



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.

**La tête à l'envers,
Maison-Alfort, France**



presentation of the host organisation

- **name of the host organisation** La tête à l'envers
- **person in charge of the organisation** Mr. Bruno Eckert, artistic director
- **address** 176 bis, rue Jean Jaurès
- **post code / city** 94 700 MAISON-ALFORT
- **country** FRANCE
- **phone** +33 1 46 59 45 28
- **fax** +33 1 46 59 45 28
- **e-mail** latetealervers@wanadoo.fr
- **web site** <http://perso.wanadoo.fr/ubloart/diapo>
www.ubloart.com

- **person responsible for the follow-up of the artist**
Mr. Bruno Eckert
- **the organisation's team**
3 employees, 1 administrator, 1 responsible for diffusion, 1 artistic director
30 actors and / or professional intermittent artists
- **duration and dates of the residency**
6 months, from January to June 2006
- **location of the project**
between Paris and the region of Auvergne, in various production and residency sites of the troupe
- **fields of expression proposed for the residency**
drama and fine arts, street theatre, marionettes
- **number of artists who can be hosted**
1
- **other artists hosted in residency during the *artists in context* programme**
no

artistic project

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

- The company "l'arbre à nomads", supported by the association la tête à l'envers, combines drama and fine arts in order to create street theatre, shows for a young audience and fine art and theatre workshops for everyone.
- Every show becomes the frame for a "production in progress - school", a moment of creation and education for every participant.
- From this point of view the company works on education of theatre professionals (in terms of artistic career and citizenship).
- The company is working on international level, with the setting of a network of professionals of street theatre in contact with ZOE (international network of cultural exchange).

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

In the framework of the concept of "production in progress - school", art workshops for the local audience and other professionals of the world of art are organised, in close collaboration with other local institutions (associations, cultural and youth centres, social centres).

- **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

The volunteer artist will get familiar with techniques specifically geared to street theatre, participate in the production of a cultural event with local participants and in the creation of a show by the company "l'arbre à nomads".

- At the beginning of this residency the volunteer will accompany the company's workshops and creative sessions.
- During most part of his residency the volunteer will participate in the creation of a project of the company.

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

After having participated in the activities of the company, as assistant first and collaborator after, the volunteer will undertake his own creative work, continuing through his former collaboration. The troupe disposes of storage and rehearsal rooms of 600 m² in Melun. This place (where the troupe itself realises its projects) and its potentials (equipment and material) are suitable for any kind of big production.

The team of professionals shares spontaneously its knowledge on training or workshops with everyone new in the troupe; this is the basic idea of artistic, technical or administrative companionship.

- **target community of the volunteer's project**

The company proposes cultural actions of proximity, directed in the first place towards the youngest, often children of immigrants. But the target community is wide open and the activities offered are open to everyone.

One of the responsibilities of a company registered by the DRAC is to reach all publics through workshops or projects realised in collaboration with social structures.



- **artistic and social effects of the project which are expected**

The social effects of the initiatives carried out by the company and the volunteers are continuous as the projects are realised in the field, directly with the audience.
The return on the image and the media is mainly the result of specific propositions offered by the company in collaboration with local institutions.
As the company doesn't have a full-time employee responsible for the communication, the volunteer will have to participate actively in the promotion of his/her projects.

- **required language(s)**

English and some notions of French

- **experience / special skills needed to realise the project**

It is important for the becoming artist who wants to be a candidate to this kind of project, to be conscious about the fact that this project is an evolution and not a run for the result, even though the residency aims towards a concrete realisation. This means that the artist needs to have the intention to undertake a concrete and feasible research, a project that follows a certain logic of action and reflection and which will be discussed with the tutor and the other members.

It is necessary for the candidate to have good basic knowledge and some experience about the subjects he/she wants to work on. If the young artist wants to present the project to the media and the audience, this as well has to be done in a professional way and not like a simple amateur would do so.

- **human resources which will enable the artist to develop his project**

All the members of the troupe will welcome the volunteer and share their knowledge; the personal tutor will accompany the volunteer during the whole residency.

- **technical material at the artist's disposal**

Any kind of basic material and the material put at the disposal during the workshops, except for the more dangerous machines and equipments which need a special training.

pc computer

mac computer

- **description of the working place set aside for the artist**

The artist has access to the working places of the troupe within the limits of security and his/her technical skills.

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

Within the framework of professional diffusion used by the troupe, the artist will have the possibility to elaborate his own means of diffusion with the help of his colleagues, depending on his skills and the field of action of his own project.
The way how to diffuse and promulgate the work of art will be studied together with the artist, in order to avoid short-sighted risks in case the work is not yet mature or accomplished.
The becoming artist has to understand that a pedagogical progression entails a serious reflection on the work, the moment of conception and diffusion, and that the simple need of creation is not the end in itself in the context of theatre.



description of the residency

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

The company Tête à l'envers is not a settled but a nomad organisation. The developed projects are enriched by successive peregrinations and the opening towards the world.

Even though the outlines are settled by some base-camp, the residency won't be held in a closed and strictly defined place, but will develop from the street, from nature, etc., from the places chosen and tamed by the artist.

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

The troupe is located in the department of Val de Marne, close to Paris, an area with a weak economy, housing problems of the heterogeneous population and a high unemployment rate.

Political conflicts are largely responsible of this no-man's land, of this accumulation of misery.

So the game is open, everything is possible in terms of research and action for an active creation on the ground.

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

The volunteer will be living in Paris (Porte de Vincennes); one single room in the 3 rooms apartment with equipped kitchen of the troupe.

- **food**

The volunteer will get a weekly budget to buy food and has access to the kitchen to prepare his own meals.

training

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

Based on the rule of companionship, some of the members of the troupe will help the young volunteer eager to discover whatever is happening around him and to take a decision in a certain direction. The volunteers choices are accompanied and give the opportunity to learn various disciplines during the rehearsals, the workshops or the different classes given to the people of the troupe (in the way of pedagogical exchange).

The volunteer will be followed by a tutor who will take care that this experience of discovery will happen in a logic of overture and curiosity, in a way to develop an always dynamic pedagogical arousal. It is the principal of situation bound pedagogy, of reasoned learning from the context.

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

At his/her arrival, the volunteer will have an English or Spanish speaking interlocutor; afterwards the members of the troupe will assist him/her in basic French in order to be able to autonomous.