

# FEMART FESTIVAL



**SISTERHOOD:**

*IN TIMES OF WAR AND PEACE*



25–30 SEP 2024



**Illustration: Sadie Suhodolli – Tadi**  
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## FOREWORD BY ZANA HOXHA

“SISTERHOOD: In Times of War and Peace”  
25 – 30 September, 2024

In a world often shadowed by conflict and fragmentation, the call for sisterhood emerges as a luminous thread weaving hope and unity. This year, FemArt Festival, the largest feminist festival in the Balkans, is elated to present “SISTERHOOD: In Times of War and Peace,” a celebration of how art, as a radical and transformative force, can shift perceptions and awaken our deepest truths.

Sisterhood transcends conventional boundaries; it is an artistic movement that binds us through our shared humanity, urging us to stand together in both tumultuous and serene moments. Art, in its essence, is more than just an expression—it is a powerful catalyst for change, challenging us to confront and rethink our views, stir our emotions, and ignite our souls. In times of conflict, art becomes a cry for resilience and revolution, while in periods of peace, it lays the foundation for collective growth and enlightenment.

In Kosovo and throughout the Balkans, where women face systematic threats and violence, the call for change is urgent and profound. FemArt, held in the heart of Prishtina, stands as a testament to the profound impact of artistic expression as a tool for radical change. Kosovo has long been renowned for its hospitality and we will continue to welcome artists and feminist activists from across the globe to gather and showcase their work. This festival is a canvas where marginalized voices paint their truths, where stories of bravery and defiance are illustrated, and where the spirit of sisterhood is brought to life. Through the transformative power of art, we defy the status quo, envision new possibilities, and forge connections that transcend the ordinary.

As we gather for this 12th edition of FemArt, let us embrace sisterhood not just as an ideal, but as a dynamic and lived experience. Let us face the challenges of our era with artistic innovation, empathy, and an unwavering commitment to justice. By fostering a culture of mutual support and understanding through art, we can address the complexities of our world with a renewed sense of hope and renewal.

We hold the power to rewrite our shared narrative. Let us rise with determination, united in our quest for a world where peace and equality are not mere aspirations but living realities. The time for action is now, and through the radical and transformative power of art, we can shape a brighter, more just future.

Welcome to FemArt Festival’s “SISTERHOOD: In Times of War and Peace.” Let us join hands, open our hearts, and journey together through the boundless potential of art, towards a world where sisterhood reigns supreme and justice prevails in every corner of the Balkans.

Zana Hoxha  
Founder/Executive Director of Artpolis and FemArt Festival

## **SISTERHOOD: In Times of War and Peace**

**“MOTËRZIMI: n’Kohë Luftë dhe Paqe”**  
25 – 30 Shtator, 2024

In an era marked by relentless global suffering, advocating for **SISTERHOOD** in times of war becomes imperative for the pursuit of lasting **PEACE**.

The foundation of feminism is sisterhood. In times of war sisterhood leads us to triumph, and in times of peace paves the way for progress. It transcends boundaries of race, nationality, religion, and ideology. It is a bond forged in empathy, nurtured by compassion, and strengthened through collective action. Sisterhood compels us to see ourselves reflected in the struggles of others, to recognize their humanity as our own, and to stand in solidarity with them in their quest for justice and dignity.

The message of sisterhood resonates deeply with the mission of FemArt Festival. For more than a decade, FemArt has served as a platform for amplifying the voices of women and everyone regardless of identities, celebrating resilience and advocating for our rights. Art, activism, and dialogue embody our freedom, courage, and resistance against systematic oppression and violence.

Only through collective action, solidarity and shared struggle, we can rise freely from the ravages of war and oppression towards peace and love.

The time for action is now. Let’s rise through FemArt Festival to these challenges with courage and determination, knowing that united in our humanity, we have the power to transform the world and build a future of peace for generations to come. By nurturing sisterhood—empathy, compassion, and understanding—we can hope to heal the wounds of the past and forge a path towards a more just and peaceful future.

FemArt invites us to its 12th edition through **"SISTERHOOD: In Times of War and Peace"** to join together in solidarity with open minds and hearts.

**Berat Bajrami**  
Project Coordinator and PR Officer at Artpolis/FemArt Festival

# DAY 1

## OPENING OF THE FESTIVAL PERFORMANCE "CARMEN" BY BARCELONA FLAMENCO BALLET / SPAIN

SEPTEMBER 25, 2024  
WEDNESDAY  
Time: 20:00 - 21:30  
Location: Klan Arena,  
Prishtina

Director: David Gutiérrez Molina  
Dancers: David Gutiérrez Molina,  
Carlos Ruiz Morales, Judith Martin  
Gonzalez, Carmen Orts Romero,  
Andrea Amaya Bergue  
Guitar/ Music Director: Iban Perez  
Gomez  
Guitar: Jordi Centeno Alfaro  
Singer: Joel Luque Muñoz  
Lighting technician: Rouzic Yann  
Patrick  
Sound technician: Marcos Prieto  
Cervera  
Manager: Jaime Trancoso Gonzalez

Barcelona Flamenco Ballet (BFB) address the ever-present myth of Carmen in their new project. This new recreation of Bizet's work brings new elements from flamenco that were previously unknown. It goes beyond the traditional conception in which it has historically been categorised and adapts it to the reality of today's contemporary society. The values for which Carmen is today a woman of our time and the adaptation of flamenco music and ballet with the distinctive stamp that characterises David Gutierrez, places the work in a new paradigm of the universal myth and flamenco of the 21st century.

Despite the time has passed, Carmen maintains her message of freedom and courage in the face of an unequal world where women still fight for their rights. Carmen is the prototype of a woman who faces a hostile and violent male world from which she does not survive, but leaves her example for posterity. Carmen is pain, passion and a cry for freedom, feelings that flamenco art masterfully represents in its wildest and most primitive aspect.



**David Gutiérrez Molina**  
director, dancer, choreographer

David Gutiérrez, a Barcelona-born dancer and choreographer, was trained in Malaga by the prestigious teacher Raquel de Luna. Gutiérrez, a child prodigy of flamenco, is considered one of the most talented dancers in Spain and is recognized as one of the leading dancers of international flamenco. His extensive experience and avantgarde personal stamp have infused the company with an unmistakable style, and he has achieved the difficult challenge of establishing a large format dance company.

David Gutiérrez was nominated for the Max Awards, as Best Male Artist and Best Choreographer for "Flamenco Reborn", in addition to being awarded the Performing Arts Award of the Andalusian Federation of Communities of Catalonia. He is also an honorary artist of the Foshan Grand Theatre (China) and received the Corona Award from the Government of Catalonia, recognizing his great efforts to promote the Flamenco Art around the world. As director and choreographer of Barcelona Flamenco Ballet, David Gutiérrez has become one of the main references of current Flamenco.

## COCKTAIL AND AFTERPARTY

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2024**

**WEDNESDAY**

**Time: 21:30 – 23:00**

**Location: Klan Arena, Prishtina**

Join us for an unforgettable evening as we kick off the 12th edition of FemArt Festival with a cocktail and afterparty following the performance of "Carmen". Celebrate the start of this exciting journey with great music, refreshing drinks, and inspiring conversations in the company of artists, activists, and festival guests.

The celebration will take place right after "Carmen", setting the tone for an evening filled with creativity, connection, and joy. Don't miss this perfect opportunity to unwind and connect with the FemArt community!

We look forward to seeing you there!

# DAY 2

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## WORKSHOP “ART, ACTIVISM, AND EQUALITY: BRIDGING GENDER AND PEACEBUILDING”

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SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

THURSDAY

Time: 10:00 - 15:00

Location: Dodona Theater (Hall B), Prishtina

Facilitator: Shpëtim Selmani and Attila Antal

The workshop aims to challenge gender stereotypes, address human rights issues, and promote peacebuilding. This will be achieved through a methodology that includes collecting qualitative data in the form of 'counter-narratives' and personal stories. Based on the stories gathered and the collaboration during the workshop, the creation of a theatrical performance will be initiated.

Throughout the workshop, participants will also develop skills in writing short texts, which will later be promoted on Instagram as part of the 'Instagram Challenge' activity.



**Attila Antal**  
director, writer

As a director, writer, composer, and designer, Attila Antal has worked on puppet shows for children (in Belgrade, Ljubljana, Zrenjanin, Timișoara) and for adults (in Békéscsaba), as well as on a performance aimed at young audiences in Novi Sad. Through his work on performances for this specific audience, he has learned the importance of fresh, nonconformist thinking in creating both the story and the atmosphere. His approach is to ensure the experience is always creative, exciting, surprising, and provides a strong foundation for further reflection.



**Shpëtim Selmani**  
actor, writer

Shpëtim, born on May 16, 1986, holds a master's degree from the Academy of Arts at the University of Prishtina. He is an award-winning actor, performing in both local and international theater. He contributes regularly to the alternative blog S'bunker.

