iris Elezi.

She then played in “Sworn Virgin” by Laura Bispuri, in Official Competition at the Berlinale and Nora Ephron Award at **Tribeca** Film Festival, the Netflix film “Rimetti a noi i nostri debiti” by Antonio Morabito, “Exil” by Visar Morina, selected at Sundance and recently in Romain Graf’s series “Helvetica”, awarded Best francophone foreign fiction at the Festival of La Rochelle, in which she plays the leading role. “Ka me kalu” is her first short film as a writer-director.

A close-up, high-resolution photograph of a woman's face. Her eyes are closed, and her expression is serene. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of her skin and the details of her facial features. She has light brown hair and is wearing a small, dark earring. The background is blurred, showing hints of a blue sky and a body of water.

FILM

VERA DREAMS OF THE SEA

KOSOVA

MAY 20, 2023

SATURDAY

Time: 18:00 - 20:30

Location: Kino Armata

Director: Kaltrina Krasniqi

Author: Doruntina Basha

Actors: Teuta Ajdini, Alketa Sylaj, Astrit Kabashi, Refet Abazi

Produced by: Isstra Creative Factory (Kosova) & Vera Films (Kosova)

Co-produced by: Dream Factory (North Macedonia), Papadimitri Film Production (Albania)

Producer: Shkumbin Istrefi

Co-producers: Ognen Antov, Klajdi Papadimitri, Kaltrina Krasniqi

Cinematography by: Sevdije Kastrati

Editing by: Vladimir Pavlovski, Kaltrina Krasniqi

Production design by: Burim Arifi, Blendina Xhema

Costumes by: Albulena Borovci

Make-up by: Fiona Abdullahu

Music by: Petrit Çeku, Genc Salihu

1st Assistant director: Mjellma Istrefi

Sound by: Igor Popovski, Darko Spasovski

Production manager: Fis Cahani

Vera is a middle-aged sign language interpreter, who leads a well-structured life: a wife to a renowned judge, a supportive mother, and a caring grandmother. Her serenity is disrupted by her husband's unexpected suicide followed by an unwelcome, menacing parade of relatives who claim to have ownership over their village family house.

When the tendrils of an underworld scheme begin to surface, Vera's world will face danger and seem ready to collapse. Fear and mistrust will force Vera to take the family's fate into her own hands.

Steeped into an ominous atmosphere, Vera Dreams of the Sea is an intimate yet universal portrait of a woman who must face the raw reality of going against the deeply seated gender issues that prevail in our times.

Kaltrina Krasniqi, theater director

Kaltrina Krasniqi | Director

Kaltrina Krasniqi (1981) is an award-winning Kosova based film director and a researcher working in film and digital humanities since early 2000s. She is a founding member of Kosova Oral History Initiative - a digital archive where personal histories of individuals from various paths of life are recorded and published; a co-founder of Dit'e Nat' - a non-formal setting for promotion of film, literature and music; and a founder of Vera Films, a film production company focused on young voices of cinema.



She graduated in Film Directing in the University of Prishtina in 2004 and in 2011 completed her MA in Kosova's Institute for Journalism and Communication. In 2015 she continued her professional development in the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) with focus in Film Producing.

Her debut feature film "Vera Dreams of the Sea" premiered in the 78th Venice Film Festival and among many accolades was awarded Tokyo International Film Festival Grand Prix 2021 and Ingmar Bergman Award at Gothenburg Film Festival 2022. Currently she is in development of her second feature "Bleach".

THEATER PERFORMANCE

MOLLY

KOSOVA



MAY 20, 2023

SATURDAY

Time: 20:00 - 21:15

**Location: National Theater of
Kosova, Prishtina**

—

Director: Sibel Abdiu (based on
Brian Friel)

Actors: Verona Koxha, Afrim
Muçaj, Bujar Ahmeti

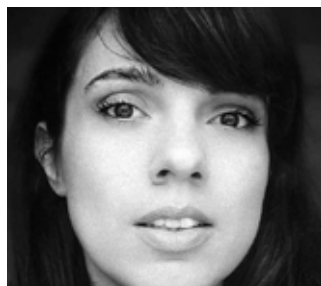
Composer: Albin Sopa

Visual Artist: Lulzim Luigji Bejta

Stage Manager: Nazmije
Krasniqi

Sibel Abdiu

Theater director



The theater performance “Molly”, written by the Irish playwright Brian Friel and directed by Sibel Abdiu, tells the story of the married couple Molly and Frank, who live in a remote Irish village.

