



19th ISTANBUL THEATRE FESTIVAL 9 MAY - 5 JUNE 2014

The 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival organised by the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts (İKSV) since 2004 under the sponsorship Koç Holding Energy Group Companies Aygaz, Opet and Tüpraş.

The Istanbul Theatre Festival will take place from 9 May to 5 June 2014 and will bring theatre lovers close to 100 performances by 7 foreign and 35 Turkish theatre, dance, and performance companies across 13 different venues. 33 of the local productions in the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival's programme will have their Turkish premieres, three of which will be co-produced by the Istanbul Theatre Festival.

The 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival, gearing up to meet the audience with a rich programme consisting of plays, dance, performance, and events will be taking place at different venues throughout the city, such as the **Bisahne, Cevahir Stage, DOT, Haldun Taner Stage, ikincikat-karaköy,**

Kenter Theatre, Moda Stage, Harbiye Muhsin Ertuğrul Stage, Sainte Pulcherie French High School, Salon, Şişli Blackout, Üsküdar Studio, and Üsküdar Tekel stages. The festival will also include **Q&A's, performances, film and documentary screenings, and workshops** that will be attended by **famous guests and experts.**

The programme for the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival was announced at a press conference held at the **Rahmi M. Koç Museum.** Throughout the evening hosted by **Yekta Kopan,** speeches were given by İKSV Chairman **Bülent Eczacıbaşı,** Aygaz General Manager **Yağız Eyüboğlu,** Opet General Manager **Cüneyt Ağca,** Tüpraş General Manager **Yavuz Erkut,** and Istanbul Theatre Festival
Director
Leman Yılmaz.

"Our main priority is to put on our festival that brings a breath of fresh air to the theatre world in Istanbul, every year"

İKSV Chairman **Bülent Eczacıbaşı** announced that in order to further the leading role of theatre in the art and culture of Turkey, the Istanbul Theatre Festival will continue to contribute to its future with workshops and educational programmes: *"The Istanbul Theatre Festival is presenting theatre lovers with a rich programme composed of plays, dance, performance, and events. We are pleased to present such a colourful selection to the festival audience. We believe our festival, which takes place every two years, brings a breath of fresh air to the theatre world in Istanbul with each new edition, and we would like to be able to put on our festival every year.*

Speaking on behalf of Aygaz, General Manager **Yağız Eyüboğlu** said, *"This year the festival has an important feature. 2014 marks the 450th anniversary of the birth of, undoubtedly, the most important name in World theatre history, Shakespeare. Since 2016 will be the 400th anniversary of his death, the famous playwright will be commemorated with special plays on our stages, as well as all over the world. For the next two years, as Shakespeare said, "All the world's a stage". The 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival has a special significance for us this year, as well. This year marks Aygaz's*

10th year of sponsorship. We are honoured to have supported the festival since 2004. We are happy to be contributing to social development and providing the opportunity to introduce especially the young generations to examples of modern theatre with this occasion."

Opet General Manager **Cüneyt Ağca** said, *"The Istanbul Theatre Festival, prepared every two years by İKSV with great care after intense effort and research, is an event we are proud to support as OPET, alongside the fellow companies of our energy group. Bringing the art of theatre, one of the most important forces enabling humanity's cultural development, to the Istanbul audience with such an international festival plays a great part in Istanbul and Turkey's inclusion among the cultural capitals of the world. Contributing to the development of both the audience and the art world in different ways, while bringing together local and foreign works with young actors and audiences, this festival creates a great artistic celebration. Born on this soil and with an objective to create an informed society through the social responsibility projects we develop for this country, we are a brand that creates a difference within our industry. In light of this goal, being a sponsor for the Theatre Festival means a lot to us. While wishing all art lovers an enjoyable and energetic festival, I would also like to present my thanks to the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts; 'Life's energy comes from the theatre, the theatre's energy comes from us..."*

In his speech, Tüpraş General Manager **Yavuz Erkut** said, *"As Tüpraş, besides the vital role we undertake in meeting our country's need for energy, we also count the development of sustainable cultural politics for our country as one of our responsibilities. It is possible to see the aesthetic expression of human feeling in every branch of art. Theatre is one of the most dynamic art forms, in this regard. As a member of the Koç Group, we are once again honoured to support the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival and are happy to funnel our energy into its dynamism. I believe that this dynamism, which is carried to the stages of Istanbul through this festival, is just as meaningful to our artists who will be meeting their contemporaries, as it is to theatre lovers, and I wish everyone an enjoyable and highly energetic festival. As long Tüpraş exists, it will continue to wholeheartedly support culture and art with its "energy".*

Taking the floor afterwards, **Istanbul Theatre Festival Director Leman Yılmaz** relayed information on performances in the festival programme.

Organisations and corporations which contributed to the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival were also given a **thank you plaque** at the ceremony. Besides **Koç Holding Energy Group Companies Aygaz, Opet, and Tüpraş**, the festival's performance sponsors **ENKA Foundation, Banvit, Atabay**, as well as **The Republic of Turkey's Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality's Department of Cultural and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism's State Theatres, the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Theatres, the Adam Mickiewicz Institute, British Council, French Cultural Centre, Goethe-Institute Istanbul**, and the **Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland** were presented with thank you plaques. The plaques were presented by **Bülent Eczacıbaşı**.