Shpëtim has participated in literary residencies such as 'Crocodile' in Belgrade (2014) and 'Poeteka, Tirana in Between' in Tirana (2017), and took part in the Leipzig Book Fair in 2017. He writes prose and poetry, with notable works including *Shënimet e një Grindaveci* (2015) and *Selected Poems 2010-2017 – Poetry in Time of Blood and Despair* (2017). His novel *Libërthi i Dashurisë* (2019) won the 2020 EU Prize for Literature and has been translated into German and French. His latest book, *The Ballad of Ant* (2022), will soon be published in Italian.

In 2023, Shpëtim received the "Vilenica Crystal" award from the Slovenian Writers' Association. He joined the Artpolis Ensemble the same year, contributing as an actor and dramaturg. His play *It is Bill Gate's fault* was recently recommended for translation by Eurodram.

## FEMINIST TALKS “FEMICIDE – HOW DO WE FIGHT AGAINST IT?”

SEPTEMBER 26, 2024

THURSDAY

Time: 11:00 - 13:00

Location: French Institute, Prishtina

### Panelists:



**Albulena Haxhiu**  
Minister of Justice of the  
Republic of Kosovo



**Adelina Berisha**  
Program Manager for Gender-  
Based Violence at the Kosovo  
Women's Network



**Afërdita Mikullovc**  
Colonel and Director of the  
Regional Police in Mitrovica



**Nerimane Ferizi**  
Director of 4thwave



**Zana Hamiti Asllani**  
Director of the Women's Shelter  
"Center for the Protection of  
Women and Children" in Prishtina



Moderator:

**Kaltrina Rexhepi-  
Drangusha**  
Journalist

This discussion aims to address one of the most painful issues facing society, affecting all communities without exception. The panellists will explore the roots of femicide and violence against women, focusing not only on the tragic consequences but also on the concrete solutions that can be implemented. The discussion is expected to raise awareness, inspire action, and build a strong alliance against this form of violence. This is a crucial step towards driving the necessary change in the fight against femicide.



## PERFORMANCE “THE BIG GIGGLE” BY XIXI XIAO / CHINA-UK

**SEPTEMBER 26, 2024  
THURSDAY**

**Time: 16:00-17:00**

**Location: Heroines Park across  
New Born monument, Prishtina**

**The Big Giggle** is a physical/site specific performance with audience interaction involved. In this performance, you will be going on a journey of reconnecting with the origin. The origin, what is that? Come to find out. This performance is highly non-sense. In order to have a better experience, please drop your logics and come with one of your favorite objects (soft toy? Leaf? Music box? Egg? It can be anything on the Earth, as long as you love it and would love to share with everyone else who is on this Big Giggle journey together.)



**Xixi Xiao**  
multidisciplinary artist

Xixi Xiao is a multidisciplinary actor across the diverse performing arts including stage play, interactive show, physical theatre and musical theatre. She trained as an actor in United States for three years used to perform stage production professionally in China. She recently focuses more on screen acting work and has done some short film shooting for London film school and short film festival.

## THEATER PERFORMANCE “WORLD WITHOUT WOMEN” / SERBIA

**SEPTEMBER 26, 2024  
THURSDAY**

**Time: 18:00-19:30**

**Location: Dodona Theater, Prishtina**

Women and work - that is the major topic of the project World Without Women. The authors start with research on structural inequalities in Serbian theatre: gender inequality, unequal wages, normalized violence, reproduction of patriarchal capitalist patterns. The research opens up the questions: who has the right to work, under which conditions, and how much should they be paid for it? The performance examines the extents of engaged art today, and how love (for art) represents the most insidious source of social repression.

With all its regulations, specific features and status, theatre might seem displaced from “normal” life, but it still does represent a good case study for wider social processes. Therefore, the question of women and work is not only treated within the context of theatre but also as the key motive for the deliberation about some future emancipatory policies.

**Concept, text, performance:** Olga Dimitrijević and Maja Pelević  
**Choreography and stage movement:** Igor Koruga

**Music:** Anja Đorđević, Vladislav Rac

**Video:** Deana Petrović

**Costume:** Selena Orb

**Light design:** Nikola Zavišić

**Texts used in the performance by:**

Silvia Federici, Angela Dimitrakaki,

Valeria Graziano, Katja Praznik,

Danielle Child, Helena Reckitt, and

Jenny Richards

**Song used in the performance by:** Lira

Vega - Posledice rada

**Organization:** Filip Perić

**Technical management:** Dragan

Škorić

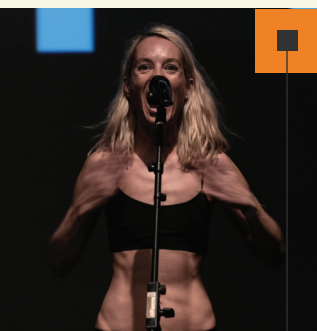
**Sound engineer:** Mihajlo Jovanović

**Lighting engineer:** Milan Kolarević

**Photography:** Igor Koruga



If we are unable to overcome the power relations and come up with some new models in theatre, in which we create different and new worlds, how could we expect to do it in the real world? The performance goes beyond counting, quotes, and the frames of liberal feminism, and is trying to open the space for visualising political and affective actions which intervene in the existing system and the structures of inequalities. Can we again imagine union struggle in theatre? How about women's union? What if the women in theatre went on strike? Would it be caused by low wages or by sexism and misogyny they are constantly exposed to? A slalom through those topics takes us to an attempt to search for a new language, a political, theatrical and poetic one - a new language of women, work, and the left for the days to come.



**Maja Pelević**  
playwright and director

Maja Pelević has obtained her BA at the Faculty of Drama Arts in Belgrade and a PhD at the University of Arts in Belgrade, Department of Theory of Arts and Media. Her plays (*Orange Peel*, *Me or Someone Else*, *Bollywood*, *Belgrade- Berlin*, *Maybe We Are Mickey Mouse...*) have been translated into many languages and staged throughout Serbia and Europe, and also published in numerous anthologies.

Since 2012, she has been active in directing, authorial projects (*They Live*, *Consequences*, *Hopelessness*, *Freedom: the Most Expensive Capitalist Word*, *Lonely Planet*), and performing in her own plays. She has received numerous major awards, among which are "Borislav Mihajlović Mihiz" for playwrighting, and Sterija Award for the best contemporary play for *Orange Peel* and *The Last Little Girls*. She lives and works in Belgrade and in Bečići. She wishes for the apocalypse.



**Olga Dimitrijević**  
playwright, director and dramaturg

Olga Dimitrijević was born in 1984 in Belgrade, SFRY. In her work, she explores the topics of social struggles and injustices, female friendship and solidarity, queer histories, borders of political imagination, and the possibilities of a better world. She is the author of many plays (*My Dear*, *The Folk Play*, *Workers Die Singing...*), and auteur projects (*Red Love* based on the novel by Alexandra Kollontai, *Freedom: the Most Expensive Capitalist Word*, *Lepa Brena Project*/with Vladimir Aleksić/, *Lonely Planet* / with a group of authors/, *Radio Šabac*, *Drama about the End of the World*). She has worked as a dramaturge on many performances in Serbia and abroad and has received several awards for her work. She participated in the International Forum - Theatertreffen in 2019. She lives and works between Belgrade and Rijeka. She often dreams of revolution.

**PREMIERE DANCE THE-  
ATRE PERFORMANCE "O  
LORD, O LORD, O LADY  
OF THE HOUSE!" /  
KOSOVO**

**SEPTEMBER 26, 2024  
THURSDAY**

**Time: 20:00 - 21:00**

**Location: Oda Theater, Prishtina**

The performance "O LORD, O LORD, O LADY OF THE HOUSE!" is the latest creation by choreographer Robert Nuha, in collaboration with the artistic ensemble of Artpolis and the Noa Dance Theatre Co. troupe.

In this production, the themes of masculinity and the influence of patriarchy on our society are tackled in a humorous and provocative manner. Through a blend of body language and speech, the performance delves into aspects of masculinity and traditional Albanian practices, combining humour with contemporary dance and technology.

Using video projections and dynamic stage play, the performance highlights the confrontation between the past and the present, emphasising the impact of old customs on today's society. This innovative and comedic approach encourages reflection and a deeper appreciation of the role of masculinity and tradition in our lives.

**Direction, Concept, and Choreography: Robert Nuha**

**Text and Dramaturgy: Zana Hoxha**

**Assistant Director: Lavdie Idrizi**

**Actors: Edlir Gashi, Labinot Raci**

**Performers: Altina Binaku, Patriot**

**Osmani, and Enis Mulaku**

**Video Projections: Kledi Eski**

**Video Performers and Vocalists:**

**Altina Binaku and Lavdie Idrizi**

**Technical Assistant: Elira Lluka**

**Production: Artpolis - Art and Community Center**



**Robert Nuha**  
choreographer, professor of choreography

Most recently, he collaborated with the renowned contemporary dance company Compagnie LINGA (Switzerland) on the performance "Betvven." Robert is also the founder of the first professional dance-theatre company in Kosovo, "Noa Dance Theatre Company" (2016), and serves as the coordinator of the international festival, "Albania-Kosovo Dance Meeting," the only contemporary dance festival in Kosovo.

