

You are warmly welcome to the book launch and Symposium arranged by Alexandria Nova, the network of eight directing programs, in Berlin on the 13th-14th of May.

The venue is the Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Arts, Zinnowitzer Straße 11.



On the 13th of May we are giving out a book titled **Looking for Direction - Rethinking Theatre Directing Practices and Pedagogies in the 21st Century**. The program of the following Symposium is built around the four thematic chapters of the book. Furthermore, this Symposium marks the end of a three-year long Erasmus Strategic Partnership -project, that brought together seven North European directing programs (from Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Lithuania, and Germany) and one Brazilian directing program, in learning, discussing, and developing the art and the pedagogy of theatre directing.

We wish that the Symposium will be a meeting place for theatre directors, and everyone interested in the art of directing. The program is created to enable new encounters and discussions.

Please see the program below. You can check the updates from our website:

<https://alexandrianova.eu/alexandria-nova-jam-may-13th-14th-2022/>

We have space for around 80 guests. The symposium is going to be a hybrid event, so you can also participate via Zoom. This means that the live event will be streamed online. Registration by 30.4. through the links below:

Day 1 Symposium

<https://secure.billeto.net/basket/event/35/-888829510>

Day 2 Symposium

<https://secure.billeto.net/basket/event/35/1082442884>

NB: The ticket reservation system of Ernst Busch is only in German. To the non-german speaking participants: the key to success is to keep pressing "weiter" and not "abbrechen". On the last page you will be able leave your name, address and other details (please specify if you are attending live or online in the box called "kommentar"). When the registration is successful, you will receive a confirmation email.

LOOKING FOR DIRECTION

Rethinking Theatre Directing Practices and Pedagogies in the 21st Century

A Symposium 13.5. Friday and 14.5. Saturday 2022
at the Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Arts, Zinnowitzer Str. 11

Friday 13th May 13.00-18.00

Opening the day:

13.00 - Coffee/tea. Coming together. Forming the small discussion groups.

13.30-13.40. Welcome. Professor Robert Schuster and lecturer Britta Geister from Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Arts.

13.40-14.00 Introducing Alexandria Nova. Launch of the book: *Looking for Direction*. Professors Egill Pálsson and Saana Lavaste.

1st session: Looking back. Skills, methods and techniques of directing.

Opening up the chapter:

Professor Anja Suša, head of the directing program in Stockholm University of Arts, 14.00-14.10

A spark: Egill Pálsson, director and artistic director of Hålogaland Teater, Norway: 14.10-14.30

Two methods, same origins, different outcomes.

Egill's article is about two directing methods: one stemming from Stanislavsky (Physical Action Theory and Action Analysis) and the other from Meyerhold (Theory of Montage of Attractions). Egill discusses how they can be used in the art and pedagogy of directing today.

Discussions in small groups: 14.30-15.00

Panel with the authors present at the Symposium: 15.00-15.30

The contributors of the chapter *Looking back* are Egill Pálsson, Kristina Hagström-Ståhl, Loreta Vaskova, Runar Hodne and Mareike Nele Dobewall.

A break. Food and drinks 15.30-16.20

2nd session: Looking around. Community, culture and collaboration.

Opening up the chapter: Professor and director Una Thorleifsdottir (Iceland), 16.20-16.30

A spark: Professor Rodolfo Garcia Vazquez, Head of the directing program in SP Escola de Teatro, São Paulo, Brazil: 16.30-16.50

Decolonial Directing Approach

"-- In reality, the decolonial director's craft is far more complex and perturbing than that of a modern director, who uses his craft to create a work of art from personal universalism. Modern directors are not confronted by their idiosyncrasies and possible failures. On the other hand, the decolonial director will use the same craft to devise works facing many new conflicts arising either from unexpected claims by underrepresented groups or from contradictions and questions enhanced by the rehearsal process or contact with the audiences."

Discussions in small groups: 16.50-17.20

Panel with the authors present at the Symposium: 17.20-17.50

The contributors of the chapter *Looking around* are Rodolfo Garcia Vazquez, Anja Suša, Yana Ross and Johannes Maria Schmit.

Closing the day: 17.50-18.00

Saturday 14th of May 09.30-14.45

Opening the day:

09.30-10.00 Coffee/tea. Coming together. Forming the small discussion groups.

10.00-10.20 Starting the day. Comments and thoughts about yesterday.

3rd session: Looking inside. Embodied directing.

Opening up the chapter:

Ramunė Balevičiūtė, Head of the department of Art History and Theory and Vice-Rector for Art and Research at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre, 10.20-10.30

A spark: Discussion between Milda Al-Slamah, a performance maker and doctoral student at the Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre and Riko Saatsi, lecturer in directing at Uniarts Helsinki, Finland.

The body and intuition of a director 10.30-10.50

Milda Al-Slamah's article looks at directing the theatre of self-organization, asking how can the study of self-organizing systems help the director to understand what to do, and above all, what not to do? Riko Saatsi turns the focus to the body of the director, and the significance of bodily routines, sensations and emotions in the director's work.

Discussions in small groups: 10.50-11.20

Panel with the authors present at the Symposium: 11.20-12.00

The contributors of the chapter *Looking inside* are Milda Al-Slamah, Riko Saatsi, Mika Leskinen and Una Thorleifsdottir.

A break. Snacks and drinks 12.00-13.00

4th session: Looking forward. Pedagogy of directing.

Opening up the chapter:

Professor Saana Lavaste, head of the directing program at Uniarts Helsinki, Finland 13.00-13.10

A spark: Discussion between Kevin Kuhlke, Professor in the Drama Department at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, USA and professor Pauliina Hulkko, Head of the Degree Programme in Theatre Arts at Tampere University, Finland.

The challenges and the possibilities of the pedagogy of directing 13.10-13.30

Pauliina Hulkko's contribution takes us through the murky history of the pedagogy of directing, a field that is poorly documented and very little discussed. Kevin Kuhlke's article offers an invaluable insight into the pedagogical practices he is applying now, teaching directing in NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, after 30 years of pedagogical work and development.

Discussions in small groups: 13.30-14.00

Panel with the authors present at the Symposium: 14.00-14.30.

The contributors of the chapter *Looking forward* are Pauliina Hulkko, Kevin Kuhlke, Saana Lavaste and Robert Schuster.

Closing the symposium: 14.30-14.45

Julian Jungel and Britta Geister from Ernst Busch Academy of Dramatic Arts.

Plans for the future. AN-webpage.

Evening Program from 18.00 onward. To be specified.

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