The First Honorary Award of 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival Was Presented To Dikmen Gürün

The first Honorary Award of the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival was presented to Prof. Dr. Dikmen Gürün, the director of the Istanbul Theatre Festival from 1993-2013. The award was presented by İKSV Chairman **Bülent Eczacıbaşı**.

Directing 14 festivals throughout the 20 years during which she worked as Theatre Festival Director at İKSV, **Gürün** produced collaborative works with local artists and companies, created new spaces for young theatre and dance companies, gave importance to the educational projects, and supported the use of alternative venues for theatre projects. Hosting distinguished companies and contemporary interpretations of world theatre in Istanbul, the festival also took part in many partnered international projects during this time.

Briefly working as the Istanbul 2010 European Culture Capital Agency's Performing Arts Director,

Dikmen Gürün brought to life the *2008 Theatre Festival of Istanbul Universities* and the *2009 Theatre Festival of Turkish Universities*. Writing about theatre for various art magazines and for *Cumhuriyet Newspaper* since 1982, **Gürün** also authored chapters in foreign and domestic books and presented at international theatre conferences. **Gürün's** book *Tiyatro Yazıları (Theatre Writings)* focuses on the structural problems of Turkish theatre from 1980 until the 2000's. The owner and curator of the project titled *Geçmişten Geleceğe Perde Açan Gelenek (The Tradition that Open the Curtain from the Past to the Future)*, she also wrote the book *Ateş Kuşu (Fire Bird)*, three volumes of research on theatre venue and the life of artist Semiha Berksoy. She still writes about the life of Yıldız Kenter.

Dikmen Gürün, who has received various awards since 1996 due to her contribution to the theatre world, retired from Istanbul University in 2008. She is still a faculty member in the Theatre Department at the Art and Design Faculty of Kadir Has University.

Other Honorary Awards at the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival

The second Honour Award will be presented to one of Polish theatre's young and innovative directors, **Grzegorz Jarzyna**. Assuming the role of art director of **TR Warszawa** since 1998, **Grzegorz Jarzyna** is also the general manager of the company he started in 2006. Gaining fame through brave adaptations of classical theatre pieces, **Grzegorz Jarzyna** is known for adapting Europe's best known novels to stage and for his contemporary "provocative" writing in Warsaw. Having received many awards for his work to date, **Grzegorz Jarzyna** will receive the Honour Award of the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival after the **TR Warszawa** company's performance of the play *No Matter How Hard We Tried* on **9 May**, taking place at the **Harbiye Muhsin Ertuğrul Stage**.

The third Honour Award of the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival will be presented to **Edward Hall**, the art director of the Propeller Theatre Company, the first that comes to mind when thinking of Shakespeare companies. Son of one of the Royal Shakespeare Company founders, Peter Hall, **Edward Hall** has also directed plays in many important theatres other than the Propeller Theatre Company, including the Boston Huntington Theatre, Barbican, National Theatre, and Old Vic Theatre. Starting as the art director of the Hampstead Theatre in January of 2010, **Edward Hall** also takes on the role of art director of the National Theatre, Old Vic, and Watermill Theatre. Hall had been part of the 13th Istanbul Theatre Festival in 2002, with The Watermill West Berkshire Playhouse's "Rose Rage". **Edward Hall's Honour Award** will be presented after the **Propeller Theatre Company's** performance of the play *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, staged in collaboration with the **British Council**, on 24 May, at the **Harbiye Muhsin Ertuğrul Stage**.

THE YEAR OF SHAKESPEARE AT THE FESTIVAL

Within the scope of the celebrations for William Shakespeare's 450th birthday in 2014, there will be many Q&A's, panels, workshops, and documentary screenings held, besides the many foreign and local productions, within the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival programme.

The Innovative Company of Shakespeare Plays, Propeller Theatre Company

The festival will host the **Propeller Theatre Company**, one of the most important company's staging Shakespeare plays today, in valued collaboration with the **British Council** within the scope of the Shakespeare Programme that will last for three years. Formed by a cast of all-male performers in the 1990's, the company, which only stages Shakespeare plays, will be putting on five performances of the plays *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Comedy of Errors* throughout the festival. Both plays will be staged by the company's art director **Edward Hall**, who

will be receiving the festival's Honorary Award.

A Midsummer Night's Dream tells of the clash between love and illusion through the story of two people who fall in love on the eve of their royal wedding. The Propeller Theatre Company, which meticulously works together the text and a contemporary aesthetic look in their plays, will be using masks, animation, all kinds of classic and modern projection, as well music that would appeal to any age group on stage for this play. ***A Midsummer Night's Dream*** will be performed at the

Harbiye Muhsin Ertuğrul Stage on **20, 22, and 24 May** at **20:30**. After the performance on 24 May, **Edward Hall** will be presented with the festival's Honorary Award.

The Propeller Theatre Company's second play in the festival programme is ***The Comedy of Errors***.

This Shakespeare play, full of mind games and fun, tells the story of the complicated relationships between two twins and their family. ***The Comedy of Errors*** will be performed on **21 and 23 May** at **20:30**, at the **Harbiye Muhsin Ertuğrul Stage**.

Local Adaptations of Shakespeare

Altın Sonra Tiyatro-Pangar will be one of the festival's guests with the play ***King (My Fool) Lear***.

