



DRAMATEN

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The uncertainty of chemical risks with make-up: obstacles and opportunities

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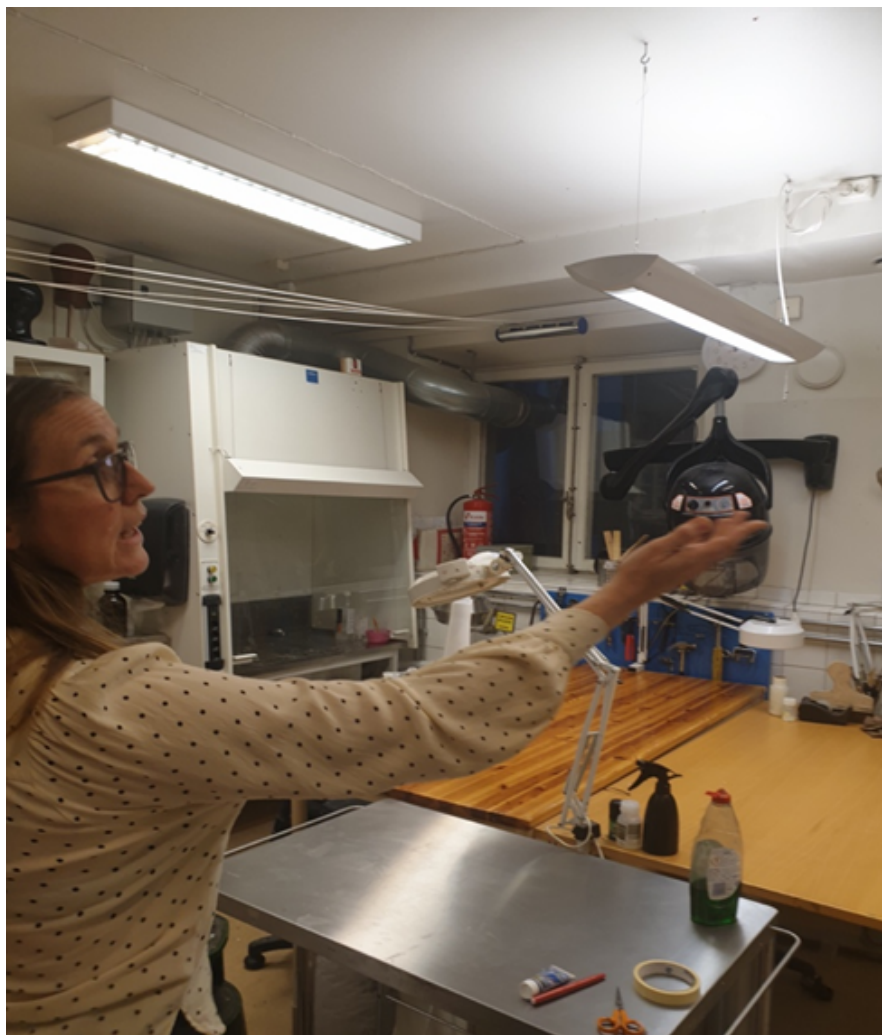
WORKSHOP CONTENT

The workshop concerned how to deal with issues of uncertainty concerning the risk of hazardous chemicals found in make-up and other theatre related products within theatre hair and make-up. It focused on three main themes: 1) mapping knowledge-gaps, 2) finding pathways and 3) relating hazardous chemicals in makeup to the united nations sustainable development goals.

Harmful chemicals are a very common ingredient in many of the everyday products we surround ourselves with. They are added in the manufacturing process to give materials various functions: to make plastic soft, to keep cosmetics from smudging and your hair to look good. Contrary to what many people think, it is fully permissible to use several harmful substances in the manufacturing process, both within the EU but above all in other parts of the world where the legislation is weak. The slow pace of chemical regulation, insufficient risk assessment process as well as lack of standardization enable hazardous chemicals in

hair and make-up articles. This means that we are exposed to a large number of harmful chemical substances on a daily basis, with documented health effects such as impaired cognitive ability, reduced fertility and various types of cancer, to name a few. The theater department of hair and make-up use extensive amounts of products that have potential health- and environmental impacts such as foundations, coloring, bleach, glues, plastics and aerosols.

Studies show that there is a knowledge gap among people regarding chemical issues, e.g. where dangerous chemicals are found and how these can affect their development. The knowledge that exists simply does not reach groups that are exposed and/or sensitive to the dangerous chemicals found in our everyday products such as make-up, make-up removers and other products necessary for hair and make-up production in the theatre. Authorities and academia have extensive knowledge on health risks concerning chemicals in consumer goods. Despite this, the information does not reach those at risk. And even when it does, the information on chemicals is considered difficult to understand and it is hard to both find and interpret information on which alternatives are better. Therefore, the main aim of the workshop was to through a transdisciplinary dialogue start building an understanding of knowledge-gaps and to identify short- and long-term ways forward.



BIOGRAPHY OF THE ARTISTS:

ANNE-CHARLOTTE REINHOLD

Hair and make-up designer

FRIDA OTTOSSON

Hair and make-up designer

MELANIE ÅBERG

Hair and make-up designer

MOA HEDBERG

Hair and make-up designer

SOFIA RANOW BOIX-VIVES

Head of the hair and makeup department

THEA HOLMBERG KRISTENSEN

Hair and make-up designer

All artists work with hair and make-up design and have a background in arts, drama, musical, opera and ballet. They portray a play's various characters in appearance in everything except costume. Some products and materials they work with are hair coloring, various make-up and hair products, silicone, glue, latex, plastic, plaster, alginate, technical alcohol, acetone, ammonia, real hair, wigs and different kinds of hair parts. The artists, beside their interest in arts, culture, painting and sculpture all express interest in sustainability issues such as circulation, recycling, climate action, the environment and keeping up to date concerning hazardous chemicals and the management thereof.

BIOGRAPHY OF THE SCIENTIST:

NATASJA BÖRJESON

Natasja Börjeson is a scientist in the field of regulatory toxicology with a PhD in Environmental Science. Her research aims to understand the management of chemical risks and focuses on how regulation and policy can enable a non-toxic circular society and how societal actors assume responsibility for handling chemical risks in everyday products. Areas of interest concerns chemical risk governance, supply chain management as well as goal conflicts and synergies that arise in a transition towards sustainable use of resources. In her work she strives towards integrating societal actors in my teaching and appreciate the collaborative research approach.

UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) LINKED TO THE WORKSHOP

