

What is...

FLIPT

INTERCULTURAL WORKSHOP FESTIVAL OF THEATRICAL PRACTICES



The **FLIPT – Intercultural Workshop Festival of Theatrical Practices** – is a recurring pedagogical intercultural project, that **Teatro Potlach** organises in its premises in **Fara Sabina** (a medieval village in the country, 1 hour distant from Rome, **Italy**), with **Pino Di Buduo** as artistic director.

The Festival is organised with the collaboration of **I.S.T.A.** (International School of Theatre Anthropology) directed by **Eugenio Barba**.



Eugenio Barba and Pino Di Buduo – FLIPT 2018



Pino Di Buduo with some participants in FLIPT 2017

It usually takes place every year between **June** and **July**, with a variable duration of **ten** to **twenty** days.

In the context of FLIPT, **countries far from each other** like India, Brazil, Iran, United States, Japan, China, Mexico, Indonesia, Greenland, Spain, Denmark, Poland, Ukraine, Hungary, the Netherlands, Greece, Italy and many more, **can meet under the sign of art, of cultural exchange** and of **mutual respect**.

In fact, **interculturality** and the **technical** and **expressive exchange between different artistic traditions** are the common thread of the event.

The main focus of the festival, therefore, is the **pedagogical formation** of young people coming from all over the world, by means of workshops held by international masters.



Claudio De Maglio

Among the workshops hosted in the latest years at FLIPT, there are:

- The Baul traditional singing and dancing workshop with **Parvathy Baul** (India);
- The Kamigata-mai traditional dance workshop with **Keiin Yoshimura** (Japan);
- The workshop on the Commedia dell'Arte led by **Claudio De Maglio** (Italy);
- The Balinese dance and masks workshop with **I Wayan Bawa** (Indonesia);

- The Chinese Traditional Opera workshop with **Tian Mansha** (China);
- The Bollywood dancing workshop with **Chintan Pandya** (India);
- The workshop on the city as memory with **Kyle Gillette** (United States);
- The clown workshop with **Hernàn Genè** (Argentina).



Parvathy Baul

Moreover, every year **Eugenio Barba** and **Julia Varley** from **Odin Teatret** hold a masterclass, and the **pedagogists from Teatro Potlach** hold a workshop on the physical and vocal training.

Besides the workshops and masterclasses, every day the **companies or artists** from all over the world **stage at least one performance**.

Moreover, FLIPT hosts in turn **conferences, book launches, round tables** with international guests from the field of performance: artists, theatrical operators, critics, journalists, festival organisers, directors, university professors and researchers.



Presentation of a book – FLIPT 2018

During the Festival, many **collective site specific performances are created**, involving all the participants, directed by Pino Di Buduo and by Teatro Potlach's pedagogists. This is a further chance to work and exchange, where the relationships established in the two or three weeks of living together come to the stage.



"Invisible Cities", a collective site specific performance by Teatro Potlach, with all the participants in FLIPT 2019

A typical day at the FLIPT:

9.00-9.30 Physical and vocal training with the pedagogists from Teatro Potlach

9.45-12.45 Practical workshop with one of the guest pedagogists

12.50-13.50 Lunch

14.00-16.00 Practical workshop with one of the guest pedagogists

16.30-19.30 Building a collective performance with director Pino Di Buduo, or alternatively meetings/conferences

19.45-20.45 Dinner

21.00 Performance by a guest company or artist



Performance by I Wayan Bawa in FLIPT 2018

As a summary, the aims of the Festival are:

- to realise a high quality cultural event, capable of presenting the more fruitful inspirations from the international theatrical landscape, through the circulation and mobility of the artists;
- to present high quality performances according to a logic of intercultural and local development;
- to promote the meeting with the new languages of performance and the multidisciplinary, organising conferences, lessons and meetings with artists and national and international personalities;
- to promote the formation of a new audience through workshops, conferences and presentation of international performances both indoors and in the street; and to promote, through art, the artistic local excellences;
- to improve the citizens' awareness, redeveloping and valorising the identity of the territory pertaining to the Municipality of Fara Sabina, to the Province of Rieti and to the Region of Lazio.