Co-produced by the **Istanbul Theatre Festival** and directed, as well as adapted by **Yiğit Sertdemir**, Shakespeare's famous tragedy will be told through the character closest to Lear in the play, the Fool. The play will be performed at the **Üsküdar Tekel Stage** on **15 and 16 May** at **20:30**.

The company **Oyunbaz** will be performing Shakespeare's ***King Lear***, "humanity's absurdist tragedy" under the direction of **Abdullah Cabaluz**. ***King Lear*** will be at the **Üsküdar Tekel Stage** on **25 and 26 May** at **20:30**.

Bakırköy Municipal Theatres, will be staging ***Romeo & Juliet***, Shakespeare's tale of two young lovers and their separation due to their feuding families, under the direction of **Mehmet Birkiye**. ***Romeo & Juliet*** will be performed on **2 and 3 June** at **20:30** at the **Cevahir Stage**.

Çiğdem Selşik Onat and **Hayati Çitaklar**'s adaptation of Shakespeare's ***Hamlet, Makeshift Hamlet***

(Derme Çatma Hamlet), tells the story of a few individuals with ambiguous social identities who find a scattered version of the play ***Hamlet*** and their process of putting it back together. Directed by

Çiğdem Selşik Onat and performed by the **Derme Çatma Collective**, the play can be seen on **23 May** at **20:30** and **24 May** at **18:30** at the **Üsküdar Studio Stage**.

PERFORMANCES FOR THE YEAR OF POLAND-TURKEY AT THE FESTIVAL

Four performances organised as part of the **2014 cultural programme celebrating 600 years of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Poland** will take place at the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival.

One of Polish theatres young and innovative directors, **Grzegorz Jarzyna**, will be a guest of the festival with an adaptation of award-winning Polish author **Dorota Masłowska**'s impressive novel,

No Matter How Hard We Tried. In the play, prepared by the company TR Warszawa, director Grzegorz Jarzyna plays with fantastic notions, as he pleases, with a magical mastery. A play in which socialism is not even mentioned, but where all of capitalism's realities are displayed, the **TR Warszawa** and **Berlin Schaubühne am Lehniner Platz** co-production ***No Matter How Hard We Tried***, will be at the **Harbiye Muhsin Ertuğrul Stage** on **9 and 10 May** at **20:30**, sponsored by

ENKA Foundation. After the performance on Saturday, 9 May, director **Grzegorz Jarzyna** will be presented with the festival's **Honorary Award**. Following both of the performances on 9 and 10 May, author Dorota Masłowska will be answering the audience's questions.

Another play written and directed by **Grzegorz Jarzyna** and performed by **TR Warszawa** and **Teatr Narodowy w Warszawie**, will be **Nosferatu**. Inspired by Bram Stoker's gothic tale *Dracula* and adapted to the stage, **Grzegorz Jarzyna's** play presents tides of reality and the subconscious by utilising the theatrical language. A play in which pop culture icons Dracula and vampire stories will greet their audience with a different language, **Nosferatu** will be at the **Harbiye Muhsin Ertuğrul Stage** on **13 and 14 May** at **20:30**.

Baltic Dance Theatre, founded in 2010 by the initiative of dancer and choreographer **Izadora Weiss** alongside young and talented dancers, will be presenting Shakespeare's "timeless" comedy ***A Midsummer Night's Dream***, using the language of dance and music to illustrate a flowing example, without the use of much technology. The show, which includes film scores by famous musician **Goran Bregovic** and costumes by famous fashion designer **Gosia Baczyńska**, will be performed twice at the **Harbiye Muhsin Ertuğrul Stage** on **31 May** at **18:00 and 20:30**, and will be sponsored by **ENKA Foundation**.

The festival will also host the world premiere of **Opole Theatre's** play ***Proust-Pamuk-Bellek***, written and adapted by **Krzysztof Garbaczewski** and **Emre Koyuncuoğlu's** from **Marcel Proust and Orhan Pamuk's** novels. Inspired by Proust's *Time Regained* and Pamuk's *The Museum of Innocence* and *Istanbul: Memories and a City*, the play focuses on the cultural differences between East and West, while staging the meeting of contemporary Turkish and European literature. ***Proust-Pamuk-Bellek***, can be seen at the **Harbiye Muhsin Ertuğrul Stage** on **3 and 4 June** at **20:30**.

A STUNNING PLAY FROM INNOVATIVE DIRECTOR THOMAS OSTERMEIER

Earning the audience's admiration with his adaptation of *Hamlet*, **Schaubühne Berlin**, at the previous festival, famous director **Thomas Ostermeier** is one of the this years' most anticipated festival guests with **Henrik Ibsen's** shocking piece ***An Enemy of the People***. Especially garnering great acclaim around the world for his recent work, Thomas Ostermeier and dramatist **Florian Borchmeyer**

co-wrote a play faithful to the soul of the author, transferring its critical elements into the present day, and dealing with ***An Enemy of the People*** in a striking, sharp, and highly intelligent manner. With the valued collaboration of **Goethe Institute** and the sponsorship of **Atabay**, the play will be at the **Harbiye Muhsin Ertuğrul Stage** on **27, 28, and 29 May** at **20:30**.

LOCAL PRODUCTIONS AT THE FESTIVAL

The programme for the **19th Istanbul Theatre Festival** contains **35 local theatre, dance, and performance** companies that will be meeting an audience for the first time.