In addition to his dance work, he has appeared in several film productions, including "Bal-Kan" (Albania), "Light" (USA and Albania), "Sister and Brother" (Albania), "The Boy and the Bee" (Albania), and "The Flying Circus" (Kosovo). He has co-choreographed productions such as "Winter Flowers," presented at the Mediterranean Young Artists Biennale, and "Let's Go," performed at the National Theatre of Kosovo.

Nuha (NOA), a Professor at the Academy of Arts in Tirana, was born in Komoran, Kosovo, in 1990. He began his career with urban dance styles such as hip hop and breakdancing, as well as traditional Albanian folk dances. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Choreography (2016) and a Master's degree (2019) from the University of Arts in Tirana. Currently, he is a Professor of Choreography and Contemporary Dance at AAB College in Prishtina and the Choreographer for the Resident Artistic Troupe at the "Artpolis" Centre in Prishtina.

Between 2014 and 2020, he was part of the "Albania-Dance Theatre Company" and has participated in numerous artistic projects with both Albanian and international artists, presenting his work at various festivals across Europe, including Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Croatia, Poland, Latvia, Slovenia, and more. His dance performances include "I'm the Men!?" (Germany), "Stress Biology" (Switzerland), and "Hybrid 0 to 100" (Israel), among others.

Robert has also worked with various folk ensembles in Kosovo, including co-choreographing "Brezave Amanet" with renowned Albanian choreographer Gjergj Prevazi for the National Ensemble of Songs and Dances "Shota." He has collaborated with the State Albanian Ensemble in North Macedonia, as well as choreographing productions such as "Vallja e Paqes," "Viganet e Sharrit," and numerous theatre performances, including "Destur – Sweet Blasphemy" (National Theatre), "Much Ado About Nothing" (Hadi Shehu Theatre, Gjakova), "Spring Awakening" (National Theatre), "The Huntresses of Artemis," "Try Again Sam," "Allo Allo," "Coriolanus," "The Best European Show," "Club Albania," and "Faust," among others. His artistic projects also include "What Men Want," "Unlimited," "Feel," "Ups and Downs," "White Night," "Totem and Taboo," "Liberté," "Three One Third," "Megalomania," "French Cabaret," "The Ritual," "Equal," and more.

One of the most active choreographers in the Balkans, Robert is recognised as a leading figure in the fields of modern and contemporary choreography, with an extraordinary impact on both choreography and theatre in the region.

Among his many international participations, he has attended prestigious conferences such as the European Dance Conference in Romania, and has delivered lectures and masterclasses at the Academy of Dance in Latvia. His works include several world premieres, such as the performance "Mechanical," which premiered at the Jerusalem Solo Dance Festival in Israel, and "InOuT," which premiered at the Laiks Dejot festival in Riga, Latvia. In his artistic creations, Robert strives to organically fuse traditional Albanian folk dance with contemporary dance, aiming to develop a unique and original choreographic style.

# DAY 3

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## WORKSHOP “ART, ACTIVISM, AND EQUALITY: BRIDGING GENDER AND PEACEBUILDING”

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**SEPTEMBER 27, 2024**

**FRIDAY**

**Time: 10:00 - 15:00**

**Location: Dodona Theater (Hall B), Prishtina**

**Facilitator: Shpëtim Selmani and Attila Antal**

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The workshop aims to challenge gender stereotypes, address human rights issues, and promote peacebuilding. This will be achieved through a methodology that includes collecting qualitative data in the form of 'counter-narratives' and personal stories. Based on the stories gathered and the collaboration during the workshop, the creation of a theatrical performance will be initiated.

Throughout the workshop, participants will also develop skills in writing short texts, which will later be promoted on Instagram as part of the 'Instagram Challenge' activity.



## WORKSHOP “PLAY WITH ME: CLOWNING WORKSHOP”

SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

FRIDAY

Time: 10:00 – 14:00

Location: The Finnish School, Prishtina

Facilitator: Xixi Xiao

This workshop will be focusing on playing. The aim of this workshop is to relearn ‘how to play, and fail, and play again’ as we all do when we were a child. I will design some games. From meeting the audiences, playing ensemble games, playing with the objects, the participants would be challenged to live in the moment ALL THE TIME.

## FEMINIST TALKS “BEYOND BARRIERS: INCLUSIVITY IN CULTURE AND ART”

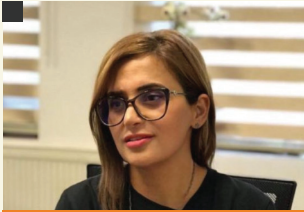
SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

FRIDAY

Time: 11:00 - 13:00

Location: French Institute, Prishtina

Panelists:



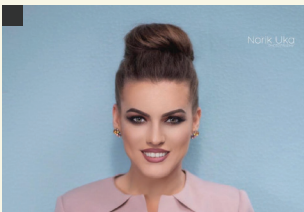
**Jehona Shyti**  
Director of the Department of  
Culture at the Ministry of  
Culture, Youth, and Sports



**Kushtrim Sheremeti**  
Director of the National  
Theater of Kosovo



**Mimožë Musliu**  
Special Education  
Teacher and Activist



**Elvana Shala**  
Goodwill Ambassador



**Ardianë Pajaziti**  
Director of KultPlus

This panel, inspired by the guide on accessibility for blind and partially sighted individuals in cultural events, will explore the importance of including all individuals, regardless of background, abilities, or experiences, in the world of culture and the arts. The discussion will focus on ways to create more inclusive artistic and cultural spaces, overcoming the barriers that often hinder full participation. Panelists will share best practices and strategies that promote an open and equal approach for everyone, highlighting the crucial role that art and culture play in building a more just and equitable society.

## EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVAL SPOTLIGHT DOCUMENTARY "TRAINED TO SEE: THREE WOMEN AND THE WAR" / GERMANY

**SEPTEMBER 27, 2024**

**FRIDAY**

**Time: 13:00 – 14:46**

**Location: Armata  
Cinema, Prishtina**

**Director: Luzia Schmid**

**Producers: Ulli Pfau, Katarina Cvitic,  
Roberto Dall'Angelo**

**Commissioning Editor: Christian von  
Behr (rbb/arte), Rolf Bergmann (rbb),  
Mathias Werth (WDR)**

**Editing: Yana Höhnerbach**

**Music: Johannes Malfatti, Olivier Alary**

**Sound: Holger Buff, Jascha Viehl**

An inspiring portrait of Margaret Bourke-White, Martha Gellhorn and Lee Miller, three pioneering journalists who made history as the first female correspondents to report on the Second World War.



**Luzia Schmid**

Luzia Schmid, (1966 Zürich, Switzerland,) pursued her passion for storytelling through journalism studies at MAZ in Lucerne (1990-1992). She began her career as an editor, author, and moderator at Swiss Radio DRS 3 and SRF, before transitioning to an independent director for SRF in 1997. Seeking to refine her craft, she studied film and television at KHM in Cologne from 1998 to 2001.

In addition to filmmaking, Schmid taught at the Gestaltungsschule Farbmühle and HSA in Lucerne, sharing her expertise with future storytellers. Her acclaimed works include the documentaries "GROUNDSPEED - EIN FILM ÜBER DAS HIN UND HER" (2001), "LOST IN LIBERIA" (2007), and her recent film "TRAINED TO SEE - THREE WOMEN AND THE WAR" (2022), which was selected for the Solothurn Film Festival.



## SHORT ANIMATION MOVIE “SELF STORY” / BELGIUM

**SEPTEMBER 27, 2024**

**FRIDAY**

**Time: 15:00 – 15:05**

**Location: Armata Cinema, Prishtina**

**Director: Géraldine Charpentier**


**While non-binary representations are rare, Lou talks about their relationship to gender, clothes, and other markers.**



**Géraldine Charpentier**  
director

Géraldine Charpentier’s passion for animation ignited at the age of twelve when she discovered the art form’s ability to merge movement, images, and sound. This early fascination led her to La Cambre in Brussels, where she began her formal studies in 2015. During her time there, she developed a keen interest in documentary filmmaking, which culminated in her first film, “Récit de soi” (2018), an illustrated testimony that delves into the complexities of gender.

As she progressed in her studies, Géraldine expanded her creative repertoire into fiction. For her master’s degree, she wrote and directed “Papa Zaza” (2019-2020), a deeply personal narrative exploring mourning through the eyes of a child. Today, her work continues to blur the lines between documentary and fiction, combining intimate storytelling with broader social themes. This approach is evident in her first professional film, “Messages Personnels”, a touching ode to love and sorority set against the backdrop of a rainy Brussels.



## SHORT MOVIE "A SISTER" / BELGIUM

**SEPTEMBER 27, 2024**

**FRIDAY**

**Time: 15:10 – 15:27**

**Location: Armata Cinema, Prishtina**

**Director: Delphine Girard**

**Writer: Delphine Girard**

**Actors: Veerle Baetens, Selma Alaoui, Guillaume Duhesme**

A night. A car. Alie is in danger. To get by she must make the most important phone call of her life.



### Delphine Girard

Delphine Girard is a Belgian film director renowned for her impactful work in the world of cinema. Born in Quebec, Canada, she moved to Belgium with her family during childhood, where she later pursued her passion for filmmaking at INSAS (Institut National Supérieur des Arts du Spectacle et des Techniques de Diffusion).

