



pépinières européennes pour jeunes artistes



technical form

Sibiu International Theatre Festival / Foundation "Democratie prin cultura"

Pépinières européennes pour jeunes artistes
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- **national co-ordinator** Aura Corbeanu – Executive director UNITER

presentation of the host organisation

- **name of the residency** Sibiu International Theatre Festival / Foundation “Democratie prin cultura”

- **juridical status** NGO

- **address** Vasile Milea Bd., 1/20

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city Sibiu

country Romania

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- **e-mail** info@sibfest.ro

- **web site** www.sibfest.ro

- **artistic director** Constantin CHIRIAC

- **administrative director** Cristian RADU

- **number of artist(s) welcomed** 2 artists/year

- **length of the stay** 2 months/year

- **proposed dates of the stay** From April to May 2006
From April to May 2007

artistic project

of the host organisation

- **fields of expression proposed for the residency:**

Performing Arts / Multidisciplinary. The fields should comprise all forms of Performing Arts (theatre and theatre related projects are encouraged) and could involve collaborative work such as installation, video, puppets, dance, aso.

The residency proposal is opened for 2 artists/year, for 2 years (2006, 2007) with a focus on 2007 when their work will be displayed during the events of Sibiu – European Cultural 2007.

- **description the general artistic project of your structure:**

The structure is involved in the production/displaying/promotion of Performing Arts projects, especially theatre, in all its forms and models of expression, aiming to promote plays, performances, young talents as well as theatre academic issues and theoretical research. All projects developed for the past 8 years have a strong focus on creativity, innovation and international networking.

- **particular frame offered for this residency:**

Sibiu International Theatre Festival – now at its 12th edition – is an event which has become a reference point for the national and international artistic community. The event, comprising 10 days of festival with 250 performances gathering more than 1500 participants from 66 participating countries is structured on several major directions:

- Romanian and foreign prestigious performances;
- The Open Market for Performances;
- Meetings of several European cultural networks;
- "Performances in Castles and Historical Sites";
- Play-Reading Performances and Radio Theatre;
- Meeting of Theatre Schools and Academies;
- Specialized workshops.

The Festival has a solid international reputation for its high cultural standard, for the creative environment it has created and for the partnerships it has built. All these reasons stand behind the European Commission's support and the UNESCO patronage the Festival enjoys. The festival is a member of prestigious international cultural networks, such as: IETM – Informal Theatre European Meeting, CONCEPTS – Consortium for the Coordination of European Performance and Theatre Studies, IITM – Institut International du Théâtre Méditerranéen, IFEA – International Festivals and Events Association, EurAm Bourse and ALTER – Rencontre des Bourses aux Spectacles, and EUNETSTAR. The event's major contribution to the world-wide acknowledgement of Romania's cultural and social values and to the improvement of the image of a community standing out for its spirituality, attitude and European models were altogether reasons for which it received the Patronage of the Prime Minister this year as well. The Festival is produced by „Democracy through Culture“ Foundation, in association with the National Corporation for Radio and TV Broadcast, organized by „Radu Stanca“ Theatre, UNITER, The Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs, the City Hall and Sibiu Local Council, together with Sibiu Regional Council and „Lucian Blaga“ University from Sibiu.

- **the means of encouraging exchanges among different forms of expression:**

The structure organises an International Theatre Festival with a large diversity of themes - Sibiu International Theatre Festival.

- **the means of fostering interactions with the human, social and economic contexts:**

a) Arts in Public Spaces Initiative is an action designed to enhance the use of "culturally sensitive" public spaces and urban historical architectural assets by means of direct cultural action - namely theatre and dance performances. The initiative was also designed as a pilot for the future Program "Theatre in Castles", a major international project focused on the use and revival of 10 Saxon fortified churches and fortresses around Sibiu - sites of unique beauty and immense cultural value - as performance spaces for theatre productions especially produced for these locations. **Arts in Public Spaces Initiative** was the first city development action derived from a cultural perspective and will continue in 2007 on a very large scale.

