

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

Third meeting of festivals directors from the 18th till the 21st of May in Bochum/Germany during in the FIDENA

The FIDENA (Figurentheater der Nationen) festival is doubtless one of the most popular activities presented by the German Forum for Figure Theatre and the Art of Puppetry. The festival has now existed for over half a century, Annette Dabs is leading the festival since 1997.

FIDENA has always sought the interfaces between performative and pictorial art, the link between music theatre and object theatre, and the relationship between movement, figures and space. At the centre of the festival is the meeting between the arts and the artists. This aspect is underscored by including students of theatre studies and puppet theatre graduates, and by parallel symposia and organised discussions. International observers from all over the world travel regularly to FIDENA. There is now an active network of 85 festival heads from regions in all four corners of the globe, the so-called "Tucholsky Connection".

In cooperation with the UNIMA Festival commission we shall finally be able to open the third international meeting of puppet theatre festival heads. The conference will take place in Bochum between the 18th and 21st of May. This year the theme will be **Cultural Education vs. Artistic Freedom – International Festivals in Times of Crisis**.

The conference programme will be presenting unusual projects which exemplify the link between art and mediation. Under the slogan "No Education" it will simultaneously present concepts which refuse mediation and nonetheless (perhaps for this very reason) find a way of reaching children and young people. It goes without saying that we shall also be exchanging ideas and opinions about "best practice" examples from our own ranks.

The symposium will be simultaneously translated into German, English and French. The number of participants is limited and we shall allot places according to the receipt of registration. Deadline for the registration is the 1st of April 2014. We shall of course be only too willing to help you get visas and, where appropriate, with the necessary applications for travel grants and travel organisation.

We offer two different packages for your stay, whether you stay only for the symposium or coming earlier to see and experience more of the FIDENA. There are also different possibilities of accommodation available. If you are interested please feel welcome to contact Helene Ewert, symposium@fidena.de

<http://www.fidena.de>