



Ending Ceremony of the 2nd International Pantomime Festival



Baghdad International Theater Festival crowns Ebrahim Poshtkoochi's "Macbeth Zar"

Iran Theater- The show "Macbeth Zar" written and directed by Ebrahim Poshtkoochi won the grand prize of the 4th Baghdad International Theater Festival.

The closing ceremony of the 4th Baghdad International Theater Festival was held on Wednesday, October 18. This is the first time that the jury awarded the grand prize to a show at the Baghdad Theater Festival.

"Macbeth Zar" was also nominated in the categories of director, female actor and male actor.

The play "Macbeth Zar" written and directed by Ebrahim Poshtkoochi is a combination of Shakespeare's "Macbeth" with "Zar" ritual and it has inspired by methods of Kabuki (Japan), Kathakali (India), Butoh (Japan) and Commedia dell'arte (Italy).

This show, which is the 20th production of "T-Took" theater group, has been the selected work in Moscow Nights Festival and appreciated in the Munich Festival. This play has also gone to stage at the Avignon Festival and GITIS International Institute of Russia as well as other festivals in Armenia, Azerbaijan and India.

"Macbeth Zar" features Shahrouz Delafkar, Gata Abedi, Shobayr Parastar, Yashar Naderi, Saeed Borjali, Fahimeh Mousavi, Sahar Abdulmaleki, Mateen Makari, Ali Dolatyari and Saber Rezaei.

The 4th Baghdad International Theater Festival featured works from Iran, Italy, France, Belgium, Morocco, Algeria, Oman, Egypt, Tunisia, Iraq and Germany.

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Ending Ceremony of the 2nd International Pantomime Festival

Iran Theater- The closing ceremony of the 21st International Traditional and Ritual Theater Festival was held on Tuesday, October 2 with the presence of the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance in Gorgan.

The theatrical groups that participated in the festival, veteran artists and general managers of culture and Islamic guidance of the five host provinces were honored at the closing ceremony.

The closing ceremony was held with the presence of Mohammad Mehdi Esmaeili (Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance), Ali Mohammad Zanganeh (Governor of Golestan), Mahmoud Salari (Deputy of Arts Affairs of the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance), Kazem Nazari (Director General of Dramatic Arts), Esrafil Farajollahi



(CEO of the Dramatic Arts Association), Mohammad Ra'yat (Director General of Culture and Islamic Guidance of Golestan) and a large number of artists from all over the country in Fakhroddin Asadgorgani Hall in Gorgan city. Ahmad Joulaie, the artistic director of the 21st Traditional and Ritual Theater Festival presented a report about holding the festival: Artists participated in the festival tried to keep the festival exciting in

the best possible way. While we were facing a lot of time constraints to hold this edition, good things happened in the festival with the efforts of all my colleagues. Ritual, tradition, national capital were the most important keywords that we tried to realize. Mohammad Mehdi Esmaeili, Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, said in this ceremony: I believe that the experience of holding International Traditional and Ritual

Theater Festival has become a new experience that they accomplished an important task with the support of different provinces and the efforts of local and foreign artists. Undoubtedly, such actions are worthy of special gratitude, for which all festival officials should be thanked. The effective presence of the Governor of Golestan, the representatives of the people of this province in the Islamic Council, the deputy of artistic affairs of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, and the General Directorate of Performing Arts were able to provide a very effective role in holding the festival as well as possible.

He continued: We have to pay attention to the various subtleties of art. Our policy is to expand the culture and art of the country,

Richard Schechner and Marvin Carlsen on the origins of ritual performances and artificial intelligence

Iran Theater- Richard Schechner and Marvin Carlsen, two prominent figures of world theater, presented their points of view about the origin of ritual theater and in the seminar section of the 21st International Traditional and Ritual Theater Festival.

One of the important events of the festival was the holding of the seminar section with Narges Yazdi as manager and the well-known figures of world theater participated in seminar such as Richard Schechner and Marvin Carlsen, prominent theorists and researchers of world theater.

Richard Schechner presented his views on the origin of theater, different cultures and rituals, as well as the impact of technology on ritual and tradition: I have participated in ritual and religious ceremonies of different cultures and countries and examining them has always been very attractive to me.

He also explained about the impact of digital technology on religion and tradition: Digital technology will inevitably affect ritual and tradition, just as many years ago with the advent of writing, oral traditions that were once everything only trans-



mitted orally, became written and gained more power. But digital technology does not replace what existed before, but rather they are placed together. Our main challenge will be with artificial intelligence.

