



IETM PLENARY MEETING STOCKHOLM

MEETING GROUP 1: MUSIC THEATRE

*Friday 15 April 2011 in Dansens Hus, Stockholm
Report by Maria Björkman*

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Moderator: Cathie Boyd, Cryptic, Glasgow

This is the second meeting of the Music Theatre practitioners group, the first meeting took place during the IETM Plenary Meeting in Glasgow. The main purpose for this meeting is to discuss the aims of the group, how often it will meet and how the participants will communicate. Since the allocated time is restricted to 90 minutes, there is not time for full introductions of the whole group and their work. This will be undertaken at future meetings. The group will be a sub-network of IETM, and as there are already similar networks in place, the question is what will be specific to this group?.

The structure of the meeting is for each individual to voice their opinion regarding the purpose of the group, followed by a group discussion on our future aims.

The Music Theatre group aims to:

- Provide a platform where artists who are interested in Music Theatre can meet;
- Share and discuss our experiences;
- Make new contacts and opportunities for co-productions and international collaborations;
- Provide a platform to experience other countries and groups work in Music Theatre;
- Discuss the definition of Music Theatre;
- Discuss new movements in Music Theatre;
- Help all participants to develop their own work by meeting and sharing experiences;
- Discuss the creative process and how we organise our work;

- Stimulate international touring;
- Create a network for independent scenes to build better conditions for touring, by pulling resources;
- Discuss audience development and how we reach new audience groups;
- Compile a list of festivals, to further spread the word and share industry information;
- Find a younger audience for Music Theatre;
- Find the next, younger generation of Music Theatre practitioners;
- Collaborate and help each other secure funding for Music Theatre;
- Discuss the differences between Music Theatre in different countries;
- Strengthen Music Theatre in our own countries;

The meeting group decided to:

- Create and spread a contact list of participants from the first two meetings;
- Create a group Linked In page for participants to post info about their work, describe their creative processes, come up with new ideas, recommend artists/composers they work with and discuss audience development;
- Approach IETM to create a Music Theatre subgroup on their homepage. We believe IETM is an appropriate platform to assume and build a subgroup from, because our goal is to build an international platform;

- Share a list or database of venues, festivals and contacts all over Europe;
- As members cannot always attend all meetings it was agreed that meetings and published on our LinkedIn site;
- Have different themes to discuss at every meeting, which will be decided in advance and forwarded to each participant before we meet;
- Provide a platform to inform about our work and projects and receive feedback. At every meeting, participants will present their projects, which afterwards will be discussed by all. We feel it is best to allot more time to each presentation by presenting a set number at each meeting, allowing more focus on each work.

Next meeting:

The next meeting will take place during IETM in Krakow, autumn 2011. The meeting shall be for three hours (14.00-17.00). The first two hours between eight and twelve groups shall present themselves and their work (at most 15 min/presentation). After which we will have an hour for group discussion with regard to the theme: projects and co-production. A plasma screen and dvd player /with laptop connect will be required please.

Minutes recorded by

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