Molly has been blind since birth, but now a surgeon Mr. Rice believes he may be able to restore her sight. In a series of interwoven monologues, “Molly” takes us inside the minds of three people with very different expectations of what will happen when Molly regains her sight.

Sibel Abdiu was born in 1987 in Skopje. After finishing her Bachelor studies in English Language and Literature, she completed her Master’s studies in Theater directing in Skopje.

After completing her studies, she began working as an assistant director in several theaters in North Macedonia and abroad the state. After gaining experience, in 2019 she finally started directing her own plays in the national theaters in North Macedonia as well as in private projects. Some of her recent projects include: Audience, The Pillowman, Modigliani, Sexual Perversity in Chicago, etc.

Sibel currently lives and works in Skopje as a theater director.

MAY 20, 2023

SATURDAY

Time: 22:00 - 23:00

Location: Menza Ramiz

Sadiku, Prishtina

Performers:

Vanessa Sins, Agatha Bones,
Victoria Owns

Victoria Owns



DRAG SHOW

VAV - VIBRATE AUTHENTIC VICTORY

/ KOSOVA

Drag show “VAV - Vibrate Authentic Victory” will be a performance fully based on our drag queen’s passion for pop culture, choreography and the art form of drag. Drag queens will give you nothing but the chills, thrills and all the dance move kills.

Drag culture thrives on the notions that femininity is a strength rather than weakness and drag queens embody the message of nonconformity in every performance. That is exactly what VAV intends to do.

Drag queens Vanessa Sins, Agatha Bones and Victoria Owns vibrate the energy of authenticity, to be one and to stand out, because the real victory is when you set yourself completely free. So go on, Vibrate Authentic Victory.

Victoria Owns

For me drag means knowing yourself. We know that no one is completely a woman or a man, we all have both energies. It has a remarkable power because it made me understand my feminine power and what she is able to do. Helped me be shameless on the way I talk or act. Because of the importance that drag has for me, I continue doing it and now I use it as a platform for activism against conservative norms and concepts that society has created.

This was the reason why in Big Brother I decided to show drag. I believe it’s an important step towards the emancipation and development of our country.

Victoria is dramatic, serious, observing and very analytic. My performances always have a concept in it, it’s never a random chosen song or a costume chosen while playing dress-up. My appearances have a statement, concept, perspective and dynamics. My acting background has made me understand very well the relation between the audience and the performer. I use all my acting knowledge on my performances in Drag.

Agatha Bones



I have created my drag persona Agatha Bones to really oppose the idea of the dominant patriarchal society that tends to dictate that there are two genders, and to me it's far more complex. Traditionally people think that drag is a man dressing up as a woman, that kind of gender play, but to me it's more an expression of gender through the art of drag. Taking that gender idea to the extreme and playing it as a queer person has helped me expand in a way my personal identity in the performance of real life and also on stage. My drag persona has helped my personality trait flaws and at the same time I have polarized in a way that spark of a femininity in me that I have never been able to embrace.

Agatha Bones stands for social justice, sexual liberation, as a big go to hades to the traditional codes relayed to sexuality and interpersonal relationship, and also Equality and Feminism, constantly showcasing a woman who is exhausted yet determined to make a mental note on stage of any discrimination against 'her' gender.

Vanessa Sins



Vanessa Sins is an electrifying drag queen and sea witch, whose captivating performances have left audiences spellbound for decades. Born in the darkest depths of the ocean, Vanessa was destined for greatness from the very beginning.

Audiences everywhere she goes. Vanessa Sins as a drag persona is named after the human form of Ursula (The Little Mermaid 1989). The sea witch character in the film was actually based on the American actor and drag queen Divine and Vanessa is her human form, when she becomes sexy to seduce the prince. I chose the last name Sins, however, in honor of the women from lost history, who were killed for using their beauty, grace, and voices for which I believe there is an intern connection between Singing and Sinning, besides the word Sin deriving from Sinistra which is left in Italian.