Workshop with Nathalie Mentha (Teatro Potlach) in FLIPT 2019

Link to the FLIPT trailer:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DdgfBEsBgfA>

Link to the trailer on the creation of the collective performances:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5qgVyaxvzRU>

WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT FLIPT:

[...] In the occasion of a week completely dedicated to workshops, conferences, meetings and performances from all over the world, I finally paid a visit to Di Buduo, to his house. Of this house two things are amazing. First of all the place: on the top of a hill, next to the mayor's house, there is the Potlach's headquarters. You climb, you look down, you see the Sabina valley: an already "wonderful" view in itself. The second thing that strikes the visitor is the high level of organisation, that is the efficiency, the tidyness, even the program. It's like being in a monastery. There's even the sound of a bell, bringing us back to a different time of the day. But the atmosphere is not exactly conventual, it is rather creative, almost as it was demanded by the disposition itself of the floors and of the rooms, which are placed on different levels and angles, as if, I imagined, they were carved inside the side of the hill [...]

Franco Cordelli (theater critic), Corriere della Sera, 2014

In a chaotic and fragmented world, that wants us to be more and more each other's enemies and suspicious even of our neighbour [...] There, in this world, and right in my nation, that certainly doesn't escape this perverted game, one day I encountered an "invisible city" ... "city of the sun": Fara Sabina. And in that city I found a welcoming house: Teatro Potlach.

Therefore, a house, but above all a big and beautiful family with which we shared days of intense artistic and "artisan" work, but also days of simple and straight fun, in the frame of the festival FLIPT 2016, which for me has been mainly a big cultural anthropology workshop.

In this context, it's been exciting to share our knowledge and our cultural treasures with others.

For ten days, it was like living in Babel: the sound of the different languages, of the songs, of the "traditions" exalted me and made me feel as part of a whole smiling mankind [...] In Fara Sabina – the *City of sun*, capital of the *Invisible cities* – the hard work was precisely the contact point, creating bridges to connect the different cultures and tightening deep bonds. A work with an "almost" sacred rigour, as in a collective and universal ritual. And by facing formal and structural issues, within the workshops, everyone of us had to question himself, showing his own weaknesses and his potential. Everyone had to abandon his own social mask, tearing down the walls and the cultural resistences, to choose to freely "give himself" to others.

For what concerns specifically the work of the actor, what underlay all the different workshops at FLIPT was the care for details and the precision of the form and of the adopted methodologies. These same principles and the extreme precision of the work in dealing with the different characters of the Commedia dell'Arte in the workshop held by the pedagogist Claudio De Maglio, I found them in the rigour and the purity of forms in the Japanese dances by Keiin Yoshimura, and in the Indian ones by Parvathy Baul, accompanied by her mystic chant, in the training by Teatro Potlach, and finally also in the poetically structured work of the director and great pedagogist Eugenio Barba. A strong, clean, precise form and structure, used as a springboard to transcend the structure itself and find "*life inside art*" [...]

Thanks to Teatro Potlach. May the "forty" become "hundreds" and may this energy be spread everywhere by the magic of the wind.

Silvano Vargiu, participant in FLIPT 2016, from Lanusei (Sardinia)

[...] Different ages, different countries, different artistic formations, yet all these people have the only aim to reach Teatro Potlach, to participate in FLIPT (Intercultural Workshop Festival of Theatrical Practices), and to celebrate 40 years for this company [...] Potlach is a word from the native Americans, meaning exchange. Teatro Potlach's life is grounded in the exchange. It was evident in the way it welcomed us, not as foreigners, but rather as old friends who don't meet since a long time. They opened the doors for us without the slightest hesitation, without any jealousy, without falsity. A total openness: I believe this is the true nature of theatre.

In the twelve days I spent here, there were a lot of exchanges. Exchanges of languages, of feelings, emotions, deep exchanges of glances [...]

Marco Bileddo, participant in FLIPT 2016, from Matera (Basilicata)

[...] By participating in this intensive festival, we learned a unique vision of the role of pedagogy in the performance. Through different techniques and practices, every pedagogist helped our little group of international artists to experiment and work with our bodies in completely new ways [...]

Holly Gabelmann and Nico Champion, participants in FLIPT 2018, from S. Antonio (Texas – USA)



Via Santa Maria in Castello n.28
Fara in Sabina (RI, Italy)
teatropotlach@gmail.com
www.teatropotlach.it