Marvin Carlsen presented a research on the study of Iranian Ta'ziyeh and English cycle dramas. He explained: Almost

every English historian who has studied ta'ziyeh performances in Iran has compared them with medieval English cycle dramas. Not only because of their close links with religious ceremonies, but also because of the similarity of their basic structure, a series of short plays with a variable number and theme that came together in a festival format.

Marko Stojanovic on the 2nd Zanjaan International Pantomime Festival

Iran Theater-In a message to the second Zanjaan International Pantomime Festival, Marko Stojanovic, head of the World Mime organization, considered the festival a valuable opportunity for fans and audiences of dramatic arts to enjoy mime.

After arriving in Iran to participate in Zanjaan International Pantomime Festival, the head of the World Mime organization released a message.

He wrote: fundamental principles of the world Mime organization is to respect all effort to practice, teach, promote, prosper and enrich the art of mime and to professionally people and institutions that are

investing that effort. We believe that mime is the first art and such it part of many other performing arts which can be confusing even for professionals. But we have inherited non-verbal communication from our ancestors and as the humans are storytelling pieces the first storytellers had to be mimes.

Since mime is the language of all it is certainly the language of Peace and those are the motto of the world mime organization. I want to thank the creators and organizers of the 2nd Zanjaan International Pantomime Festival as well as the artists participating for their effort and also thank all those institutions



and persons that are supporting this festival and finally invites the audience to come and enjoy mime because they are the reason we are all here.

On the first day of the festival (Monday, October 9), Marko Stojanovic will be present at the press and specialized conference and will hold a specialized workshop on Tuesday evening, October 10.

The second Zanjaan International Pantomime Festival is underway in Zanjaan from 9-12 October, 2023 with the participation of the General Department of dramatic Arts, the General Department of Culture and Islamic Guidance of Zanjaan Province, the Iranian Dramatic Arts Association, the Zanjaan Pantomime House and provincial bodies

Hiromi Hosokawa:

Iranian actors express their feelings perfectly

Iran Theater- Japanese director Hiromi Hosokawa, who participated in 2023 Zanjaan pantomime festival with the mime show "Shine", considered Iranian actors as artists who show their emotions very well.

Hosokawa, the Japanese director, staged the show "Shine" on the second day of the Zanjaan International Pantomime Festival in the art hall of Imam Khomeini Cultural Center in Zanjaan city. Hosokawa pointed out that the mime show has three epi-

sodes: The stories of these three episodes are unrelated to each other, and the audience actually sees three different performances.

The Japanese artist added: The first episode titled "Opera Ship" tells the science-fiction story of an astronaut who travels to space to save a prince. The second episode is a comedy called "The Tools of a High-ranking Angel" and it tells the story of an angel who tries to help and save people; And the third one Portrait of the Painter



has a social theme. It refers to the life story of the painter who paints his image.

The director of "Shine" said about the status of pantomime in Japan: "Before, pantomime shows were not common in Tokyo city. So I decided to found a group called My Muriic. The primary goal was to increase the number of shows and

introduce pantomime to the audience.

She has watched several Iranian performances at the Zanjaan pantomime festival: Performances by Iranian artists are excellent. I haven't watched many works so far, But in the few performances I saw, I find that Iranian actors show their emotions very well.

A gathering of Iranian theater artists to support the Palestinian people



Iran Theater- Theater artists and other Iranian artists condemned the attacks of the Zionist regime on Gaza in ceremonies in 29 provinces and different regions of the country.

A gathering of Iranian artists in support of the oppressed people of Palestine and Israel's recent crime in Gaza was held with the presence of cultural and artistic directors, on Saturday evening, October 21 at Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art.

The gathering started with the Naqqali

of Murshid Abulfazl Varmazyar. He performed the "Speech of the Conquest of Jerusalem" and addressed the audience: While we are here, street shows with the theme of condemning Israel and supporting the Palestinian people are being performed with the support of the General Directorate of Dramatic Arts and the Iranian dramatic Arts Association in more than 30 cities and provinces in the country.

After Murshid Varmazyar's performance, a minute of silence was

observed in honor of the innocent children killed in Gaza.

The first speaker of this ceremony was Mahmoud Salari, deputy of the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance: The presence of artists in this ceremony means defending the oppressed, but it also means more that Israel is incorrigible.

Then Houshang Tavakoli, a veteran theater artist, gave a speech: Israel was defeated with the new strategy chosen by Hamas, and the resistance forces were able to achieve great

success.

He added: The Palestinian people are winning, but I offer my condolences that they are losing their loved ones every second.

Amir Dejakam, who attended the event, said: I am here on behalf of what I think is humanity.