She is a female singer who always knew that she was destined for bigger things. In addition to her stunning performances, Vanessa is also a fierce feminist and advocate for LGBTQ+ rights and equality in the Balkans. She uses her platform to raise awareness and touch upon controversial topics through art.

THEATER PERFORMANCE

SUPERFLUOUS MAN – OBLOMOV

ISRAEL



MAY 21, 2023
SUNDAY

Time: 19:00 – 20:30

**Location: Oda Theater,
Prishtina**

—
Artistic Director: Yehezkel
Lazarov

Producers: Yu Jingyi, David
Galil

Cast: Adam Gabay, Shirah
Naor, Vladimir Friedman,
Alon Barel, Bar Sade, Eduard
Shprochman

Lighting designer: Yair Vardi

Video designer: Ran Slavin

Sound designer: Eyal Jedidjah

Assistant director: Ira Orlov

Executive producer: Omer
Boulanger Cohen

Yehezkel Lazarov

Multidisciplinary creator and
performer



Mitcha Figa is a new cultural venture directed by a multidisciplinary artist, Yehezkel Lazarov, which invites the public to experience the depth of the creative process and dive into the realms of inspiration, questions and cultural contexts that go into the production of a theater performance.

Theater performance “The Superfluous Man”, Mitcha Figa Production was adapted and directed by Lazarov.

Oblomov’s character in the play “The superfluous Man” represents the phenomenon of indifference in social and private life. Laziness, inaction, idleness and dreaminess, are part of the hero’s belief system. In this adaptation Lazarov asks whether a person has the right to live his life without leaving a mark. Is the departure from life’s ongoing sequence, from the workforce, and from social life - legitimate in a world that is entirely centered on aspirations, goals and achievements? “I never earned life so I had nothing to lose. I wanted not to run anywhere, but just to be and then not to be...”

Yehezkel Lazarov is a multidisciplinary creator and performer. Co-founder and artistic director of Studio Ankori-Middle School and High School for Creative Thinking and Entrepreneurship and AZA13 Art Complex, founder of “Mitcha Figa Theater Group” and currently serves as Head of the School of Performing Arts at the Kibbutzim Seminar college. 1992-1996 he danced in the Batsheva dance Company.

Lazarov is the adopter/playwright, stage designer, movement designer and video director of all the plays he directed: “The Superfluous Man”, “Every Round Hour”, “Lolita Joan of Arc”, “Fathers and Sons”, “The Picture of Dorian Gray”, “Alice”, “Falling Out of Time”, “Igloo” and more. He wrote and directed short films – “Snow”, “Beach Without a Lifeguard” and “Lashabiya” which were shown at festivals in Israel and around the world. Lazarov is an active creator and entrepreneur in the visual arts space and has exhibited his works as a photographer and video artist in several exhibitions.

Curated several multidisciplinary exhibitions. As an actor in 2018 he played in the Broadway tour - “Fiddler on the Roof” as Tuvia the milkman, for three seasons. Played in many main roles on television, films and theater.

Yu Jingyi

Producer, writer, poet



Yu Jingyi is a producer, writer and poet. She is the director and founder of the Culture and Art Fund in China.

Yu is both a creator and an entrepreneur with extensive experience in China as a TV executive with the highest ratings on China Central Television, a theater owner who produced many other classic plays “3 Sisters”, “The Beauty of Mount Linan”, “The Pillow Man” and the Chinese version of Hanoch Levin’s “Requiem”.

In addition, Yu is a poet who published her own collection of poems in the book “JY Lyric Poems”.

David Galil

Founder and producer



David Galil comes from a background of teaching arts, writing, guiding tours as well as a deep affection for theater and cinema.

Adam Gabay

Actor, writer and director



Adam Gabay is a graduate of Campus Arrison of the Arts and Alef high school of arts in drama department.

Starred in the HBO acclaimed series Our Boys and was nominated for an Israeli Academy award. Starred in the 10 Tony awards winner musical The Band’s Visit (US national tour), as well as in the films Image of victory (Avi Neshet, Netflix), Longing (Savi Gabizon, Venice Film Festival).

Adam is also a music video director, directing all of the videos for one of the biggest Israeli pop stars - Nunu.

