



artists in context

6th programme 2005-2006

The *artists in context* programme is an initiative of the Pépinières européennes pour jeunes artistes.
It comes within the framework of the European voluntary service.
The programme benefits from the partnership of the host organisations and the national co-ordinators.
It is financed by the European Commission (DG education and culture),
the French Ministry of Culture, the French Ministry of Youth.

**Compagnie Songes,
Valence, France**



presentation of the host organisation

- **name of the host organisation** Compagnie Songes
- **person in charge of the organisation** Ms. Julie Serpinet, artistic director
Ms. Francine Béal, public relation
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- **person responsible for the follow-up of the artist**
Ms. Julie Serpinet
- **the organisation's team**
Ms. Julie Serpinet, artistic director
Ms. Francine Béal, public relation
- **duration and dates of the residency**
6 months, from mid March to mid September 2006
(17 September: day of the Parade at the Biennale of Dance of Lyon)
- **location of the project**
in the neighbourhood of Valence
- **fields of expression proposed for the residency**
all fields of living arts (dance, theatre...) and fine arts (photo, video...) / scenography / costume design...
- **number of artists who can be hosted**
1
- **other artists hosted in residency during the *artists in context* programme**
There are artists in residence at l'Annexe (residencies of 5 days up to 3 weeks), and a Belgium costume designer on internship during 6 months in the framework of the training program Eurodyssée for the Parade at the Biennale of Dance of Lyon.

artistic project

- **general description of the artistic projects developed by the host organisation**

Company of international dimension, Songes develops two parallel fields of action:

- around the young audience aiming at raising the interest for improvisation (instantaneous composition). It offers shows where various aspects of creation are mixed together (animation cinema, music, sound creation, ...) and allow a real initiation by different approaches. These shows are performed in schools, during international festivals for the young audience and in theatres.
- around productions for the large audience, developed with international partners, mixing as well various artistic disciplines.

Furthermore the company Songes organises a large number of workshops and internships trying to rouse the curiosity of the audience for contemporary creation. They especially approach a kind of audience usually excluded, like people with visual or auditory handicaps (Kinaesthetic project), older people (Decoll'age project) or children (Doudebu project).

- **means provided by the host organisation to facilitate interactions with the human, social and economic contexts**

Especially at the beginning of the residency, the team of the compagnie Songes will accompany the volunteer and introduce him/her to the various partners, collaborators and the audience, helping in this way future communication in view of the artistic project. The volunteer will accompany the artists who work with the specialised establishments and during their various encounters connected to their projects. The artistic director and the responsible for public relations are the main interlocutors considering the relations between the artist volunteer and the people revolving around the troupe.

- **description and objectives of the project(s) in which the artist will take part**

1. project of the host organisation in which the volunteer will be involved

Projects against marginalisation and for introduction of specific publics with integration difficulties: people with sensorial infirmity (visual or auditory - whether this implies or not a handicap), publics with huge difficulties of integration.

The volunteer will be engaged in 3 projects for de sensibilisation:

- Kinaesthetic (from March to June 2006):

education for spectacle and production adapted to young people between 10 and 25 years with sensorial infirmity (visual or auditory - whether this implies or not a handicap)

- Festival Vice & Versa (from March to May 15, 2005):

workshops and performances gathering an audience excluded from the usual cultural on the issue: "reveal the difference and waken the senses". Many forms of expression are proposed: exhibitions, dance, theatre, music, stories, new circus, discovery workshops, animation, photography, fine arts, cinema, games, sports, science...

- Parade at the Dance Biennale of Lyon (from March to September 17, 2006):

organisation of an urban parade for 150 people from the Drôme-Ardèche region on the motif of "The world of the towns, the towns of the world": staging French sign language with dumb people eager who want to communicate their language and culture to everyone.