Hamlet Machine (Hamlet Makinesi), inspired by Shakespeare's *Hamlet* and written by one of the greatest intellectuals of our time, **Heiner Müller**, will be performed by the **Istanbul State Theatre**. The play, directed by **Ayşe Emel Mesçi** and dramatised by **Füsün Ataman Berke**, encompasses many topics ranging from a stagnant sense of history to the downfall of dictators, and from the oppression of and violence towards women to revolutions. ***Hamlet Machine*** will be at the **Üsküdar Tekel Stage** on **10 May** at **20:30**, on **11 May** at **15:00**, and on **12 May** at **20:30**.

Known to be the "word wizard," **Boris Vian's** last play ***The Empire Builders*** journeys into the secret and dark desires of people who refuse the world in the name of their own needs, delving into the denial of everything from loss to confrontation, through its tragicomic characters. The project, created by one of **Hayal Perdesi's** founders, **Selin İşcan**, as her first play was prepared

for the festival under the direction of famous Macedonian director **Aleksandar Popovski**. *The Empire Builders* will be at **Şişli Blackout Stage** on **11 and 12 May** at **20:30**.

Montserrat (Özgürlüğün Bedeli) tells the story of freedom fighter Simón Bolívar, who manages to escape Spanish soldiers, under the aid of an officer named Montserrat; the torture that Montserrat then endures; and what one is willing to lose for their freedom. Directed by **Barış Erdenk** and performed by **Eskişehir Metropolitan Municipality Theatres**, the play can be seen at the **Haldun Taner Stage** on **12 May** at **20:30** and on **13 May** at **18:30**.

Choreographed by **Ash Bostancı**, *The Last Unicorn* focuses on creating a surreal being on stage. A performance in which a being from a higher dimension falls to earth, and gives humanity the message of "It's not too late for anything and nothing is fully lost", it will be at the **Üsküdar Studio Stage** on **13 May** at **20:30** and on **14 May** at **18:30**.

Directed by **Mesut Arslan**, the play *Betrayal (Aldatma)* is a co-production between **Onderhetvel, Platform 0090, Toneelhuis, Dommelhof, 'T Arsenaal, Wpzimmer, and the Istanbul Theatre Festival** that will take place on **14, 15 and 16 May** at **18:30** and **21:00** at the **Moda Stage**. The starting point of the play is visual artist Lawrence Malstaf's installation entitled NEVEL. Constantly changing and revolving around itself within nine walls, Pinter's *Betrayal* questions the triangle of relationships in a unique way.

The play of **Kent Oyuncuları** entitled *The Adventures of Latif Effendi: The First Ottoman Vampire (İlk Osmanlı Vampiri Latif Efendi'nin Sergüzeşti)* tells the story of Latif Efendi, a high official during the Tanzimat period, who whilst sent to study the Western culture and life styles of European city, discovers a highly unpreferred thing outside of art and science, "the institution of vampirism". While what happens to Latif Efendi is described in a humorous tone, the play also displays the social paranoia prevalent during the Tanzimat years. Written by **Nermin Yıldırım** and directed by **Ahmet Mümtaz Taylan**, the play will be at **Kenter Theatre** on **16 May** at **20:30** and on **17 May** at **15:00**.

Known in history as the first play ever to be performed by the Darülbedayi, *La Maison D'Argile (Çürük Temel)*'s story takes place around a family relic factory that has turned into one's future, another's reputation, and another's revenge. Staged for the first time with Hüseyin Suat Yaşın's adaptation, *La Maison D'Argile* will once again open curtain with a modern interpretation on the 100th anniversary of **Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Theatres**. Directed by **Engin Alkan**, the play will be at the **Harbiye Muhsin Ertuğrul Stage** on **17 and 18 May** at **20:30**.

Conceptualised and choreographed by **Tuğçe Tuna**, --. --. *Show of Strenght (Gövde Gösterisi)* will be performed by Tuğçe Tuna and the RemDans Performance Collective, who are individually known for their unique work at various venues. In these works, Tuğçe Tuna will be aiming to create spaces to question for the audience, by utilising the concept of "body". The performance will be held at **Sainte Pulcherie French High School** on **17 and 18 May** at **18:30**.

biriken's new project *Tatyana*, was inspired by **Aleksei Sergeevich Suvorin** and **Anton Chekhov**'s play *Tatyana Repina*. Chekhov wrote this play as a continuation for his close friend and publisher Suvorin's play of the same title, inspired by the story of Evlalia Kadmina, who commits suicide on stage. **biriken**, however, tries to resurface what's trying to be forgotten, by tracing back through Tatyana's suicide and resurrection, taking place in between fiction and reality. *Tatyana* will be at the **Üsküdar Studio Stage** on **18 May** at **20:30** and on **19 May** at **15:00**.

Actor, directed and written by **Aydın Orak** and performed by **Theatre Avesta**, tells the story of

the tragicomic circumstances experienced by an actor whilst performing a play. Carried to the stage as a grotesque and dark comedy, the play presents the entire theatrical process, from the project phase to direction, acting, tours, and audiences. Having premiered in the Australian cities of Melbourne, Sydney, and Perth, **Actor** will be at the **Şişli Blackout Stage** on **19 May** at **20:30** and on **20 May** at **18:30**.