Alon Barel Beberashvili

Actor



Alon is a Goodman acting school graduate, an actor of Beer’sheva theater, and Tmuna’a theater

Among his most recent roles- Andrey / “Three Sisters” directed by Ariel Wolf, the guardian / “Antigone” directed by Nava Zuckerman, “Erez” / “One of Us”- an Israeli military drama, directed by Kfir Azulay, and many more.

Bar Sade

Actress, singer and teacher



She is a graduate of Nissan Netiv acting school.

Previously an actress at the Gesher Theater, now at the Khan Theater.

Eduard Shprochman

Actor and teacher



Eduard is a graduate of Nissan Netiv Jerusalem acting school.

Shirah Naor

Actress



Shirah is known for her roles in "The Jews are Coming", "Shabab-nikim", the movie "Perfect Strangers", "Tagade", "Johnny and the Knights of the Galilee", "Schuster and Shuster", "Tense", "We are on the map" and more.

Vladimir Friedman

Actor

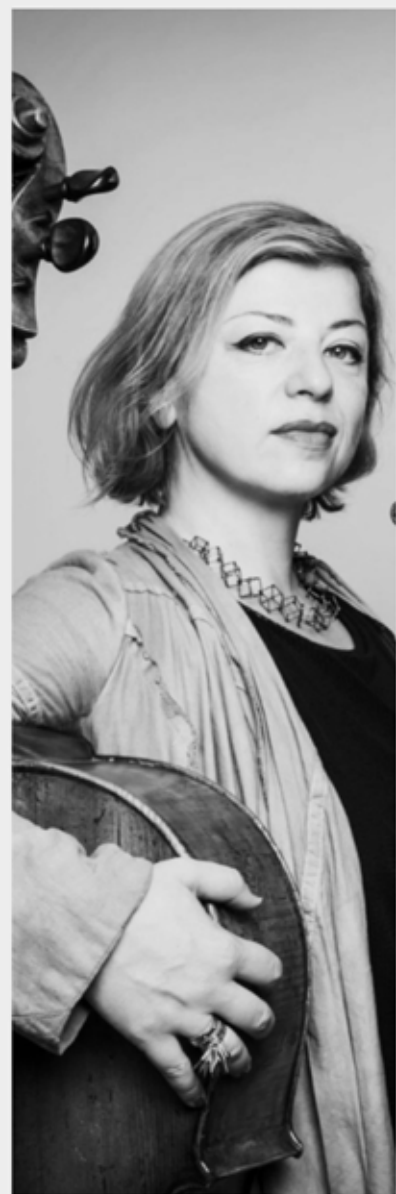


Vladimir graduated from the Russian Institute of Theater Arts, and played in the State Repertory Theater in Russia. In 1990 he won the "Best Actor" award at the Festival of Alternative Theater Performances. In 1991 he immigrated to Israel with his family, and has been acting in Israeli theater ever since. Participated in over 65 films and series, and in Russian singing performances in Israel and abroad. Friedman participated in film festivals in Berlin, San Francisco, Dublin and Moscow. Winner of the Man of the Year award of the Russian Aliya in the field of cinema and theater.

CLOSING CONCERT

RINA KAÇINARI TRIO

AUSTRIA, KOSOVA, SPAIN



MAY 21, 2023
SUNDAY

Time: 21:00 – 22:00

**Location: National Theater of
Kosova, Prishtina**

—
Cello and vocals: Rina Kaçinari

Cello and vocals: Carles
Muñoz Camarero

Drums and percussion: Jörg
Mikula

Special Guests: Women's
Choir "OKARINA"

Rina Kaçinari
Cellist, singer, composer



Rina Kaçinari Trio will present the program with original pieces/compositions by the three artists which describe the different moments of life; sadness, love and the happiest moments.

With a broad musical spectrum from jazz to the Balkans, from tango to avant-garde, the musicians have made an international career, both solo and in projects with various musicians. Rina and Carles have long followed each other's musical journeys. This year, the long-cherished wish to make music together came true. Two cellos and voices harmonize in a wondrous way. Jörg Mikula on the drums conjures up the rhythmic and melodic counterpoint.

A special guest of this musical night will be the "Okarina" Women's Choir.

Yes, there are genres. And yes, there exists classical music, jazz, pop, rock, world music, tango. Rina has been associated with all these music styles, together with attributes like "energetic", "beyond category", and "genius". For her, the most important element is her instrument that creates an organic oneness in uniting various (musical) influences.