Girard gained significant recognition for her 2018 short film, "A Sister" (Une sœur), which earned an Academy Award nomination for Best Live Action Short Film at the 92nd Academy Awards in 2020. Before this success, she directed the short films "Monstre" (2014) and "Caverne" (2017), both of which contributed to her growing reputation as a filmmaker with a distinctive voice.

In 2023, Girard made her feature film debut with "Through the Night" (Quitter la nuit), which premiered at the prestigious 80th Venice International Film Festival. The film was well-received, and Girard won the Audience Award in the Giornate degli Autori program, solidifying her status as a talented director with a promising future in the industry.



## SHORT MOVIE "THE EPHEMERAL" / SPAIN

**SEPTEMBER 27, 2024**

**FRIDAY**

**Time: 15:30 – 15:50**

**Location: Armata Cinema, Prishtina**

**Director: Jorge Muriel**

**Writer: Jorge Muriel**

**Actors: Miguel Ramiro, José Cameán, José Luis de Madariaga**

Two strangers meet in a subway car. Both bring their past with them. Both look from their present. Both will determine their future in that fleeting, and ephemeral, vital journey that brings them together briefly.



### Jorge Muriel

Jorge Muriel is a distinguished figure in the film industry, known for his diverse roles as a director, actor, translator, adapter, and teacher. He holds a degree in Film Studies from the New York Film Academy and a Master's in Direction and Script from the University School of Arts TAI. His career has been marked by significant achievements, including 3 Max Awards, 5 Actors Union Awards, and 3 Goya nominations.

Awarded the Fulbright Scholarship for the Arts, he has trained at some of the most prestigious institutions in Spain and North America, which has further honed his craft.

Among his acclaimed short films are "The Garden of Earthly Delights," which won First Prize at the Lebu-Chile Film Festival and qualified for the Oscars, and "The Boy Who Wanted to Fly," which earned him Best Director at The Richard Harris International Film Festival. His recent work, "The Ephemeral," has garnered multiple accolades, including the Fugaz Award for Best Short Film and various honors at the CinEuphoria Awards. Jorge Muriel also contributes to the field as an educator, offering workshops in "Master in Audiovisual Interpretation" and "Screen Acting Techniques," helping to shape the next generation of film talent.

## RECEPTION BY THE GERMAN EMBASSY IN PRISHTINA

**SEPTEMBER 27, 2024**

**FRIDAY**

**Time: 15:50 – 16:50**

**Location: Armata Cinema, Prishtina**

Join us for a special reception hosted by the German Embassy in Prishtina, following the film screenings by the EU Film Festival at the 12th edition of the FemArt Festival. The reception will provide an opportunity to connect with fellow artists, activists, and attendees while enjoying a delightful cocktail. We look forward to celebrating the spirit of art and activism together in this inspiring setting.

## NETWORKING EVENT BETWEEN ARTISTS AND ACTIVISTS

**SEPTEMBER 27, 2024**

**FRIDAY**

**Time: 17:00 - 18:30**

**Location: Luxembourg Embassy, Prishtina**

**Artist: DJ Matala**

Join us for a dynamic Networking Event between artists and activists during the 12th edition of the FemArt Festival, under the patronage of the Luxembourg Embassy in Prishtina. This gathering offers a unique opportunity to connect, exchange ideas, and foster collaborations. Enjoy live music by DJ Matala and cocktails in a relaxed atmosphere as we come together to celebrate creativity and activism.



**DJ Matala**

Matala is a visual artist and DJ from Mitrovica, Kosovo. She is the co-founder of Bijat, a music collective dedicated to providing a platform for women and queer individuals within Prishtina's electronic music scene. She is also the co-founder of Prishtina is Burning, a club night celebrating Prishtina's drag culture.

Matala has performed at prominent clubs and festivals such as Boiler Room, Sonic Acts, DokuNights, Club Drugstore, DokuTech, and ZaFest. Additionally, she has been featured as a guest artist on renowned underground radio shows like NTS Radio, Radio80000, Jerome Mixfile, and Soft Spot.



## THEATER PERFORMANCE "I WANT A COUNTRY" / ALBANIA

**SEPTEMBER 27, 2024  
FRIDAY**

**Time: 19:00-20:20**

**Location: Termokiss,  
Prishtina**

**Author: Andreas Flurakis**

**Director: Ema Andrea**

**Actors: Adriana Tolka, Matia Llupa, Paolo Kadillari, Artemis Beluli, Eva Gjika, Eraldo Malaj, Lindar Kaja**

**Translator/Drama Consultant: Sokol Çunga**

**Assistant Director: Sinan Lila**

**Scenography: Ergys Krisiko**


**Composer: Vali Kuqi**

**Choreographer: Mariel Brahimllari**

**Costume Designer: Sofi Kara**

"I Want a Country" by Andreas Flurakis is a drama that encapsulates the simple ideas and feelings of the everyday person to depict the inner struggle for survival faced by those who have ever questioned: "Should I stay in this country amidst uncertainties, or emigrate to another place?"

However, can a new country truly be built by carrying forward the imperfect examples of an old one? No one knows what to do, but the memory of being rocked to sleep under the lullabies of a grandmother compels the characters to sleep on it and decide what to do the next day.



**Ema Andrea**  
actress, director

Ema Andrea is a renowned Albanian actress, director, and theatre artist, celebrated for her powerful and versatile performances. With a career spanning over two decades, she has become a leading figure in Albanian theatre and film. Ema has starred in numerous acclaimed stage productions, including both classical and contemporary works, where her emotional depth and commanding presence have been widely praised.

In addition to her acting, she has directed several theatre pieces, pushing the boundaries of Albanian theatre by incorporating experimental and socially conscious themes. Ema is also known for her work in film, with roles in both Albanian and international productions. Her artistic journey is marked by a dedication to exploring complex human emotions and addressing critical social issues through her craft.





**CONCERT – PWANGA TOUR- BY  
LUCIA DE CARVALHO / ANGOLA, FRANCE**

**SEPTEMBER 27,  
2024  
FRIDAY  
Time: 21:00 - 22:30  
Location: Oda Theater,  
Prishtina**

**Voice, percussion: Lúcia De Carvalho  
Percussions, voice: James Muller  
Guitar, voice: Edouard Heilbronn  
Cello, bass synth, voice, trumpet:  
Simon Lannoy  
Sound technician: Séverine Gallou**



**Lúcia de Carvalho**

Lúcia de Carvalho is an alchemist, a seeker of sense, a kindler of essence. Her voice transmits vibrations that heal and transform; her drum transmits the voice of the ancestors, inviting you to reconnect with your deepest self.

Born in Luanda and raised in Portugal and France, Lúcia began her musical journey with the Brazilian band Som Brasil, evolving from backing vocalist to lead singer. She launched her solo career in 2008, releasing her first EP in 2011 and later collaborating with bassist Edouard Heilbronn on the acclaimed album Kuzola (2016), which explored her roots and identity.

Her third album, Pwanga, recorded in Paris, continues to blend African and Brazilian influences, enriched by contributions from notable artists such as Chico César and Anna Tréa. Lúcia's music remains a vibrant fusion of rhythms and melodies, reflecting her quest for essence and connection.

# DAY 4

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## WORKSHOP “TASTE OF CULTURAL AESTHETICS IN CALLIGRAPHY - EXPERIENCING THE HARMONY AND FLOW WITHIN US”

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**SEPTEMBER 28, 2024**

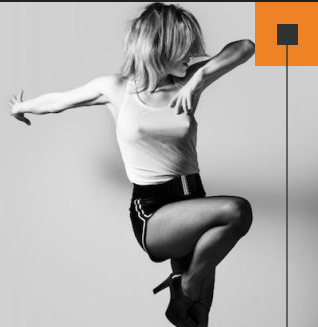
**SATURDAY**

**Facilitator: Xixi Xiao**

**Time: 10:00-12:00**

**Location: Dodona Theater (Hall B), Prishtina**

Two-hour workshop on the movement and embodiment involved in writing a Chinese character. The aim of this workshop is to raise awareness of the psychological connection between the body and the nuanced movements of calligraphy. The practice requires precise control over the writing instrument, ensuring consistent stroke weight, angle, and spacing. The sequential nature of calligraphy, with its deliberate and fluid strokes, creates a sense of rhythm. Participants will experience mindfulness through the harmonious features of calligraphy and gain a deeper understanding of this unique art form from Chinese cultural and historical heritage.



## WORKSHOP ON MOVEMENT AND CHOREOGRAPHY

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2024**

**SATURDAY**

**Facilitator: Sylvia Camarda**

**Time: 13:00 - 16:00**

**Location: Shota Ensemble Facility, Prishtina**

This workshop invites to explore your most authentic emotions through the power of movement. Here, every gesture becomes a language of its own, replacing words with physical expression. The workshop's philosophy is simple but profound: no movement is for free, no movement is empty, and no movement is useless. Every motion has meaning, and it reflects the emotions that lie deep within us.

Be ready to step in a roller coaster of emotions. Let yourself guide from your innerside and forget about the outer world. Think about how you really feel, let go and dance.