Author and director **Yeşim Özsoy Gülan's** new creation, **Love & Fascism (Aşk & Faşizm)** especially designed for the festival, was a collaboration between authors living in four different countries, including Gianina Cărbunariu from Romania, Linda McLean from Scotland, and Helena Tornero from Spain, conceptualised from each author's individual experiences. The play, which focuses on how opposing titles, love and fascism, currently affect our lives, will be co-produced by **GalataPerform** and the **Istanbul Theatre Festival** and at the **Moda Stage** on **21 and 22 May** at **20:30**. After the first performance, there will be a Q&A with the participation of the play's authors.

Lillian, helmed by one of American literature's fore-runners Lillian Hellman, takes a look at memories of detective literatures distinguished author Dashiell Hammet's last hours in a coma, as well as the author's childhood and life. Directed by **Orhan Alkaya** and performed by **Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Theatres**, the play will be at **Haldun Taner Stage** on **22 May** at **20:30** and on **23 May** at **18:30**.

One of contemporary American theatre's most prominent female writers, Pulitzer nominee and winner of the PEN/Laura Pels International Foundation for Theatre Award for an American Playwright, **Theresa Rebeck's Water's Edge (Göl Kıyısı)** is a modern adaptation of Aeschylus' Oresteia. Directed by **Mehmet Ergen** and staged by the **Talimhane Theatre**, **Water's Edge** will be at **Şişli Blackout Stage** on **24 May** at **20:30** and on **25 May** at **18:30**.

Aziz Nesin's play in which he questions the relationship between state and the individual in a humorous tone, **Yaşar Is Alive Or Not Live (Yaşar Ne Yaşar Ne Yaşamaz)**, tells the story of "citizen" Yaşar being crushed by bureaucracy. Directed by **Ferhat Keskin** and performed by **Diyarbakır Municipal Theatre**, the play will be at the **Haldun Taner Stage** on **26 May** at **20:30** and on **27 May** at **18:30**.

A House With Two Doors is Difficult To Guard (İki Kapılı Ev) provides a whirlwind of fun amongst passionate lovers, secret meeting, mysterious disappearances, secret-filled silences, young shoulders burdened by the grief of love, noble aristocrats, and sly servants. Directed by **Cem Uslu**,

A House With Two Doors is Difficult To Guard will be at the **Moda Stage**, performed by **Ekip Theatre**, and sponsored by **Banvit** on **28 and 29 May** at **20:30**.

Sami Berat Marçalı's new play **Hole (İn)**, presents a micro-representation of the present system through five friends who think more, question life more, complain more, and wish for everything to disappear. **ikincikat's** eighteenth production, this play will be performed on **30 May** at **20.30** and on **31 May** at **15.30** at the **Üsküdar Tekel Stage**.

In **Red Black and Ignorant (Kırmızı, Siyah ve Cahil)**, Edward Bond, accepted as one of modern British theatre's most competent writers, tells the story of the potential life of a man who was stillborn during a nuclear explosion. Co-produced by Bitiyatro, Istanbul and L'alarme-À-L'œil, Paris, **Red Black and Ignorant** will be at **Bisahne** on **31 May** at **18.30** and on **1 June** at **20.30**.

Parlour Song (Her Yıl Kuşlar Geri Gelir) will be performed by the **Tiyatro Stüdyosu**, under the direction of **Ahmet Levendoğlu**. In the play, Ned, who works as a "destruction expert", "blows up" unheard structures, due to his occupation. Without taking notice that among these structures are hospitals, and one of the town's favourite meeting places, which his wife visits every day... The play

will be at **Kenter Theatre** on **1 June** at **20:30** and on **2 June** at **18:30**.

Directed by **Ata Ünal** and choreographed by **Candaş Baş**, *Gertrude-The Cry (Gertrude-Çığlık)*, provides a new approach, deconstructing *Hamlet's* morality and focusing on his mother Gertrude instead. *Gertrude-The Cry*, will be at **Moda Stage** on **3 and 4 June** at **20:30**.

Initially penned by **Şahika Tekand** in 1994 and then staged during the 1995/96 theatre season, *Becoming a Rhinoceros (Gergedanlaşma)* is one of the first unique examples of performative staging and acting direction, developed by Tekand. In occasion with **Studio Actors'** 25th anniversary, the writing and staging of the play will be updated and performed as a contemporary, fun, and rhythmic play, under the title *Gergedanlaşma 2.014*. *Gergedanlaşma 2.014*, can be viewed at the **Üsküdar Tekel Stage** on **4 and 5 June** at **20:30**.

"New Wave" in the festival with young companies

Under the title "New Wave" the Istanbul Theatre Festival will be staging **six young theatre and dance companies'** performances at one of the cities' alternative venues **ikincikat-karaköy**.

Staged by **Didaskali Theatre**, *Maşenka* tells the story of the lodgings occupied by Russian immigrants settling in Istanbul after World War II and their relationships. The play was re-written by Çisil Oğuz and Berker Zor, after being inspired by Nabokov's first novel in which he shared his own memories. The play will meet theatre lovers on **10 and 11 May** at **18:30** at **İkincikat-karaköy**.