R.K. is a classically trained musician. Having started taking cello lessons when she was a child, she left Kosova by the age of 15 due to the fact that there was no cello teacher left at her music school in Prishtina. She continued her music studies at Zagreb Music Academy as well as at Kunstuniversität Graz and later continued with jazz studies at Bruckner Uni Linz.

After her studies, Rina was hired as an orchestra musician at Opera Maribor in Slovenia. For two years she performed countless Grand Italian Operas down in the orchestra pit, until the words of her father came to her mind. Her father, a renowned composer, conductor and pioneer of Kosova's classical music scene had once told his youngest daughter Rina that; as a cello-player, one day she would be able to buy herself all the 'chocolate' in this world!

R.K. left her music stand and her music sheets at Maribor, moved to Vienna and began her life as a freelance musician. Since then, she has played with renowned international musicians. In 2008, she co-founded the Duo Catch Pop String Strong, which continued performing internationally all over the World until 2017. The Duo was awarded with prestigious awards, and their music led the two musicians to venues such as Jazz Club Porgy & Bess Vienna, Konzerthaus Wien, Wiener Musikverein, many European Countries as well as international tours including in Mexico, Peru, Uzbekistan, the USA, Canada.

Rina has recently been playing and collaborating in many theater productions in Vienna. At the moment, Rina is playing with Maria Crafonara, Vienna Acoustic Diaries, Sofia Labropoulou. She also frequently performs with her husband, favorite drummer Jörg Mikula and as a soloist.

To Rina “buying herself all the chocolate in the world” means, to explore the endless variety of music as well as the music of her instrument in particular, to discover the new and unexpected and to bring it all on stage. In her compositions, she is telling stories of life, with her voice and Cello.

Jörg Mikula

Drums and percussion



Jörg Mikula, born 1975 in Graz, Austria, studied drumset at the Kunstuniversität Graz (graduation 2001 with honors) and the Berklee College of Music in Boston (graduation 1999 magna cum laude). Among his most influential teachers were Jamey Haddad, Ian Froman, Alex Deutsch, Dave DiCenso, Kenwood Dennard and Hal Crook. Further studies took him to Uganda and Morocco, deepening his understanding for energy and groove. He is a member of the quartet “Donauwellenreiter”, who are exploring new paths with their original music with the instrumentation piano, violin, cello and drums. So far, they recorded five albums and are touring internationally.

Additionally, Jörg is very often found where ethnic styles mingle with pop and jazz. He has played with musicians from the Balkans (Sandy Lopicic, Martin Lubenov, Nikola Zaric, Petar Ralchev, Natasa Mirkovic), from Turkey (Selen Gulun, Sakina Teyna, Sabri Tulug Tirpan, Sertab Erener, Özlem Bulut), from Iran (Golnar Shayar, Mahan Mirarab, Mohammad Khodadadi, Nariman Hodjati), from Africa (Cheikh Ndao, Juliet Sessanga, Albert Bisaso, Marema). He has also played with jazz musicians Tord Gustavsen, Daniel Zamir, Ulrich Drechsler, Jose Saluzzi, Chris Gall.

His abilities for song interpretation and strong groove-playing make him an in-demand studio drummer for various pop-artists. So far, he has recorded over 60 CDs. In 2013 he released his solo debut, an album called “Drumsongs” (Unit-Records) that features his compositions for solo drum set. 2021 his second album “Music for Drums” was released.

On the percussive side he specialized on the Persian tombak and all sorts of frame drums. Besides his international playing activities, Jörg is on the faculty of the Vienna Music Institute teaching drum set, percussion and ensemble.

Carles Muñoz Camarero

Cello and vocals



Born in Barcelona, cellist **Carles Muñoz Camarero** took his first musical steps on the cello at the age of five. In 2012 he successfully completed his concert studies in cello with viola da gamba as a second instrument at the Catalan School of Music (ESMuC).

After finishing his classical studies, he devoted himself mainly to other musical worlds: ethno, jazz, free improvisation and baroque music, in which improvisation always plays a central role. For this reason, he studied Violoncello in Jazz and Improvised Music with Andreas Schreiber and Peter Herbert at the Anton Bruckner Private University in Linz in the period 2015-2019.