A case of impact on social cohesion:

They wish to emphasize the case of the space known as "Golden Valley", a city marginal block-of-flats quarter, whose population is formed mostly by workers and unemployed. The physical and cultural distance from the city centre transformed these people into "*able people, disabled by the society*". They decided to use the park in their neighbourhood - an actual valley in a forest - as performing space for the very spectacular "Brith Gof" Welsh company and the result was that more than 5,000 people belonging to this quarter attended the performance, some of them for 2-3 times. It was the first time that an "attitudinal barrier" between centre and marginal sectors of the city was crossed by means of cultural action.

b) Accessible Theatre Initiative:

This initiative is focused on the community access to the cultural events and is mainly represented by the organizer's decision not to charge any entry fees. This decision - although rather controversial - enabled the unlimited access, especially for the large student sector (10,000) of population, to all performances and events. During 1997 a special issue was "street theatre" as a form of including whole sections of the community within cultural events and create shared experience and solidarity among vast sections of population.

c) Arts in healthcare and disabled people care:

A pilot project called "Emotion in Motion" involved workshops carried in a special deaf and dumb children institution by an important theatre-dance company, where the children were taught to express their emotions and experience by dance and motion, rather than facial mimic and hand-language.

d) Engaging the young people:

The organizers have found ways to attract young people to participate directly into organizational and logistic departments of the Festival. The Festival organizers in different areas from computer design and layout to city guides and reception desk used 150 volunteers, aged between 18 and 30.

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

The structure will provide specialised human resources for all stages of the project: production, promotion, marketing, project follow up.

- **material resources which will be available for the artist:**

The following material will be at the disposal of the artist :

- Full theatre production facility (workshops, rehearsal, make up, aso)
- Performing space with 200 seats and up-to-date stage facility
- Computer facilities, including video graphic, digital sound processing and DVD production
- Access to informal performing spaces (city squares, medieval castle, aso).

- **ways of promoting the artistic work:**

The residency will include:

- Public performance of the work, both on theatre stage and in framework of Sibiu international Festival
- The inclusion of resident artists' work within printed and electronic presentations (both web and promotional DVDs) issued by the structure
- Press conference and press kits.

description of the residency

- **description of the professional and artistic environment of the structure:**

It is focused on up-to-date, powerful ideas; it has the richest and the most complex program of all Romanian independent structures; it is a competition aiming to promote plays, performances, young talents as well as theatre academic issues and theoretical research; is creating awareness of the public of artistic phenomena, of art and tourism; is creating issues of social cohesion and responsibility; is creating economic downstream benefits; is working with international artists in a way that involves local communities of artists and the general public.

- **description of the local environment and the standard of living:**

City of Sibiu (Hermannstadt) – future European Cultural Capital in 2007 – is located in the central part of Romania, in Transylvania. It has a rich and impressive heritage gathered from its century long history, both as medieval commercial centre, former Transylvania's Governor Residency and strategic fortified city. The city has a rich multicultural and multiethnic environment (Romanian, German, and Hungarian), a vibrant cultural life and a boosting local economy. Tourism – including cultural and rural tourism - is a major business in the area. The living standard is higher than in other parts of Romania, with rather expensive real estate and major international investors (Siemens, Renault, Bosch, Krupp, Continental) investing in the area.

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

A 3 star hotels, 10 min. walking distance from the working place will be provided.

- **amount of the grant (monthly):**

The amount of the grant is 300 euros per month.

- **financer of the grant:**

The grant is financed by local and regional authorities.

comments

of the national coordinator

The residences proposed by this structure will be correlated to the development of the Sibiu International Theatre Festival which is organized annually at the end of May - the beginning of June.

The creative space of Sibiu city is sustained by the permanent presence of Romanian and foreign creators and the social, economical and cultural development of the region is the starting point of our proposal.

Sibiu will become in the next years the cultural capital city of Romania, event which will be accomplished in 2007 by Luxembourg's decision to sustain and promote this partnership at a European level – Sibiu is the future European Cultural Capital in 2007.

Considering all these, the map^{XXL} residences will sustain the city's cultural climate and the cultural impact will be maximal.

Sibiu is an outstanding patrimonial space for the European culture. Being placed at the confluence of East and West, Sibiu is a multicultural, multi-linguistic city. Thereby, it becomes an appropriate creative environment for artists from all over the world.

The artists will be able to maintain their creative identity and also assimilate specific features of the local culture.

Aura Corbeanu