



CROATIAN NATIONAL THEATER IN ZAGREB



Meantime, Between Failures

9 - 14 October 2023 | Zagreb, Croatia

WORKSHOP CONTENT

Meeting of IPA scientists and Arbajt Kolektiv artists together with Arbajt Kolektiv's mentor Goran Ferčec. Both groups shortly presented their work and gathered around the topic of sustainability. By noticing the differences between point of views the group directed the discussion through talking about doughnut research of sustainability. The doughnut research was a base for further development of performance idea "Meantime, Between Failures". During the workshop they were exploring the intersection of sustainability and labor rights within dance practice and how to incorporate into ethical practices. Participants engage in discussions on responsible material sourcing, recycling, and upcycling, while also addressing the working conditions and fair compensation for all involved in the production process. During the workshop they agreed that we all need extend sustainable practices beyond environmental considerations to encompass social and ethical dimensions. Embracing sustainability in the context of work labor conditions not only aligns with ethical principles but also contributes to the longevity and success of the industry by fostering a positive and inclusive work environment.

The knowledge gathered in the workshop they expanded in their performance "Meantime, Between Failures" that was performed at the FORUM in Croatian National Theatre in Zagreb 20.11.2023. Goran Ferčec was chosen as a mentor in the process of Arbajt Kolektiv since he deals with labor rights and the working class through his artistic work and activities. The backbone of his work largely overlaps with the work of Arbajt. In his professional work, Ferčec collaborated on contemporary dance projects as a dramaturg and is a suitable mentor with the competencies that the collective needed - help in translating scientific methods into an artistic concept/performance.

BIOGRAPHY OF THE ARTISTS:

ARBAJT

The Arbajt Kolektiv is formed in 2021 by working on a solo performance "Arbajt". Members of this interdisciplinary collective are artists Šimun Stankov (dancer and choreographer), Una Štalcar Furač (dancer and choreographer), Espi Tomičić (playwright and writer), Branimir Štivić (new media artist), Tena Starčević (art historian) and Ivana Korpar (translator and producer). The main focus of collective's activities is gathered around relationship between art and work in order to question the romanticization of precarious working conditions in art. In October 2023, the collective comes out with the play "Arbyte 2.0", which is a continuation of earlier thoughts, further developing them choreographically and dramaturgical procedures by shaping parallel construction processes of all components of a performance. Arbajt Kolektiv deals with the issue of working conditions and work processes through different performance formats and places these issues in different performance spaces, such as artistic interventions in public space, dance performances, exhibitions etc.

BIOGRAPHY OF THE SCIENTISTS:

INSTITUTE FOR POLITICAL ECOLOGY

IPE is a research and educational organisation that designs alternative development models and innovative institutional frameworks for democratic political and economic transformation of society.

The Institute addresses contemporary ecological changes as social phenomena that reduce or magnify social inequalities and influence power relations.

IPE carries out transdisciplinary research and educational programs in cooperation with domestic and international institutions and organisations. Based on these, IPE provides expert analyses and a discussion platform for social movements and political and economic actors in Croatia and abroad that advocate ecologically sustainable, just and democratic society.

VEDRAN HORVAT

Vedran Horvat is the co-founder, manager, and executive director of the Institute for Political Ecology in Zagreb. He is the member of the board of Green Europe Foundation with headquarters in Brussels and the former leader of the Zagreb branch office of Heinrich Böll Stiftung, the German green foundation. He is a sociologist with a master's degree in human rights and democratisation with long-term experience in journalism and editing in newspaper Vjesnik. He is a permanent associate of the Transnational Institute in Amsterdam and until recently a guest researcher at the University in Hamburg, Centre: Future for Sustainability.

DR MLADEN DOMAZET

Dr Mladen Domazet graduated in Physics and Philosophy from the University of Oxford and completed a doctorate in Philosophy of Science at the University of Zagreb. His research interest currently focuses on theories of scientific explanation, degrowth-compatible explanatory frameworks of social metabolism, and social attitudes relevant to sustainability.

His publications reflect a career of diverse interdisciplinary interests and collaborations, from analysis of Wikipedias as complex networks, through analyses of sustainability education curricula in Europe to structural aspects of depth of explanation in contemporary physics.

He's currently engaged in research on sustainability and degrowth dispositions of small semiperipheral societies, and ecological aspects of social stratification in Croatia.

GORAN FERČEC

Goran Ferčec was born in 1978 in Koprivnica. He studied the Polish language and literature, art history and drama in Zagreb, and is the author of prose and performing texts which have been translated into German, English and Slovene, as well as published in professional periodical in Croatia and abroad. He has collaborated on and written a significant number of theatrical projects and works from the area of contemporary performing arts. He spent the year 2010 in Vienna as a part of the Milo Dor scholarship for authors. The novel Ovdje neće biti čuda (There Would Not Be Any Miracles Here) was written during the 2006-2011 period in Zagreb, Belgrade, Koprivnica and Vienna.

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