Apart from Tehran, Iranian stage artists gathered in 29 other cities and regions of the Iran, using the language of drama, to express their disgust with the expressive language of art.

In cooperation with the street theater center of the General Directorate of Dramatic Arts, This program was held in the morning and evening of Saturday October 21, 2023 in provinces and regions of Iran: Tehran, East Azerbaijan, Ardabil, Alborz, Isfahan, Bushehr, Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari, Razavi Khorasan, North Khorasan, Khuzestan, Zanjan, Semnan, Fars, Qazvin, Qom, Qeshm, Kerman, South Kerman, Kermanshah, Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad, Gilan, Golestan, Lorestan, Mazandaran, Markazi, Hormozgan, Hamadan, Yazd and Arvand.

Performing in a country with the same language is attractive

Iran Theater- The director of the ritual and traditional theater group of Tajikistan talked about the experience of performing in a country with the same language and he described it as an attractive experience.

Sohrab Sheikhov, head of the ritual and traditional performance group from Tajikistan, who participated in 2023 Traditional and Ritual Theater Festival with the show "Tabib Parvaz", talked about the

importance of exchanging cultures in the festival: Festivals provide conditions for artists to communicate with various artists from other countries and learn from each other their customs and traditions. This cultural exchange allows them to use their experiences of the culture and art of other countries in their ritual and traditional performing arts.

Sheikhov explained that the show was adapted

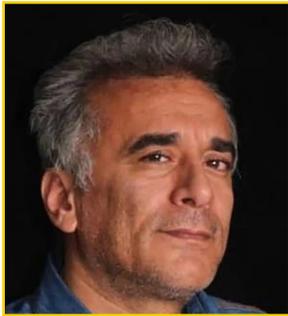
and directed from a French dramatic play.

This Tajik artist recalled: "The festival has brought us the ritual and traditional performances of Iran's beliefs and has made us more familiar with the many artistic and cultural commonalities with Iranians."

The 21st Traditional and Ritual Theater Festival will be held in October 2023 in five provinces under the direction of Ahmed Joulaie.



Sasan Qajar on Zanzan International Pantomime Festival



Iran Theater-Sasan Qajar, the artistic director of the second Zanzan International Pantomime Festival, said that the declaration of the Zanzan International Pantomime Festival in the fourth place in the world is not convincing, and explained that if the General Director of dramatic Arts agrees, they will establish a branch of the pantomime house in Tehran to provide focused training. , the technique of this art.

Sasan Qajar, an active mime artist and pantomime director and the artistic director of the second international pantomime festival in Zanzan, started his activity in this field in 1997. With continuous

follow-ups for ten years and with the support of the General Department of Dramatic Arts and the General Department of Culture and Islamic Guidance of Zanzan province, this artist established the pantomime house of Iran and held specialized festivals in the field of pantomime.

How do you evaluate the situation of pantomime art and artists in Iran and how effective will pantomime festival be?

Unfortunately, this art is not viewed well in our country. Very bad performances on television and other social spaces have caused the decline of the status of this art. My criticism of theater veterans is that I don't know why they don't pay much attention to pantomime.

We are trying to change these views and we ask for the help of cultural managers. The foundation and basis of theater is body art and mime. By holding the Zanzan International Pantomime Festival and establishing

the Iranian Pantomime Art House, we are trying to introduce pantomime and mime artists to Iranian people. We had discussions with the General Director of Dramatic Arts to establish a branch of the Iranian Pantomime House in City Theater Complex, and if this is done, interested people will be able to learn the techniques of pantomime in a centralized manner under the supervision of well-known mime masters with consistent planning and organization.

Zanzan pantomime festival has taken its first step to introduce the festival to the world in its second edition by inviting foreign artists. How much time do you think it will take for Zanzan to be known as the pantomime center of Asia?

-I tried for ten years to hold pantomime festival and I was able to achieve this goal to some level. Fortunately, with the efforts of the General Directorate of Dramatic Arts and other officials of Zanzan prov-

ince, we are reaching this. Our planning for the third festival started the day after the closing of second one , and it requires a new empathy beyond the previous editions. Every festival has its weaknesses and shortcomings in the first step, but we must eliminate them and start from now on to invite more countries and hold international meetings for global reflection.

We now have three prestigious international festivals in France (the birthplace of modern pantomime), Italy (the birthplace of comedy) and England, each of which is strong in a particular category. I am not satisfied with the introduction of the Zanzan International Pantomime Festival in the fourth place in the world, I am trying to make this festival reach a level where all local and foreign artists can participate. For the internationalization of the festival, we need the presence of international groups in the competition section more seriously. We will witness this happening in the third edition.