## EXHIBITION AND PUBLICATION OF THE MONOGRAPH “FEMART FESTIVAL 10 YEARS AND GROWING...2013-2022”

**SEPTEMBER 28,  
2024  
SATURDAY  
Time: 17:00-18:30  
Location: Gallery of  
the Faculty of Arts,  
Prishtina**

**Editor: Ivana Bilić  
Assistant Editor: Berat Bajrami  
Assisted by Artpolis staff: Venera Ismaili,  
Elira Lluka, Shqipe Malushi, Valëza  
Sijarina, Diellza Bezera and others  
Proofreading: Esther Christina Walburg  
Design: Zymryte Hoxha  
Panelists: Ivana Bilić, Igballe Rogova,  
Sibel Halimi  
Moderator: Zana Hoxha  
Curator: Berat Bajrami  
Installation: Skender Xhukolli**

The monograph encapsulates a decade of feminist artistic activism by the FemArt Festival through texts, photographs, interviews, and archival materials. Although it does not encompass the entire rich history of the festival's ten years, this publication represents an effort to reclaim moments of collective engagement, to remember those we have lost along the way, and to celebrate our shared cultural heritage. This work embodies the dedication and contribution of women artists and activists, who have woven pieces of their spirit into its pages. Through it, we not only preserve memories but also build an enduring testament to feminist strength and courage that resonates beyond time.



**Ivana Bilić**  
activist, interpreter

Ivana Bilić is a translator and interpreter in English, French and BCMS and a human rights activist with special interest in women's rights, minorities and LGBT+. Originally from Sarajevo, she currently lives in France and works as an interpreter for an organisation dealing with intercultural relations and migration. She spends her free time translating comic books and books for children, travelling and enjoying tea.



**Berat Bajrami**  
artist, activist

Berat Bajrami is an artist and activist with over five years of experience as a journalist. He currently serves as the Project Coordinator and PR Officer at Artpolis and the FemArt Festival. His artistic practice spans both traditional and contemporary mediums, often exploring themes of life, death, and nature. Through his work, Berat aims to inspire deep ideological reflection and emotional connection, using art as a tool for empowerment and social change.

## THEATER PERFORMANCE "SONNY" / SLOVENIA

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2024  
SATURDAY**

**Time: 19:00 - 20:30**

**Location: Dodona  
Theater, Prishtina**

Sonny is an attempt at an anthropological research of a specific phenomenon in a performative form. It is an amazed fascination with images and stories of sworn virgins or "virginas" from the remote parts of Montenegro, Albania, Kosovo and Metohija. It is a hole in the system which maintains that same system. It is drag in relation to the question of surviving in a man's world asking us in what world we live.

**Author and Performer: Nataša Živković**

**Performers: Daniel Petković, Loup Abramovici, Slobodan Malić**

**Space design and scenography: Lenka Đorojević**

**Lighting design and technical direction: Špela Škulj**

**Photography: Nada Žgank**

**Advising: Teja Reba**

**Executive production: Eva Prodan**

**Production: City of Women**

**Co-production: Bunker – Old Power Station**



**Nataša Živković**  
dancer, performer, choreographer

Nataša Živković is a versatile artist creative in different fields of performing arts, from contemporary dance, theatre to performance. After finishing ballet school, she got dedicated to contemporary dance and collaborated with a number of choreographers. Despite being a graduate in comparative literature and French, today she is a self-employed dancer, actress, choreographer and a mentor. Recently, she has been active in theatre both in national theatre houses as well as independent production.

Živković has participated in Via Negativa projects since 2006. Her debut as an author *First Love's Second Chance (Getting Over Heintje)* and her dance and theatre achievements led to her being awarded the Golden Bird Award in 2009. Her last author work entitled *For Father's Sake (Via Negativa/City of Women, 2014)* is dedicated to her father. In 2014/2015 she was employed at Zavod Bunker as a movement and artistic mentor collaborating with various primary schools across Slovenia. In 2016 she co-authored and performed in *If You're Happy (Bunker)*, *In the Back of Time (Ljubljana Puppet Theatre)* and *Just in appearance sometimes as everyone else (Emanat)*. She was part of developing a new work *Moved by voice (Emanat)* with choreographer/musician Irena Tomažin in 2017.

She is one of five selected dancers in the European project *Performing gender – Dance makes differences*. In 2018 she received Ksenija Hribar Award for her work as a dancer. Award is given for outstanding achievements in contemporary dance. Her author work entitled *Sonny (2018, City of Women)* has had a number of successful reprises in Slovenia and abroad.

On the ACT Festival in Bilbao, she won the main prize The ACT Award 2019. The members of the jury wrote: "For the impressive interpretative work in different records, both physical and textual, and the strength that history transmits us." In 2020 she concluded a trilogy, staging family constellations daughter–mother, daughter–father, and daughter (as mother)–child with the performance *Dodgeball*. In 2021 she was the author, director and choreographer of the performance *Everything is Alright*, a big production co-authored by 11 students from different high schools from Slovenia and produced by City of Women and Ljubljana Puppet Theatre.



**THEATER PERFORMANCE “REVOLT.  
SHE SAID. REVOLT AGAIN.” / ENGLAND**

**SEPTEMBER 28,  
2024  
SATURDAY  
Time: 21:00 - 22:10  
Location: Oda Theater,  
Prishtina**

**Writer: Alice Birch  
Director: Zana Hoxha  
Cast: Olive McHugh, Tanaka Mpofu, Xixi  
Xiao, Natalia May  
Set and Costume Designer: Grace Rumsey  
Lighting Designer: Ghoti Fisher  
Sound Designer: Aidan Gibson  
Movement Director: Kristin Fredrickson  
Instrument Consultant: Julia Deng Hanzu  
Stage Manager: Ace Turner  
Set and Costume Assistant: Xiaomin Fan  
Production: LAMDA and Orange Tree  
Theatre**

“Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again”, written by Alice Birch and directed by Zana Hoxha, is a sharp, witty, and profound examination of what it means to be a woman, performed by an all-female cast including Natalia May, Xixi Xiao, Tanaka Mpofu, and Olive McHugh.

Our post-apocalyptic world designed by Grace Rumsey, will reimagine the previous rules and conventions that brought our society to an end. Asking what’s stopping us from doing something truly radical to save our future? Revolutionize the language. Revolutionize the world. Revolutionize the work. Revolutionize the body. Galvanise.



**Zana Hoxha**  
theater director, activist

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 Kosovo, 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 Kosovo; “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 Kosovo 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 a Chevening Fellow currently pursuing a Master’s Degree in Theatre Directing at LAMDA in London. Recently, she created and directed the theatre performance Revolt. She Said, Revolt Again by Alice Birch. Additionally, she directed Electra, a performance born from a collaboration between the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA) and the Athens Conservatoire. She is proud to be part of the board of the Kosovo Women’s Network, a lecturer and trainer specializing in Forum Theater, and a supporter of the empowerment and emancipation of women activists.

# DAY 5

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## WORKSHOP “ORAL HISTORY: WAYS TO FIND WHO WE ARE”

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SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

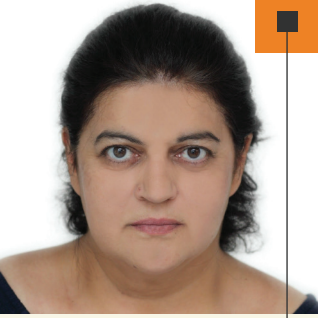
SUNDAY

Time: 10:00 - 13:00

Location: Faculty of Arts, Prishtina

Facilitator: Georgina Kakoudaki

This theatre workshop will use methodology of theatre documentary, verbatim theatre and devising techniques in order for us to approach, remember, reconstruct and narrate parts of our personal and family stories and struggles, as well our social and political history of the then and the now. How much has changed? Are personal stories part of a bigger picture of who we are collectively? Should we narrate our histories in a perspective of today? How to I chose my identity in present tense?



**Georgina Kakoudaki**  
theatre director

Georgina Kakoudaki is a theatre director, theatre educator and theorist. Her career in theatre, as well as theatre and education spans over 25 years and reflects her diverse experience and expertise. Since 2009, Georgina has been directing professional theatre performances for adolescent audiences focusing on the reinvention of classical texts of ancient Greek and world theatre on the contemporary

stage. She has also collaborated with over 30 theatre and dance companies as a dramaturg and has organized a large number of New Artists festivals alongside a series of organizations and theatres. She has directed a series of site-specific performances inspired by political, science and literary figures as well as the historical narrative imprint of Greek cities, as part of her artistic research in merging the past and the present through the creative and educational force of theatre. Has led experiential workshops and lectures at universities and theatre organizations abroad (Mexico, Iran, China, Iceland, Serbia, Belarus, Lithuania, Belgium, etc). She has taught drama at numerous public primary schools, high schools as well as public sector educational organizations in Greece. Georgina was also Head of the National Theatre of Greece Library and Archive (1997-2004).

She currently teaches Theatre History and Dramaturgy at the Drama school Athens Conservatoire. From 2016 to 2019 she was the co-curator of Educational Programmes and Head of the Epidaurus Lyceum – International summer school of ancient drama of the Athens and Epidaurus Festival.