2. frame in which the volunteer will realise his personal project (according to the structure's objective)

The listed projects are independent among one another and complementary at the same time as all of them refer to the issue of "culture and handicap". The artist volunteer might collaborate in one or more projects depending on his personal interests and possibilities. A stage designer might for example realise with the troupe and the audience the scenery of the parade "LAGADO, capital of Laputa"; a photographer or video-director could realise a documentary on his projects of cultural action, a dancer or actor could help the troupe in the sensitisation of the audience... Besides the involvement into the projects of the compagnie Songes, the artist will be free to develop his/her own project, following more or less the lines of the company.

● target community of the volunteer's project

- young people with or without a visual or auditory handicap (aged between 10 and 25) for the three
- projects; people with social integration and insertion difficulty (aged between 10 and 70) for the Parade.

● artistic and social effects of the project which are expected

The same effects achieved with all the cultural projects of the company with one extra result: the cultural comparison and the discovery of a different way to approach theatre and every day life in general.

● required language(s)

basic French (French sign language will be a plus during the residency)

● experience / special skills needed to realise the project

- knowledge about the world of arts and / or the social sector
- capacity to reflect on pedagogy and on the struggle against discrimination for cultural reasons
- good in communication and public relation
- creative and eager to share
- experienced in sensitisation of different publics getting them involved into the creation.

● human resources which will enable the artist to develop his project

The whole team of the Comapgnie Songes: the artists and participants depending on the projects and their availability; from the administrative point of view, the responsible for public relations Francine Béal.

● technical material at the artist's disposal

completely equipped offices and two studios of 110 m² – each one depending on the availability

pc computer

mac computer

● description of the working place set aside for the artist

The offices and studios of the troupe will be at the disposal of the volunteer, depending on the artist's necessities and the availability of the rooms. The studios of 110 m², each have parquet; one is equipped with light and few sound elements. The offices have basic equipment (PC, Internet, scanner...). Bibliographical resources can be looked at (works on French sign language, on instantaneous composition...).



- **means at disposal to present the volunteer's finished work**

- at the Annexe depending on the availability of the studios and the needs of the artist and, depending on the engagement of the volunteer in the following projects:
- in the specialised institutions involved in the Kinaesthetic project
- in the framework of the Vice & Versa Festival
- in the framework of the Parade at the Dance Biennale, in Greater Valence and in Lyon on the 16th and 17th of September 2006

description of the residency

- **description of the premises of the host organisation**

After several years of nomadism with residencies and tours around the world (Austria; Canada, England...), the compagnie Songes, troupe formed by international artists, settled in the territory of South Rhône-Alpes, close to Valence.

In 2003 Songes assures this will of settling by entering the walls of L'Annexe, a place of artistic creation, residence, diffusion, education and exchange of 220 m² in Greater Valence. This becomes a decisive moment in the development of the policy of the troupe, from a local as well as international point of view, a way to claim more easily the various projects which inspire the team...

- **cultural, artistic and social environment in which the premises are established**

Valence (66.000 inhabitants) is the administrative centre of the department of the Drôme, the second most rural department of the region Rhône-Alpes and the industrial and economical capital of the South of the Rhône-Alpes region.

10.140 immigrants live in Valence: Algeriens, Spaniards, Italians, Portuguese, Tunisians, Maroccans and many Armenians. The population of Valence is relatively old: one out of five inhabitants of Valence is over 60 years old, and one out of two over 40.

- **description of the means of accommodation and the distance from the working place**

The compagnie Songes will find an independent equipped apartment for the volunteer through the partnership with the agricultural school of Valentin de Bourg lès Valence.

- **food**

The volunteer will get his meals either in a canteen, a university restaurant or at his host family, or dispose of a budget to buy his food and have access to a kitchen to prepare his own meals.



training

- **foreseen on-arrival training for the volunteer**

The team of Songes will welcome the young volunteer, train and accompany him/her in order to make him/her feel comfortable in the new environment. The volunteer will be followed and directed by a tutor who will help organising the time schedule and the projects the volunteer will be involved in. The young artist will receive the necessary training to accomplish his projects.

- **centre of linguistic training close to the place of residency**

The whole team will help the volunteer in his linguistic integration and improvement. If it is the case, the volunteer might follow French classes at a local language school.