After more than 25 years of intensive involvement with the cello, the desire to expand his instrumental pool grew: since 2020 he has been experimenting on the nyckelharpa (key fiddle), as he is a great enthusiast of Scandinavian music.

The Women's Choir "Okarina"



The Women's Choir "Okarina", led by soloist, Elikona Hysaj Shala, will perform at this concert of the Rina Kaçinari Trio. "Okarina" will perform Rina Kaçinari's original compositions "N'Sabah" and "Çika".

The Artistic Resident Troupe of Artpolis, since its establishment on February 26, 2021, has had an extraordinary professional rise. In her artistic portfolio she records six professional shows, a stage reading, and two performances presented in the country and abroad: “Totem and Taboo”, “The Bug”, “Haunted Land”, “Top Girls”, “Sober”, “Fefu and Her Friends”, the stage reading “Games in the Backyard”, the performance “Night of the French Cabaret”, as well as the performance “Dream a Little Dream”.

Zana Hoxha

Theater director



Zana Hoxha (born 1981) is a professional theater director, founder, and executive director of the Artpolis – Art and Community Center, an organization that promotes art and diversity through social dialogue and community integration.

She has created more than 20 theatrical performances which have been presented in the largest theaters in Kosova, in the Balkan Region (Albania, Serbia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Croatia, Turkey), and has also presented her work as an artist/activist/trainer in the United States, Europe, the Middle East, and North Africa.

Her work has been highly valued and has won several awards over the years: The musical “Spring Awakening” was rewarded with the best performance for 2020 by Ministry of Culture of Kosova; “Best Director” in the “Albanian theater in North Macedonia” festival; Best performance – “Grand Prix” Award, in the fourteenth edition of ITF SkupiFestival 2020; The performance “Artemis’s Huntresses” was awarded in Etno Fest 2020 with two prizes Best Show and Best Performance; The performance “Bits and Pieces” was awarded in Etno Fest 2019 with two prizes: Best Director and Best Actress.

Her artistic activism has expanded in 2022 with the creation of two theater performances: “The Bug” which was presented for 10 days during May at the House of Leaves in Tirana, Albania; while “Haunted Land”, opened the 10th edition of the FemArt Festival on June 14th.

Zana was the Director of the Theater Department at the SKENA UP festival during 2004-2011, the Artistic Director of the Professional Theater during 2011-2014, and also the Founder and Director of the ARTPOLIS Organization and the largest feminist festival in the Balkans of artists and activists, FEMART.

She is also selected as IVLP Aluminum (International Program for Foreign Visitors to the United States of America) and the winner of many awards for her contribution as a director in Kosova and the region. Combining art and activism, she uses theater as an advocacy tool

for social rights that focuses on raising awareness of gender-based violence, human rights, and diversity. Zana is the Laureate of “Future Leaders” program by French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for her leadership in gender equality, advocacy, social enhancement, and women rights.

She is proud to be part of the board of the Kosova Women’s Network, a lecturer and trainer specializing in Forum Theater, and a supporter of the empowerment and emancipation of women activists.

Robert Nuha

Choreographer, professor of choreography



Robert Nuha (Noa) was born in 1990, and is a professor of choreography and contemporary dance at AAB College - Prishtina and choreographer of the Artpolis Resident Artistic Troupe. He was part of “Albania-Dance Theater Company” (2014-2020). In addition, Robert is the founder of the first professional dance-theater company in Kosova “Noa Dance Theater Company” and coordinator of the international festival, the only contemporary dance festival in Kosova, “Albania-Kosova Dance Meeting”. He has participated in a large number of artistic projects throughout Europe and beyond with shows such as “I’m the Man?!” (Germany), “Stress Biology” (Switzerland), “Hybrid 0 to 100” (Israel), etc. Recently, he collaborated with the famous contemporary dance company Compagne LINGA (Switzerland) with the show “Between”. He is a co-choreographer in shows such as “Lulet e Dimrit” presented at the Mediterranean Young Artists Biennale and “Let’s Go”, presented at the Theater National team of Kosova. He has also worked with several folk ensembles in Kosova, including the National Song and Dance Ensemble “Shota” in which he co-choreographed “Brezave Amanet”, together with the well-known Albanian choreographer, Gjergj Prevazi. He has choreographed several theater shows “Destur - Sweet Blasphemy”, “Animal Farm”, “Much Ado About Nothing”, “Spring Awakening”, “Artemis’s Huntresses”, “Try Again Sam”, “Allo Allo” etc.