Abdulahman Sharif:

The scene determines pantomime format

Iran Theater- Pointing out that it is important to pay attention to the idea and movements in pantomime, Abdulrahman Sharif, a Tunisian writer and director who participated in the second Zanzan pantomime festival, said that it is usually the stage that determines pantomime format.

Abdulahman Sharif, the playwright and director of the show "storyless... bleed" is from Tunisia, who participated in the second Zanzan international Pantomime Festival.

Pointing out that he has been performing this show on stage for three



years, Sharif said: For the first time, I rehearsed and performed this play at my place of residence, and due to the warm reception of the audience, the play has been on stage for three years. I have tried to choose a universal subject. "Emi-

gration was one of the most important issues that I dealt with.

Pointing out that the true meaning of the show is "life without superstitions of an ignorant person", the director added: This show deals with social, cultural and

political issues that happen to people due to immigration.

Sharif said about the popularity of pantomime in Tunisia: Fortunately, the Ministry of Culture of Tunisia cares about all artistic interests and tastes and provides all kinds of help for the growth and promotion of artists with any kind of views, ideas and in any genre and format. Tunisia has done a lot in the field of theater. But unfortunately, not much effort has been made for the art of pantomime. Of course more attention has been paid to the art of pantomime in the last two years.

Andrea Fedi:

The power of the Zanzan pantomime festival is the talent of Iranian youth

Iran Theater- Andrea Fedi, the Italian writer and director who participated in the second Zanzan international pantomime festival, believes that the presence of art seekers and Iranian talented youth is the strength of this festival.

The pantomime show "Crazy Animals" written and directed by Andrea Fedi from Italy, was staged on Wednesday, October 11, at the second international pantomime festival.

On the sidelines of his performance, describing the art of pantomime and its place in the world, he said: Pantomime is an art in which the artist conveys his message to the audience with body and hand movements.

This artist continued: "If I were to go to another country to present my art with a verbal show, it would not be possible for many to understand my language; While people can understand art of pantomime and the artist's message through hand and body movements, therefore understanding the language of pantomime is possible for any nationality with any language.

Andrea Fedi expressed his satisfaction with holding such a festival in Zanzan and continued: The presence of young people and young people seeking art, with good talents in pantomime, is the strong point of the festival

This Italian writer and director said to pantomime artists: It is not enough for an artist to work for himself, they must go on stage and present their art, accept their mistakes and be able to repeat and practice a very good performance and Have a great time.



Farzad Ravaie on My name is Sargarmi

Iran Theater- The director " My name is Sargarmi " believes that pantomime should be understandable and entertaining for the audience in order to keep the inner child alive, otherwise the audience will reject it.

Farzad Ravaie is director of " My name is Sargarmi

" which will be performed on the last day of the 2nd Zanzan International Pantomime Festival.

He said about the performance style of this play: I work in pantomime in clown style. In fact, I separated various pantomime comedy items and placed them in different places of the show

to separate the audience from the crowded atmosphere of society for a few minutes.

The artist continued: I mostly worked for children in the past, but I also perform for adults nowadays . Our theater is a one man show and it's about a person who wakes up one morning and gets ready to go to work, but his bag is so heavy that he struggles with it and the story continues... I also have a theatrical play during the performance.

Ravaie also gave an explanation about the history of this show: Last year, It was performed on Salamat Network and the program "Lobia Zodbia"

and was well received.

He had an opinion about the impact of pantomime on the audience: " I think for attract the audience, pantomime should be valued more and its entertainment aspect should be highlighted, because pantomime is non-verbal performance and it should be easy for the audience to understand it. Because the power of speech, which is the most important element in the show, is taken from the audience and it is done only through body movements; Therefore, it should be designed in a way that is understandable and to keep the inner child of audiences alive.



Iran Theater- Onur Kaya, a Turkish artist who participated in the second Zanzan International Pantomime Festival, described the festival as a great pantomime event in the east. The mime show "The Last Moment" by Onur Kaya, was performed on the third day of the Zanzan International Pantomime Festival in the area of the Imam Khomeini Cultural Center in Zanzan on Wednesday, October 11. Kaya said that he started theater as an amateur in 2004: After four years of

experimental presence on the theater stage, I started my professional activity in 2008 and then entered the world of pantomime. The director explained about the theme of his show: I choose the subject of my performance in front of the audience, and the concept of my work is conveyed to the audience exactly like the title of my show in the last moment. He clarified: Pantomime is a technical art and I tried to present a technical show according to the educational approach of

Onur kaya: Zanzan Festival is the great pantomime event of the East

the festival. Pantomime can have a subject for education or only have an entertainment aspect and create happy times for the audience. In fact, it is the choice of the mime artist who wants to teach some points or provide moments to entertain the audience, and this does not create an obligation for the artist. The director of the "Last Moment" explained: Participating in the festival frees me from the living environment and physical problems that I have been dealing with for a long time. I had decided not to go on stage again, but at the last moment I changed my mind and came to Iran. My physical problem is not severe, but I get dizzy during some performances. However, I accepted the risk and came to Iran.