During the last few years, Georgina has presented her work as a leader in the fields of ancient Greek drama and the education of young artists and students in international forums and events hosted in Greece and abroad.

## FEMINIST TALKS “THE VOICE OF WOMEN POETS: SOLIDARITY AND EMPOWERMENT THROUGH

SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

SUNDAY

Time: 11:00 - 13:00

Location: “Hivzi Sylejmani” Library, Dardani, Prishtina

Panelists:



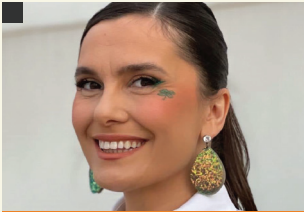
Shqipe  
Malushi



Ilire  
Zajmi



Brikena  
Ceraja Beka



Xhejlane  
Tërbunja



Gili  
Hoxhaj



Moderator:  
Naime Beqiraj  
Director of the  
Hivzi Sulejmani Library

This panel provides a dedicated space for women poets to share their voices and unique experiences through poetry and art. The discussion will highlight the importance of solidarity among creative women and the challenges they face in a world where poetry is often overlooked or marginalised from a gendered perspective. Panellists will explore how poetry can serve as a form of empowerment and resistance for women, as well as a tool for breaking silence and building a supportive community. The panel will also address the barriers women poets encounter in publishing and promoting their work, offering solutions to enhance the visibility and impact of their voices in the cultural arena.



**FILM "AFTERWAR" /  
DENMARK, KOSOVO**

**Director:** Birgitte Stærmosé  
**Writer:** Birgitte Stærmosé  
**Stars:** Lirija Abdullahu,  
 Sadije Abdullahu, Xhevahire  
 Abdullahu

**SEPTEMBER 29, 2024**

**SUNDAY**

**Time:** 16:00 - 17:25

**Location:** Armata Cinema, Prishtina

landscapes. **AFTERWAR** opens with images from war-torn Kosovo, 1999, as a dark chapter in the history of modern Europe draws to a close. After the war, children sell peanuts and cigarettes on the streets of Pristina in order to survive. Against the eerie backdrops of postwar Pristina they speak to us: 'There's only one reason I'm talking to you. It is my hunger! I'm so hungry, I could eat your money!' A decade later, little has changed. In a cinematic testament co-created over 15 years, the children transform into adults before our eyes. Yet the child still stares back at us from behind the adult gaze, as the struggle to survive becomes a struggle for a future at all. They confront us with their innermost secrets and desires, while stuck in limbo and haunted by their past. The film fuses its fictional story line with strong documentary elements. Through a close artistic collaboration with the lead cast - Xhevahire, Gëzim, Shpresim, and Besnik - the film builds on their lived experience and is inspired by extensive interviews over several years with them. They tell their collective story through monologues spoken directly to the camera as well as staged, scripted scenes, sometimes together with professional actors and sometimes with amateurs. In this manner the film moves between raw realism, staged performance, and an existential meditation on the long-term repercussions of war. Any war, anywhere.



**Birgitte Stærmosé**  
 director, screenwriter

Birgitte Stærmosé is an internationally acclaimed director and screenwriter known for both feature and short films. Her short film, *Out of Love* (2009), is a precursor to *Afterwar*, having premiered in 2009 and received several awards.

Over the past five years, Stærmosé has worked internationally as a lead director on drama series for HBO, Starz, and Netflix. Her latest feature film, *Camino*, premiered as a Closing Film at GIFF (2023) and was showcased in selected cinemas and on the Viaplay platform in April 2023. *Afterwar* is a passion project spanning 15 years.



**FILM “THE LEADING ACTOR”  
BY PAULA MARKOVITCH / MEXICO**

**SEPTEMBER 29,  
2024  
SUNDAY  
Time: 17:30 - 18:45  
Location: Armata  
Cinema, Prishtina**

**Written and directed: Paula Markovitch  
Cast: Vjollca Bajraj, Marcelo Cerón,  
Antonio Vega  
Producers: Geminiano Pineda, Mauricio  
Valle, Izrael Moreno, Paula Markovitch  
Cinematography: Bruno Santamaria  
Music: Sergio Gurrola  
Art direction: Alisarine Ducolomb  
Sound design: Gabriel Reyna**

24-year-old Luis lives in Iztapalapa and finds himself traveling to Berlin. By chance, he was selected as an actor in an art film and is now going to the International Premiere of his movie. Upon arriving in Berlin, Luis meets Azra, an Albanian laundress with a mysterious scar. Luis decides not to attend the grand presentation and stays with her. An intense friendship develops between them, leading them to uncover strange secrets.





**Paula Markovitch**  
writer, filmmaker

Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, on May 28, 1968, Paula's parents, Armando and Genoveva, were artists. During her childhood, Paula lived under the Military Dictatorship, an experience that significantly influenced the themes in her work, including the premise of her debut film, *The Prize* (*El Premio*). At 22, Paula migrated to Mexico City, where she currently resides.

Her most renowned film, *The Prize*, won a Silver Bear at the Berlinale Film Festival and three Ariel Awards for Best Editing, Best Script, and Best Film from the Mexican Academy of Film Art and Sciences. The film also garnered several awards at festivals including Morelia, Guadalajara, Lima, Jerusalem, and Armenia, becoming the most awarded Mexican film of 2011.

Paula has also contributed as a screenwriter to other acclaimed films, including *Sin Remitente* (*Without Sender*), *Temporada de Patos* (*Duck Season*), *Lake Tahoe*, and *Dos Abrazos* (*Two Hugs*). She has been involved in the development of films such as *Rompecabezas* (*Puzzles*), *Historias Mínimas* (*Minimal Tales*), and *Ciencias Naturales* (*Natural Sciences*), among others.

Recently, she premiered her second film, *Cuadros en la Oscuridad* (*Paintings in the Dark*), at the Morelia Film Festival. This film received support from the Polish Film Institute and financial backing from the Berlinale through the World Cinema Fund.

In literature, her most recent publication is *El Monstruo* (*The Monster*), a short story collection about the absurdity in everyday life. She also wrote *La Creciente* (*The Growing*), presented at the Festival Internacional Cervantino in 2015, in collaboration with music composer Georgina Derbez. This work is an opera inspired by *The Prize*. Currently, she is presenting her third film, *El Actor Principal* (*The Leading Actor*), co-produced with support from the Mexican Film Institute and Altamira Films.



## DOCUMENTARY “ART OF THE ENCOUNTER” BY MARINKA LIMAT / SWITZERLAND

**SEPTEMBER 29,  
2024**

**SUNDAY**

**Time: 18:45 - 19:15**

**Location: Armata  
Cinema, Prishtina**

**Director:** Marinka Limat, in collaboration with  
Wendy Pilonel and Judith Holly

**Producers:** Mark Olexa, Marinka Limat

**Editing:** Steven Vit, Dennis Gnoni Visconti

**Cinematography:** Marinka Limat

**Color Grading, Cinematography:** Ramón  
Königshausen

**Music:** Miles Zuberbühler, Arian de  
Raeymaeker

**Sound editing:** Florian Pittet

**Screening Coordinator:** Judith Holly

**Consulting:** André Vladimir Heiz

**Production:** DOK Mobile

On her art walk from Kassel to Athens, Marinka Limat collects encounters with people she has never met before. Some encounters may not work out, others might be missed, and sometimes avoiding an encounter proves to be the better option. Through these experiences, the artist reveals her practice of encountering, unfolding it before our eyes and learning from the in-between moments.



**Marinka Limat**  
artist, director

As a performance artist, Marinka Limat focuses on the interpersonal. Her practice, known as the “Art of Encounter,” explores the boundaries of art. She undertakes long journeys in the name of art (“Kunst-Pilger-Reisen”) and integrates moments of art into people’s daily lives (“ESCALE”). Limat studied at the University of the Arts in Berne and in Berlin-Weißensee. She is based in Fribourg, where she was born in 1983.

Marinka Limat’s practice is designed to occur outside the conventional performance art context. A central aspect of her work is its mediation. The process of translating essential elements of her art into a medium results in something new and unique: a creation that, while documenting the performance, also evolves into an independent work with its own distinct qualities.



## DISCUSSION PANEL

**SEPTEMBER 29, 2024**

**SUNDAY**

**Time: 19:15 - 20:00**

**Location: Armata Cinema, Prishtina**

**Panelists: Zana Hoxha, Birgitte Stærmoose, Marinka Limat,  
Paula Markovitch, Vjollca Bajraj**

Following the film screenings at FemArt 12, join us for a dynamic discussion panel moderated by Zana Hoxha. This session offers a unique opportunity to explore the creative processes and thematic concerns of our distinguished panelists: Birgitte Stærmoose, Marinka Limat, Paula Markovitch, and Vjollca Bajraj.

The discussion will provide valuable insights and perspectives, highlighting the cross-cultural dimensions of their work and the impact of their artistic practices. Don't miss this chance to engage with these visionary artists and deepen your understanding of their contributions to contemporary art.