Adapted to the stage by **Tiyatro Öteki Hayatlar** from Georges Perec's novel of the same title, *Art and Craft of Approaching Your Head of Department to Submit A Request For A Raise, (Ücret Artışı Talebinde Bulunmak İçin Servis Şefine Yanaşma Sanatı ve Biçimi)*, is an absurdist tale about the trials of a protagonist who wants to approach his head of department for a raise and the dialogue that takes place between him and the secretary. The play will be at **ikincikat** on **18 May** at **15.00** and **19 May** at **18.30**.

It's Ok! was choreographed by **Canan Yücel**, who also performs the dances in the show. The show focuses on the dualities of life, causing people to be torn between negative and positive extremes of daily life. *It's Ok!* will be on stage at **ikincikat-karaköy** on **21 May** at **18:30** and **20:30**.

Centering on the concept of "liminality", **Motto Dance Collective's** *Hiatus* performance aims to present the journey of possibilities on the verge of a dancers' movement and stagnation. The performance will be at **İkincikat-karaköy** on **28 and 29 May** at **18:30**.

Toksikoman Collective's play, *Store My DNA So They Can Regenerate My Soul (DNA'mı Muhafaza Et Ruhumu Yeniden Doğursunlar)*, forces the limits of consciousness, questioning and researching who people are, on stage. The show will be at **ikincikat-karaköy** on **31 May** at **18:30** and **20:30**.

In their play *Black Order (Kara Düzen)* Budalasultan Collective seeks to answer the question: "If humans were to collectively and simultaneously violate the borders defined by the dominant political power, how would one build relations to him/herself, society, and government in this new undefined space?", *Black Order* will be at **ikincikat-karaköy** on **1 June** at **18:30** and on **2 June** at **20:30**.

"Oyun Salonu" At The Festival

The “Oyun Salonu” project, which came to life through the collaboration of the staff of **Salon** and the **Istanbul Theatre Festival**, will continue during the festival. **Four young theatre companies' plays** will be performed at **Salon** as part of “Oyun Salonu”.

Persona Non Grata (İstenmeyen) written by **Ceren Ercan** and **Gülce Uğurlu** is about an Egyptian pilot and a young Turkish woman, raised on Western references, trying to find way to maintain their love through cross-cultural prejudice, changing political climates, and finding themselves in an identity crisis. Directed by **Ceren Ercan** and choreographed by **Ash Bostancı**, the performance will be on **14 and 15 May at 20:30 at Salon.**

The Patience Stone (Sabır Taşı), adapted and directed by **Iraz Yöntem** from **Atiq Rahimi's** novel of the same title, focuses on a woman's first expression of suppressed emotion, sadness, anxiety, anger, and questions about life, in a world where women are not treated as human, where violence is lived as a common occurrence, and a country that has been inured to war. The play, staged by **Tiyatro(HÂL)**, will be at **Salon** on **22 May at 20:30** and on **23 May at 18:30.**

With **The Pencil (Kalem)**, **Tiyatro Artı**, which has previously experimented in styles such as single-audience and simulation plays, will be focusing on the perception of sight, aiming to create a different method for plays, from its plot to its audience placement. Directed by **Ufuk Tan Altunkaya**,

The Pencil will be performed on **3 June at 20:30** and on **4 June at 18:30 at Salon.**

buluTiyatro, founded in 2011 by **Ebru Nihan Celkan**, presents a new world order with water barons and beautiful faraway living spaces in **Shells With Surprises (Kabuklu Sürprizli Hayvanlar)**. Dealing with the concept of right and wrong while making decisions, caught between the instinct of survival and conscious, **Shells With Surprises**, directed by **Özlem Karadağ**, can be seen on **27 May at 20:30** and on **28 May on 18.30 at Salon.**

“Scissor Games, The Project: Short Plays” At The Festival

Starting in England in 2010 with a simple idea from the project's directors **Emma Callender** and **Hannah Price**, **Theatre Uncut** tackles short plays dealing with contemporary political issues from directors and distinguished playwrights. During its first three years, the projects' plays, penned by playwrights coming from England, Scotland, USA, Argentina, Spain, Greece, Syria, Iceland, and Egypt, were performed in seventeen countries. At the 2012 Edinburgh Festival, the project received the Theatre Uncut Fringe First, Herald Angel, and Scotsman Spirit awards.

DOT, recently staged a special selection of **Theatre Uncut's** short plays under the title **Scissor Games (Makas Oyunları)** during the 2013/14 season in Istanbul. The first readings from DOT and Theatre Uncut's collaboration, Theatre Uncut Istanbul, which started with a workshop in Istanbul in February, will be held as part of the festival on **16 May at 18:30**, on **18 May at 15:00** and on **20 May at 18:30** at the **DOT stage.**

The authors of the short plays from the **Theatre Uncut Istanbul** project, which will be taking place under the direction of **Murat Daltaban**, **Emma Callender** and **Hannah Price**, will be **Davey Anderson** and **Stef Smith** from England and **Ayfer Tunç**, **Berkun Oya**, **Hakan Günday**, **Derem Çıray** from Turkey.

OTHER EVENTS AT THE FESTIVAL

The 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival will host to **free Q&A's, screenings, performances, and workshops** attended by famous guests, and experts. Applications for workshops will be taken from the application form at the address tiyatroyksv.org, starting Wednesday, 2 April 2014.

