

THE PANTA-THEATRE

A team of theatrical research and creation
Contemporary writing resource centre

WRITING AND DIRECTING, TODAY FESTIVAL OF CONTEMPORARY WRITING

These meetings generally take place in May and June (lasting one month)

In the form of three sequences

Each sequence is overseen by a director, an author (and a translator in the case of non-francophone pieces) with a group of five actors (three men and two women).

It is intended to allow directors to venture into a text, to explore it, and to establish a dialogue with the author. This allows the author to see how their text functions and to modify it if necessary. The whole text does not have to be worked upon, it is possible to vary and multiply the points of view on one or many scenes and to include a rehearsed reading if necessary or desired (the translator of the text can also perfect their translation in this way and establish a dialogue with the author).

It is of course preferable to work on a recent text, or even a work-in-progress. The writing can also take place during this working time.

The notion of writing can also be taken in a larger sense than that of the classical conception of the author alone before the blank page, delivering their finished text to the theatre. It can also involve a collective writing (this remains to be seen when working within a tight time-frame), or moreover writing born of actors' improvisations, or new forms of writing (via internet, multimedia, performance art). These meetings, outside of normal production constraints allow for diverse experimentation in the form of workshops, works in progress...they are also about discovering different dramaturgies and ways of working, particular ways of tackling the problems in the world, which also leads to the discovery of a country, of its history...

The group of professional actors remains the same throughout the three sequences. It cannot, of course, correspond to the necessities of the three pieces; this therefore means that original forms of representation and work on the form of representation itself must be found.

The festival is not about producing a play in such a short time but about exploring a piece of writing, a form, and allowing the audience to discover an original piece of writing.

A public performance of the work takes place at the end of each sequence.

Work on the third sequence is interrupted at the end of the last day in order to revisit work on the first and second sequences with the authors and directors of these sequences.

The last day marks the end of the festival and the performance of the three sequences in one evening (it is a celebration as well!) so that the authors and directors (and translators) can come together in a singular moment of meeting and exchange with the audience as well (a debate will also take place in the afternoon). We have been welcoming foreign writers for many years (Russian, English, Finnish, Mexican, Polish, Bulgarian, Lebanese, Dutch...)