**PERFORMANCE “IN MEMORIAM”  
BY SYLVIA CAMARDA / LUXEMBOURG**

**SEPTEMBER 29, 2024  
SUNDAY**

**Time: 20:30 - 21:30**

**Location: Barabar Center,  
Prishtina**

**Artist: Sylvia Camarda  
Light designer: Karl Humbug**

In Memoriam transcends the boundaries of life and death, taking us on a gripping journey through the stages of human metamorphosis. Sylvia Camarda explores death not as an end, but as a profound and emotional transformation. Every movement, every step, every gesture expresses the beauty and complexity of this inevitable transition. More than just a dance performance, it's an immersive experience that defies convention and invites deep reflection on the nature of our existence.

Here, death is transformed into a celestial dance, where each movement tells a story of hope, resilience and renewal.



### Sylvia Camarda

dancer, performer, choreographer, coach

Sylvia Camarda is a Luxembourg-born and based international dancer, performer, choreographer, and coach.

After studying dance in London, her career took off in 2000 with Philipp Egli in Zurich. She has since collaborated with Koen Augustijnen and Les Ballets de la C. de B. in Gent, Cirque du Soleil in Montreal, and Jan Fabre and Troubleyn in Antwerp, among others.

Camarda has appeared as a performer in 12 international films and has worked with directors such as H el ene Cattet and Bruno Forzan, Clara van Gool, Pol Cruchten, and Chantal Akerman.

Since 2016, she has been running her own show, *MOVE*, for arte.tv—a series that explores dance traditions and practices from around the world. The project has proven to be a significant and ongoing success, with new seasons recently signed and scheduled, including episodes on Capoeira in Brazil and other popular dance forms.

Since 2016, Sylvia has also dedicated herself to supporting young unemployed individuals and people with limited abilities. She regularly collaborates with the Philharmonie de Luxembourg's EME Foundation and teaches classes for the Act! project, developed and run by Fundamental.

The exploration of solo performance and its specific requirements has played a major role in Camarda's professional development. Her solo shows, which began in 2003, depict themes of femininity and the struggle for liberation from traditional gender norms. Her most important and internationally acclaimed works include *Conscienza di Terrore I*, *Warrior of Beauty*, *Martyr*, *Ex(s)ilium*, and *Down the Rabbit Hole*.

Her latest solo show, *In Memoriam*, premiered at the Fundamental Monodrama Festival on June 16th.

# DAY 6

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## PEACE CONFERENCE “SISTERHOOD: IN TIMES OF WAR AND PEACE”

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SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

MONDAY

Time: 11:00-15:00

Location: Grand Hotel, Prishtina

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Opening speech: Zana Hoxha

Moderator: Jeta Xharra, journalist, publicist, and producer

Valdete Idrizi: Presentation of the research “Tranquillity Amid Diversity: Exploring Peaceful Periods in Kosovo's History in Yugoslavia-Post-1974 Constitution”.

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### Panel 1: Feminist Activism in the 1990s in the Region: Sisterhood in Times of War

Panelists: Igo Rogova (Kosovo), Vjosa Dobruna (Kosovo), Jadranka Miličević (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Danijela Stanojević (Croatia), Vjollca Krasniqi (Kosovo), and Snežana Obrenović (Serbia).



### Panel 2: Young Women Activ- ists in the Region: Sisterhood in Times of Peace

Panelists: Jelena Memet (Serbia), Mirishahe Syla (Kosovo), Ferdane Asllani (Kosovo), Tamara Milanović (Serbia), and Liridona Osmanaj (Kosovo).



### **Panel 3: Women Activists in Ukraine: Resilience and Sisterhood in Times of Conflict**

**Panelists:** Diana Berg (Ukraine), Flutura Kusari (Kosovo), Oksana Chykanchy (Ukraine), and Nibal Thawabteh (Palestine).

The conference will bring together activists, artists, and key stakeholders to discuss the role of activism in promoting peace in the region. The focus will be on the Balkan wars of the 1990s, fragile peace in the Balkans, and ongoing wars in Ukraine and Palestine. This gathering aims to foster dialogue, share experiences, and strengthen the bonds of sisterhood among women activists who have played and continue to play crucial roles in peacebuilding.

#### **Panel 1: "Feminist activism of the 90s in the Region: Sisterhood in Times of War"**


Through the panelists who are peace activists of the 90s from Kosova and the region, efforts and activism in building peace, challenges and recommendations for future generations will be discussed. Also, as an important part of this panel will be the presentation of the research done by the peace activist Mrs. Valdete Idrizi "Tranquility Amid Diversity: Exploring Peaceful Periods in Kosovo's History in Yugoslavia-Post-1974 Constitution".

#### **Panel 2: "Young Women Activists of the Region: Sisterhood in Times of Peace"**

This panel will present young women peace activists who are currently working towards establishing lasting peace in the region. They will share their experiences, highlighting both their achievements and the challenges they face. The discussion will also focus on their demands and recommendations for creating a stable and peaceful future in the Balkans.

#### **Panel 3: "Ukrainian Women Activists: Resilience and Sisterhood in Times of Conflict "**

This panel aims to highlight the unique challenges and remarkable resilience of Ukrainian women activists during the ongoing struggle. The discussion will also extend to the situation in Palestine, examining the role of activism and feminism in crafting peaceful narratives and supporting communities in times of war.



## THEATER PERFORMANCE "SPECULUM" / FRANCE

**SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**  
**MONDAY**

**Time: 18:00-19:10**

**Location: Dodona  
Theater, Prishtina**

**Writing and Direction: Delphine Biard, Flore  
Grimaud and Caroline Sahuquet**

**Artistic collaboration: Kelly Rivière**

**Lighting Design: Camille Pawlotsky**

**Musical composition and acting in  
alternation: Mia Délmaë**

**Graphics and accessories: Lionel  
Souquière**

**Press: Elodie Kugelmann**

Caroline, Delphine, and Flore investigate the history and stories of gynecology. They interview their peers, medical professionals, journalists, and more.

They quickly find themselves overwhelmed by the subject's breadth, the multitude of taboos, and instances of mistreatment. Drawing from the writings of Benoîte Groult, they delve deeper into their exploration, experiencing a true awakening to feminism. Current events further validate their insights and discoveries, enriching their narrative.

The result is a kaleidoscopic narration that oscillates between documentary and autofiction. The audience journeys with the actresses through three thousand years of deceit and turmoil. It's an intense experience that reveals a different kind of vulnerability with modesty, humor, and courage.



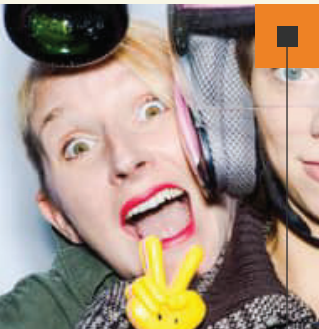
### Delphine Biard

Delphine pursued her literary education alongside her artistic training, studying hypokhâgne, khâgne, and earning a degree in literature, while also attending the Conservatoire in Paris's 15th arrondissement. She has trained in both dance and mime. Together with Emilien Gobard, she co-directs a theater company. Her first creation, *Blaise in Brazil*, a solo performance for young audiences inspired by the works of Blaise Cendrars, marked her debut. Since 2013, she has been one half of *Les Pompières Poétesses*, a dynamic poetry duo that performs in all sorts of unconventional spaces. On stage, she has worked under directors such as Krzysztof Warlikowski, Philippe Fenwick, and Michael Haneke. Her screen appearances include roles in films and television directed by Mehdi Charef, Alain Corneau, Maurice Barthélémy, and Antoine de Caunes. In 2018, she earned her State Diploma as a theater instructor, followed by the Teaching Aptitude Certificate. She teaches theater to adolescents and young adults, first in Paris and later at the CRR in Caen.



### Flore Grimaud

Trained at ERACM, Flore Grimaud made her debut on stage with her first prize in hand, performing under the direction of Hans-Peter Cloos, Philippe Chemin, and René Chéneaux. She became part of the grand adventure of Les Tréteaux de France with Marcel Maréchal, where she brought to life major roles from the classical repertoire. Under the direction of Alexandra Tobelaim, she created *Le Système Ribadier*, *Le Boucher*, *Villa Olga*, and *La Part du Colibri*. Later, she collaborated with Sarah Capony on *Femme de Chambre* and *Tant d'espaces entre nos baisers*, and with Manuel Durand on *À quand la mer*. She turned to writing, penning her play *Je descends souvent dans ton cœur*, which was selected for *Les Mises en capsules*. Directed by Benjamin Guedj and starring Lou Chauvain, the play was published by *Les Cygnes*. Flore has since written *La fille à l'écorce argentée* and *Victorine Coquille sans âge*, and in 2023, she collaborated with illustrator Barbara Martinez on her text *Mama Lupa*. In the same year, she appeared in productions of Raymond Carver's writings, directed by Sandrine Molaro and Gilles-Vincent Kapps, and in *Cendres et Confettis* by Manuel Durand, directed by Camille Pawlotsky. Flore was awarded the Theater Grant from the Centre National du Livre for her upcoming work *Nous sommes Septembre*.