He is the choreographer of artistic projects such as “What Men Want”, “An limit”, “Feel”, “Inout”, “Flux Life”, “Ups and Downs”, “White Night”, “Totem and Taboo”, “Top Girls”, “Sober”, “Faust”, etc. Robert counts several world premieres at prestigious contemporary dance Festivals, including the performance “InOut” at the “Laiks Dejot” Festival in 2021 in Latvia and at the “Solo Dance Ankara” Festival in Turkey, as well as “Mechanical” at the “JISDF” Festival in Israel in 2022.

In his artistic creativity he tries to find an organic fusion of Albanian folk dance and dance with contemporary dance style, with which he aims to find a unique and original form of choreography and dance!

ARTISTIC RESIDENT TROUPE OF ARTPOLIS

Blerta Gubetini

Actress



Blerta Gubetini was born on May 16, 1997, in Vushtrri. She finished her studies for Acting in University of Prishtina, Faculty of Arts in July 2020. She counts parts from over 10 theater plays until today, and some films too.

She's been part Artistic Resident Troupe of Artpolis since March 2021.

Donikë Ahmeti

Actress



Donikë Ahmeti is an actress, performer, producer and activist. She has acted in dozens of theater plays for more than a decade, collaborating with many local and foreign directors.

Donika is a resident actress at the Art and Community Center - Artpolis since 2021, and has performed in plays such as "Haunted Land" directed by Zana Hoxha, "Totem and Taboo" by Robert Nuha directed by Zana Hoxha, "Top Girls" directed by Shkurte Aliu, and "Artemis's Huntresses" directed by Zana Hoxha etc. In addition to working as an actress, she is also a trainer in the "Theater-based Education" training.

Some of her other collaborations include the performance "Shkrepeti-ma" by Petrit Halilaj, "Pantallonat e Kangusë" by Melihate Qena, "Pergynti nga Kosova" directed by Agon Miftari, "Mother and the Child" by Bekim Lumi, etc. Donika has also been part of several local films and series.

Edlir Gashi

Actor



Edlir Gashi studied in Acting at the Faculty of Arts at Hasan Prishtina University.

He has been and continues to be part of various shows for children, theater forum, dance theater and music shows, performances, films and various television series. Some of the plays he has played are: Destur (National Theater), Trojan Women (La Mama NYC), Beni (ODA), Barbara (Dodone), Çimka (Artpolis/ experimental theater Spahi Vogli Tirana). He is also a dancer. Currently working as, a resident actor in Artpolis. He also works as a coach with youth and adults in theater-based education.

ARTISTIC RESIDENT TROUPE OF ARTPOLIS

Kaltrinë Zeneli

Actress



Kaltrinë Zeneli was born in February 1995, she is a professional theater actress, and she has been an actress for two years now in the artistic troupe of Artpolis - Art and Community Center, an organization that promotes art and diversity with social dialogue and community integration. At the University of Prishtina, Faculty of Arts - Acting Department, she graduated in July 2018, where she is also at the end of her master's studies, also in acting. In addition to her engagements at the faculty, she was also engaged in the National Theater of Kosova, then with the theater of the city of Prishtina in the Dodona Theater, in the Theater of the city of Tirana, in the "ODA" theater of Prishtina. She has also participated in various local series.

Labinot Raci

Actor



Labinot Raci is a Kosovar actor born in 1989 in Prishtina. In 2016, he completed his studies at the Academy of Arts, acting module at the University of Prishtina. He has performed many roles in theater, series and films. His first role was during his studies in 2014 in theater performance "Bark Tupani" at the Oda Theater, directed by Lirak Çelaj, continuing with the plays: "Emigrantët" in Multimedia Theater directed by Arianit Geci, "John Cages Hamlet" in Theater Labirator Loja directed by Bekim Lumi, "Rruga e Botës së Lirë" Oda Theater directed by Florent Memeti, "Tregtari i Venedikut" Kosova National Theater directed by Matthew Lenton, "Dëshira Tours" Kosova National Theater directed by Ardi Mejzini, "Zoti Masakrës" Kosova National Theater directed by Besfort Idrizi, "Arturo Ui" Kosova National Theater directed by Bekim Lumi, "Zgjimi i Pranverës" co-production Artpolis - Kosova National Theater directed by Zana Hoxha, "Bryma e Vdekjes" Kosova National Theater directed by Burbuqe Berisha, "Pa Mua" Kosova National Theater directed by Alban Beqiraj, "Pashumbja" Oda Theater directed by Florent Mehmeti, "Arbri" Oda Theater directed by Lirak Çelaj.