- **Performance and Q&A: Choreographic Segments & Verbalised Thoughts**

10 May, Saturday, 12.00, Salon

Starting with movement, Björn Safsten holds a new light to the human body. While his work walks the line between gesture and movement, it also illuminates how construction and identity can form through choreography. Coming to Istanbul for the first time with the support of **Consulate General of Sweden, Björn Sasten** will stage a descriptive performance with his dancers for a piece he is working on. To attend, approval must be received by e-mailing rezervasyon@iksv.org.

- **Q&A: Two Men, Two Worlds, One Stage: Muhsin Ertuğrul and Vahram Papazyan**
10 May, Saturday, 17.00, Salon

Prepared through the partnership of **Theatre Boğaziçi** and **Berberyan Company**, the play **Muhsin and Vahram** starts with the story of Istanbul-born, famous Armenian actor Vahram Papazyan's letter to Muhsin Ertuğrul in 1964, in which he wrote about his desire to perform on stage in Istanbul or Ankara. The Q&A, with speakers Boğos Levon Zekiyan, Ayşegül Çelik, and Artsvi Bakhchinyan will be focused on the play. To attend, approval must be received by e-mailing rezervasyon@iksv.org.

- **Q&A and Screening: Speaking of Polish Theatre...**
11 May, Sunday, 17.30 (Q&A), 20.30 (Screening), Salon

Guest to the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival with two plays, Polish director **Grzegorz Jarzyna's** Q&A will feature clips from **The Tropical Craze**, and provide participants with the opportunity to get to know Jarzyna and contemporary Polish theatre more closely. Following the discussion, there will be a DVD screening of Grzegorz Jarzyna's play **2007: Macbeth**, which garnered a lot of acclaim at the Edinburgh Festival. To attend, approval must be received by e-mailing rezervasyon@iksv.org.

- **Workshop: "Theory Workshop"**
17 May, Saturday, 14.00-17.00, Salon
24 May, Saturday, 14.00-17.00, Salon

The Theory Workshop is an initiative for individual or collective questioning, idea development, examination, and discussion, outside of academia. Conducted by **Ata Ünal, Ayşe Draz** and **Özlem Hemiş** for the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival, the workshop will focus on all aspects of theatre criticism in relation to cultural, historic, social, artistic, and multi-disciplinary fields, as well as its place in Turkey and the world. To attend, approval must be received by e-mailing rezervasyon@iksv.org.

- **Documentary Screening and Q&A:**
"Türkiye'de Şekspir Olmak (Being Shakespeare In Turkey)"
19 May, Monday, 15.00 (Documentary Screening),
16.30 (Q&A with Özdemir Nutku), Salon

Prepared by **Gülşah Özdemir Koryürek**, this documentary tells the story of a journey that stretches from the Ottoman borders in 1800 until the present day, bringing together the views of our country's most qualified academicians and artists with audience commentary. After the documentary screening, the touchstone of world theatre history, **William Shakespeare**, will be commemorated on his 450th birthday, by a Q&A with **Prof. Dr. Özdemir Nutku**. To attend, approval must be received by e-mailing rezervasyon@iksv.org.

- **Workshop: "Writers Workshop with Sedef Ecer"**
20- 24 May, 10.00-17.00, Workshop, French Cultural Centre
26 May, Monday, 19.00, Reading, French Cultural Centre

Sedef Ecer, who has received many awards for her plays written in French, regularly holds playwriting workshops in France. The workshop that the author will be holding in Istanbul, will be open to six writers and six actors who will accompany their writing process. Realised with the support of the French Cultural Centre, authors and actors may apply to this workshop with their resumes and an accompanying piece regarding their projects (synopsis, statement, or a selection of dialogue). The plays written through the workshop will be shared with the audience at a theatre reading. To take part in the reading, approval must be received by e-mailing rezervasyon@iksv.org. To apply for the workshop, e-mail atelier@ifturquie.org.

- **Q&A: Shakespeare In Different Disciplines**
25 May, Sunday, 14.00-15.30 / 16.00-17.30 Salon

At the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival, the most written about and researched writer in the history of theatre, **William Shakespeare**, will be up for debate at the panel organised by **Istanbul University's Haldun Taner Theatre Research Centre**. The purpose of this panel will be to bring together different directors from different disciplines and social scientists who focus on Shakespeare, and to create discussion centred upon his plays and the situations expressed within them, outside of the theory of theatre. To join, approval must be received by e-mailing rezervasyon@iksv.org.

- **Workshop: "Movement and Perception"**
3 May, Friday, 15.00-16.30, Harbiye Muhsin Ertuğrul Stage

This workshop, organised through a valuable collaboration with the **British Council**, will be conducted by the actors of the **Propeller Theatre Company**. They will be working on how body and movement are perceived by the audience and how that affects the director's choices of what to include and highlight during a play. The workshop will focus on pieces of **A Midsummer Night's Dream**. The participants are expected to have a basic knowledge about the work. Applications for this workshop will be accepted through the application form that will be published on tiyatro.iksv.org starting Wednesday, **2 April, 2014**.

- **Workshop: "Use of Music On-Stage"**
24 May, Saturday, 11.00-12.30, Harbiye Muhsin Ertuğrul Stage

This workshop, also organised with the valuable collaboration of the **British Council** and once again held by the actors of the **Propeller Theatre Company**, will be specifically focused on the use of music in Shakespeare plays. The company, which creates their own music for each play, will provide on-stage examples within the context of music and play. **Propeller Theatre Company** recommends the participants to bring their own instruments. Applications for this workshop will be accepted the application form that will be published on tiyatro.iksv.org starting Wednesday, **2 April, 2014**.