### Caroline Sahuquet

Caroline began her journey in theater at the age of seven, at the municipal conservatory of Saint Maurice. After university (where she earned a degree in theater studies), she attended a private school (*Studio 34*) and participated in numerous workshops (with Gérard Gallego, Catherine Anne, Philippe Calvario, Arnaud Cathrine, among others). In 2010, she received her State Diploma in theater teaching. In 2002, she co-founded the *Mi-fugue Mi-raison* theater company. Since then, she has divided her time between running the company, acting, writing, directing, and teaching. Along with Stéphanie Colonna, she teaches theater to audiences in precarious situations. Caroline co-wrote and performed in *Les Chagrins Blancs*, directed by Justine Heynemann. In 2016, she wrote and directed *MATTHIEU(X)*, which won Best Show at the *P'tits Molières* that year. With *Speculum*, she realized that feminist, politically-engaged theater, in service of human rights, was the path she wanted to follow. In 2019, she adapted and directed *Tout sur le Rouge* by Elise Thiebaut, with Aline Stinus. In 2020, she co-founded the *Wetoo Festival* with Sephora Haymann and Cécile Martin, a feminist, family-friendly, multidisciplinary, and inclusive festival.



## CONCERT AND PROMOTION OF THE ALBUM "GËRSHETAT" BY VJOLLCA ROBELLI - MRIPA / ENGLAND

**SEPTEMBER 30,  
2024**

**MONDAY**

**Time: 21:00 - 22:30**

**Location: Armata  
Cinema, Prishtina**

**Singer/songwriter: AJO - Vjollca Robelli  
Mripa**

**Clarinet, kaval: Oliver Dover**

**Guitar: Nikos Ziarkas**

**Percussions: Gizem Altinordu**

**Double bass, bass: Jamie Benzies**

**Visuals: Laurent Azemi**

Vjollca Robelli Mripa's debut album "Gërshetat" is a blend of traditional and modern sounds, highlighting its thematic depth and cultural significance.

At its heart, it's about preserving and honouring the rich traditions of Albanian and Kosovar folk songs, while breathing new life into them through modern influences of jazz. Her music reclaims these traditional stories—tales of love, honour, motherhood, and political resistance—and reshapes them in a way that speaks to both the past and the present.

But more than just cultural preservation, "Gërshetat" is deeply personal. Through each track, AJO tells the story of her homeland. There's an undeniable social commentary woven into her music, especially as she explores the roles of women and children in the face of political repression, like in the track "90's" which reflects on the tragedy of a child killed during the Kosovo conflict. This isn't just music for entertainment; it's music that bears witness to history and ongoing struggles.

Her voice and the musical arrangements work together to not only celebrate her roots but also address present-day challenges, offering a message of hope and resistance. The album's purpose, at its core, is to create a bridge—between generations, between tradition and modernity, and between personal emotion and collective memory. It's about preserving her cultural heritage while pushing it forward, making it relevant to a contemporary audience. "Gërshetat" is a proof to the power of music as a force for both honouring the past and shaping the future.



**Vjollca Robelli-Mripa**  
singer, composer, musician

She is a singer, composer, and musician known for her unique style and inspiring messages. In 2022, she was invited to open the prestigious "EFG London Jazz Festival" at the "GRAND Junction." Her talent has taken her to many stages, including the esteemed Royal Albert Hall, marking the 150th anniversary of this iconic venue in the British capital. Her EP, featuring powerful songs like "Burrnesha" and "Besa," gained recognition through its inclusion in the documentary film "I Am Burrnesha."

Vjollca Robelli-Mripa represents her unwavering dedication to her craft. This year, she spoke at TEDx on the topic: "Harmonizing Heritage: Albanian Musical Legacy." Vjollca released her first EP in 2018, mixed by Andrew Phillips, an Emmy Award winner for lifetime achievement in music, and mastered by Max Gilkes from 1 Sonic Studio. She is currently working on her debut album, which she will promote at the FemArt Festival.



**Oliver Dover**  
clarinetist, saxophonist, kaval player

Oliver is a clarinetist, saxophonist, and kaval player based in Leeds. Since graduating from Leeds College of Music with a BA in Jazz in 2009, he has been performing regularly with many musicians and bands, including Matthew Bourne, Dave Kane's Rabbit Orchestra, Metamorphic, ACV, and Polar Bear. He currently performs with the Beats and Pieces Big Band, which released their third studio album Good Days to critical acclaim. He also works with Craig Scott's Lobotomy, Thodoris Ziarkas, and various groups in the world music scene (Balkan and Arabic), such as The Turbans, Mohammed Alnuma's Hawa, Mandalakia, and the London Bulgarian Choir.

Oliver plays kaval with the Idrisi Ensemble, a group focused on performing medieval and troubadour music from the Mediterranean. The ensemble recently completed an artistic residency in Pigna, Corsica, exploring the intersection between Corsican polyphony and the music of the troubadours. He is also involved in and co-runs the jazz improv band Shatner's Bassoon, which has released three studio albums to critical acclaim and is currently working on a fourth.

As a performing musician, Oliver's artistic focus is on developing a unique language on his instruments through a blend of jazz, improvised music, and the traditional music of Greece, Turkey, the Middle East, and the Balkans. He is interested in how this music can affect the emotional states of both performers and listeners. Oliver has had the opportunity to study with masters of Eastern Mediterranean music, including Thomas Haligiannis, Christos Barbas, Unsal Celiksu, and Sinan Celik.

His commissions as a solo artist include performing as a baritone saxophone soloist with Sax Massive on their world tour at The Piece Hall/Welcome Festival, composed by Andy Sheppard; creating a dance and music duo for Yorkshire Dance and The Hepworth Wakefield; and collaborating with Dave Kane on Pass it On, a large-scale educational project across the UK for Serious Music. Recent composition commissions include the dance theatre pieces Thumbelina and The Mountain Witch. His performance career features shows at festivals such as North Sea, Toronto, Manchester, Copenhagen, and London Jazz Festivals, Womad, Womex, and Fusion festivals, as well as venues like The Minack, Sage, Bimhuis, Kings Place, Ronnie Scott's, and tours throughout the UK, Europe, USA, and India.

### Nikos Ziarkas

guitarist

Nikos Ziarkas is best known as the guitarist and co-leader of the experimental-jazz band Valia Calda. He also plays guitar for rising tuba star Theon Cross, saxophonists Chelsea Carmichael and Tyrone Isaac-Stuart, who is also a dancer and rapper.

Born in Rhodes, Greece, into a very musical family, Ziarkas formed multiple teenage rock bands and began experimenting with jazz and free improvisation from a very young age. He moved to London in 2011, studied at the jazz department of Middlesex University, and has been active in the scene since then. Notable collaborations and works include Theon Cross, Chelsea Carmichael, Steam Down, Greg Saucier (Deerhoof), Tyrone Isaac-Stuart, Nubya Garcia, and James Priestley (Secret Sundaze).

Described as one of the most exciting and upcoming guitarists in the London scene, Ziarkas is known for his unique and extended use of guitar pedals and his distinctive sound, as well as his raw and powerful performances both on stage and in the studio, combined with advanced technical skills.

His recording and performing career spans jazz, rock, punk, experimental, and folk genres, with multiple recordings, tours, radio, and TV appearances. His music has featured in films and documentaries (Soul Food, ERT, BBC) and has been played on stations such as KEXP, BBC6, Jazz FM, Soho Radio, and WDR. Stylistically, Ziarkas is influenced by guitarists such as Bill Frisell, Nels Cline, and Jimi Hendrix.





**Gizem Altinordu**  
percussionist

Gizem Altinordu was born in Istanbul and grew up in Thrace region in Turkey. Her first interactions with music also started here at a young age. During her journeys, she spent a long time in Africa, in the Balkans, Iran, and India; and collaborated with many musicians. That is how her unique way of fusion appeared. She has been studying and playing multi-genres like traditional music to psychedelic rock. She is currently performing with different projects and musicians all across Europe, UK and Turkey.

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Founder and  
Executive Director

**Donarta Limanaj**  
Finance and  
Administration Manager

**Venera Ismaili**  
Project Manager

**Berat Bajrami**  
Project Coordinator  
and PR Officer

**Elira Lluka**  
PR Officer

**Valëza Sijarina**  
Project  
Coordinator

**Rudina Xhokli**  
Project  
Coordinator

**Arbnora Kajtazi**  
Finance and  
Administration  
Assistant

**Mimozë Musliu**  
Project Assistant

**Rukije Gashi**  
Office  
Maintenance

### Our collaborators:

**Esad Duraki**  
photographer

**Sadije Suhodolli - Tadi**  
designer

**Skënder Latifi**  
light designer

**Besfort Matoshi**  
sound designer

**Bujar Bekteshi**  
light designer

**Fitim Hajdari**  
video  
production

**Bujar Ahmeti**  
video  
production

## Artpolis Ensemble

**Zana Hoxha**  
theater director

**Shpëtim Selmani**  
actor and writer

**Donikë Ahmeti**  
actress

**Edlir Gashi**  
actor

**Qendresa Kajtazi**  
actress

**Zhaneta Xhemajli**  
actress

**Labinot Rraci**  
actor

**Blerta Gubetini**  
actress

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technical assistant  
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# FEMART FESTIVAL

**SISTERHOOD:**



*IN TIMES OF WAR AND PEACE*

25–30 SEP 2024