

workshop *HERSTORY OF BRA AND KNIFE*

Mentors' Biographies

Dijana Milošević (Serbia)

Dijana Milosevic is the artistic director of Dah Teatar and Research Center located in Belgrade, Serbia. In 1991, Milosevic and four other women decided to start a small theater company, and Dah's work has since included cross-community collaborations with a theater in Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as performances that challenge the citizens of Belgrade to acknowledge the legacy of atrocities committed by the Serbian government. Milosevic also served as artistic director for the International Meeting of Theatre Workshops in Belgrade and collaborated with the Magdalena Project, an international network of women in contemporary theater. She is also the co-founder of Art Saves Lives, an initiative to explore the healing power of art through discussions and festivals. She is the 2007 recipient of the prestigious Otto Rene Castillo Award for Political Theatre. Milosevic's anthology chapter explores theater and performance as a means of communication and action in times of violence by describing and assessing the examples of Dah Teatar, Women in Black and the Mostar Youth Theatre-Dah collaboration. She graduated at the Faculty of Dramatic Arts, Department of Theatre Directing, at the University of Belgrade. She programmed the INFANT (International Festival of New and Alternative Theatre) Festivals in 1999 and 2000. She directed "Women's side of war" in cooperation with anti-war activist group "Women in Black".

Nena Močnik (Slovenia),

Nena Mocnik (1986) holds a degree in critical approaches to multicultural politics from the Faculty of Social Sciences (University of Ljubljana), and since 2011 a Master of Arts degree, with a thesis focusing on the actualization of effective multicultural politics and its failure in former Yugoslavia. In 2010 she joined Sava working group association, international NGO network, which shares positive attitudes to stability, harmony and peace among young Balkans and has been active in the field of theater and performing arts as a form of social communication and awareness since 2006. In 2007 she wrote and directed puppet performance for children, called "All different, all wrong", with the topic of racism and intolerance. Since 2010 she is a co-leader of the project Global SOFA, which introduces theatre techniques of Theatre of the oppressed idea into Slovenia environment. In 2011 she worked for Mostar Friedensprojekt Association (Berlin/Germany) in youth projects and currently she is a PhD student of Balkan Studies at the University of Ljubljana and research assistant at the Faculty for Social Sciences (University of Ljubljana) where she focuses her interest on connections between women and nation/nationalism/fascism/political activism and participating theatre methods.

Irmgard Demiol (TdU Austria)

Irmgard Demiol is a psychotherapist, educator and Theater of the Oppressed Activist. An important part of her work is psychotherapeutic treatment for immigrants, especially for torture survivors and victims of war coming from different countries (Verein HEMAYAT, Vienna) . She also trains health and social professionals for work with culturally diverse clients.

Svetlana Slapšak (Slovenia)

Born in 1948, graduated, MA and Ph.D. from the Department of Ancient Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Belgrade. She teaches Greek language, Balkan studies, Feminine Literature at the Department of Sociology (Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia). She coordinates two programs at the The Institutum Studiorum Humanitatis (ISH) – Ljubljana Graduate School of the Humanitie, Anthropology and the Anthropology of Ancient Worlds, and lectures at several modules. She is also one of corresponding members of the Hellenic Foundation for Culture, member of SEG (Paris), Editor in Chief of the Journal for Culture ProFemina woman, a member of the editorial project Central and East European Literary History, (University of Toronto, Canada). Svetlana also lectured at many universities abroad and is a novelist, essayist, ancient historian, and activist.

Manca Juvan Hessabi,

Born 1981 in Slovenia, Manca has worked as a freelance photographer since 2000, after completing her studies at the Slovene School for Photography (1996 – 2000). Selected Photographer of the Year in Slovenia for her reportage work in 2006, 2007 and 2008. Twice commended - in 2005 and 2006 - for her work on Afghanistan by the Slovenian Association of Journalists. She was nominated for the World Press Photo's Joop Swart Materclass in 2008. Her book [Afghanistan: Unordinary Lives](#) (Afganistan: neobičajna življenja), a collection of her work on Afghanistan was published by Sanje publishers in October 2010, the English edition followed in February 2012. In 2011 she was chosen as one of three recipients of a scholarship for NYU/Magnum Foundation Photography and Human Rights Program. In 2011 her work has been chosen by Jean-Luc Monterosso to be shown at Photomed festival in France, it was selected for its "Hall of Excellence" by The Manuel Rivera-Ortiz Foundation for International Photography, as well as it was awarded two prizes in the „Lens on Development" photo contest organized by the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 2004 she was chosen from 100 candidates to be one of 15 photographers to participate in a workshop sponsored by Altemus and the VII Photo Agency for young photojournalists from Eastern Europe. Published photographs and stories on Venezuela, Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Thailand, India, the United States, Serbia and the EU countries, among others in The Times, The Sunday Times, The Guardian, Chicago Tribune, National Geographic (Slovenia), Time.com, Marie Claire, The European Voice. Member of International Association of Photojournalists [SPUTNIK photos](#) whose project "At The Border" was awarded by European Cultural Foundation and has worked as a mentor occasionally on photo documentary workshops and she prepared several solo exhibitions and participated in many group displays home and abroad.