THE FESTIVAL POSTER IMAGE WAS CREATED BY ŞAHİKA TEKAND

The 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival's poster was created through the collaboration of **Şahika Tekand** and **Bülent Erkmen**. The sketches, scribbles, and handwriting of one of the most important names in the art of theatre – director, playwright, and actor **Şahika Tekand** – were incorporated into the festival's poster designs by IKSVC Corporate Identity Advisor **Bülent Erkmen**'s design.

Şahika Tekand, who says she is happy to contribute to the Istanbul Theatre Festival's poster design, stated *"Actually, the poster design completely belongs to dear Bülent Erkmen. I just gave him some of my scribbles, stage sketches, and plans of action, which he put through a selection process in light of his design and put the results back together. We could say that only the material*

used for the poster design belongs to me. Combining all those materials in the poster was fully realized in accordance with Bülent Erkmen's design. I am both honoured and pleased for such opportunity to contribute to the poster of the Istanbul Theatre Festival, in which I've taken part for so many years with great honour and joy. Because, like most of us, this lovely festival holds great place within my personal history, as well."

Regarding the poster, **Bülent Erkmen** said the following: *"I wanted to use the sketches Şahika Tekand hastily created to describe the treatment and the choreography for actors' voice and movements, while designing the stage. I also chose one of the doodles she made, generally whilst thinking on something, and used it as a representative "stage", forming the basis of Tekand's imagination. Then, five characters I picked from her sketches took their places on that stage."*

THE FESTIVAL BOOK: "THE FESTIVAL IS TRAINING SCRIPT WRITERS"

In collaboration with **Istanbul University's Theatre Criticism and Dramaturgy Department**, the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival is "documenting" the theatre, preparing an education and communication project that will delight archivists just as much as theatre lovers. This year, the festival catalogue, released as the festival begins, will be published as a book, as part of the educational project **"The Festival Is Developing Script Writers"**. **Dr. Evren Barın Egrik**, the publication coordinator of the festival and visiting faculty within the department, will be conducting the project.

Seven undergraduate students who were chosen from the **Theatre Criticism and Dramaturgy Department** and received special training for this project, conducted interviews with local companies and provided descriptions of their plays for the festival book. Taking part in an education and discussion series under headings such as editing, photography, and design, outside of the theoretical education within their department, these students will be preparing the festival book, which will be the product of a special project, combining theory and practice, for the festival audience in May. Besides documenting the work processes of all the local companies, which are a guest of the festival, the book will also serve as a guide to festival-goers through its descriptions of the plays within the programme.

SUPPORTERS OF THE ISTANBUL THEATRE FESTIVAL

Festival sponsors **Koç Holding Energy Group Companies Aygaz, Opet, and Tüpraş** as well as performance sponsors **ENKA Vakfı, Atabay and Banvit** support the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival.

The performances of the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival are realised with the contribution of **Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality Theatres, Istanbul State Theatres, British Council, Goethe Institut, French Cultural Centre.**

Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Istanbul Governorate, Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, and Beyoğlu Municipality also provide support to the Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts.

The four performances, organised as part of the 2014 cultural programme celebrating 600 years of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Poland within the festival programme, are held **with the cooperation of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland.** (turkiye.culture.pl)

The leading sponsor of all festivals by the **Istanbul Foundation for Culture and Arts** is **Eczacıbaşı Holding**, the Official Communications Sponsor is **Vodafone**, the Official Carrier is **DHL**, the Official Accommodation Sponsor **Martı Istanbul Hotel** and the service sponsors are **Zurich Sigorta A.Ş, GFK, directComn Marketing Group** and **AGC.**

The **publicity campaign** of the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival was conducted by **BEK**.

ISTANBUL THEATRE FESTIVAL TICKETS

Tickets for the **19th Istanbul Theatre Festival** can be purchased beginning on **10.00 Saturday, 8 March** at:

- **BİLETİX sales points**
- **BİLETİX call centre** (+90 216 556 98 00)
- **BİLETİX website** (www.biletix.com)
- **İKSV Box Office** (open from 10.00 to 18.00; closed on Sundays except Sunday, 9 March)

Tickets can be purchased beginning on two hours before the event, from the box offices at the festival venues. **Tulip Card members** will have a **special discounts up to 20-25%** for their ticket purchases. The credit cards can be used for ticket sales and each performance will have full tickets as well as discounted tickets for students.

The 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival **brochure** can be procured from **İKSV** (Nejat Eczacıbaşı Binası Sadi Konuralp Caddesi No.5 Şişhane) and **Biletix sales points**.

Further information on the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival: tiyatro.iksv.org/en

Follow the festival at social media:

[facebook.com/istanbuliyatrofestivali](https://www.facebook.com/istanbuliyatrofestivali)

twitter.com/tyatrofest

For high-resolution images from the 19th Istanbul Theatre Festival: www.iksvphoto.com

For videos from the press meeting: <https://files.secureserver.net/0fgQP7xZ5tZwM7>

For any questions related to the festival: + 90 (212) 334 07 13 and + 90 (212) 334 07 28

19TH ISTANBUL THEATRE FESTIVAL

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