Mikel Markaj

Actor



Mikel Markaj was born in Gjakova, on April 27, 1995. In his eyes art was always a form of expressing himself, it started with singing to learning an instrument to finally study acting. During the way he learned different forms and ways of expressing and by working with the community he learned different reasons to use art.

Some of the plays he was part of are: Trojan Women - La Mama Theater (Zana Hoxha), Destur - Sweet Blasphemy-Rumi (Zana Hoxha), Inferno - Dante Alighieri (Kushtrim Mehmeti), "Much ado about nothing" - William Shakespeare (Zana Hoxha), "Totem and Taboo" by Robert Nuha (Zana Hoxha), "The Bug" - Shpëtim Selmani (Zana Hoxha), "Haunted Land" - Shqipe Malushi (Zana Hoxha).

He has also played in television series and films, such as: “Shengen Visa”, “Rushe”, “Hero of the Desert” - Nadif Prices. Mikel has also won awards such as: “Much ado about nothing” - Best supporting actor, PITF Prishtina, “Hero of the Desert” - Golden Earth Film Award Best Actor Male (Leading) and Europa Film Festival Best.

Qendresa Kajtazi

Actress



Qëndresa Kajtazi completed her acting studies at the Academy of Arts at Hasan Prishtina - University of Prishtina. She has taken part in various shows, including; shows for children, Forum Theater, Dance Theater Musical show. She has worked with different local and international directors, choreographers, and composers.

Some of the plays she played in are: “Trojan Women” (La Mama in New York), “Carnivals of Korça” (National Theater), “Dëshira Tours” (National Theater), “Forgotten” (Theater National), “Portreti” (National Theater), “Barbara” (Dodona Theater), Totem and Taboo (Artpolis), “Haunted Land” (Artpolis), “Question of Habits” (Artpolis), “Beni” (Oda Theater), “I’m a Man” (Center Multimedia), “Two dreaming mammals” (AAB Faruk Begolli Theater).

She currently works as a resident actress at the Artpolis - Art and Community Center, as well as the Resident actress at the “Muharrem Qena” Theater in Mitrovica. From time to time, she also works as a mentor for children and adults in different communities Theater-based education.

Shpëtim Selmani

Writer, actor



Shpëtim Selmani is a writer and actor, born in 1986. He studied at University of Prishtina. As an actor he is on stage in Kosova and abroad. He has published several books: Shënimet e një Grindaveci (Hot-tempered Notes), 2015 published by Multimedia; Selected Poems 2010-2017 – Poetry in Time of Blood and Despair (Multimedia, 2017, Prishtina); Libërthi i dashurisë (Booklet of Love), 2019 by Armagedoni in Prishtina. This work was awarded with the 2020 EU Prize for Literature and has been translated and published in German and French.

His book “The Ballad of Ant” (2022) has been recently published by Dukagjini, Prishtina. Soon will be published in Italian by Crocetti.

Zhaneta Xhemajli

Actress



Zhaneta is a professional actress born and raised in Prishtina. Her love for art started in her early high school years when with a group of students and the support of the teachers, they made the play “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” which was selected in a festival in San Remo, Italy.

Besides graduating in acting, she also finished Prenk Jakova music school for canto and piano. She was part of various plays and music concerts.

Zhaneta functions with the following principles: active listener and constructive in discussions about different cases/topics; pragmatic and flexible; respectfully works in groups; responsible with tasks and time; creative, with humor and compassion; finds solutions for the obstacles with empathy and thorough attentiveness.

She recently joined the group of professional actors of Artpolis Center, where she contributes to the organization’s politics by being professionally and emotionally involved.

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