He stated that the holding of the Zanzan International Pantomime Festival is an important event for the art of the East: "If this festival was held in Europe, I would definitely have no reason to participate in it, because this art is taught well in European countries, but in the east, we still need to teach each other this art. Onur kaya, a mime actor and director said about the quality of mime shows in Zanzan festival: The holding of Zanzan festival is a very promising event. I think that it's a very valuable thing, when mime artists from several countries have been invited to participate in this event. That is in a situation where many countries are afraid of being in Iran due to false propaganda."



Iran Theater: A.D Baloch, a Pakistani writer and director who attended at the second international pantomime festival in Zanzan, stated that art brings peace to the world.

He explained that mime show "Roshani" tells the story of the limitations of women in society, especially in the field of education. The writer and director of the pantomime show, "Roshani", said

A.D Baloch: Art brings peace to the world

about the content of this work: This show is about burying girls alive in the era of the Prophet. Although there is no longer the problem of burying girls alive, there are still restrictions for them in some countries, especially in the field of education and improving the social and individual level. The purpose of "Roshani" is to show the power of women in Pakistan and also in the whole world and the importance of education and acquiring knowledge for them. Referring to the pres-

ence of Pakistan in the international section of the festival, Baloch explained: This festival brings the cooperation between Iran and Pakistan closer in every way, and it makes us proud that we performed in Iran and watched the works of Iranian artists and other countries. He said: We have come to Iran from Baluchestan, one of the states of Pakistan, to participate in the festival. In this state, pantomime is less noticed, while pantomime is more prominent in Islamabad and Lahore.

The closing ceremony of Iran 2nd International Pantomime Festival takes place in Zanjan

Iran Theater- The 2nd edition of Zanjan International Pantomime Festival concludes its events on Thursday, October 12.

The closing ceremony which took place at Roozbeh International Conference Hall in Zanjan Theater witnessed the distribution of awards and a golden glove was awarded to the family of the late Ferdous Kaviani.

The artists and veterans of theater art in Zanjan and officials participated in the closing ceremony: Mahmoud Salari (Deputy of Arts Affairs of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance), Kazem Nazari (Director General of Dramatic Arts Center), Amrullah Hasani (Director General of Culture and Islamic Guidance in Zanjan), Sasan Qajar (artistic director of Festival), Marko Stojanovic (head of the World Mime organization) Esrafil Farajollahi, (the CEO of the Dramatic arts association).

“Macbeth” grabbed Best Director, Best actress, Best stage and



best costume awards. Javed Esmaili grabbed the second place as the best director for the show “In Search of Happiness”. The third place went to Amin Delpazir for the show “Bride of Qanat”. The special jury prize went to Hamid Ghezalbash for the shows “Roots” and “Rahde Doba” because of the strong connection with the audience, dynamic struc-

ture and fun.

The 2nd edition of the festival kicked off on October 7, 2023, with the support of the General Department of Dramatic Arts, General Department of Culture and Islamic Guidance of Zanjan Province, Iranian Dramatic Arts Association, Zanjan Pantomime House and Zanjan Provincial Institutions.

Artists Condemn Gaza tragedy at Marivan Street Theater Festival



Iran Theater-The artists condemned the heinous crimes of the Zionist usurper regime in killing the innocent people of Gaza at the 16th Marivan International Street Theater Festival.

The artists announced that the heinous crimes of the Zionist usurper regime in killing the innocent people of Gaza have made the taste of all the free people of the world unhappy at the 16th Marivan International Street Theater Festival.

They wrote: The artists of the 16th Marivan Street Theater Festival had come from the corners of Iran to the land of love and friendship, to share love and friendship among the pure people of this land with theaters that suddenly they are saddened by horrible news. Now, by condemning this inhuman act, they express sincere sympathy to the bereaved and oppressed people of Palestine. They ask the great Lord for peace, security and consolation for them.

Marko Stojanovic visits direct of the Iran's Cultural attaché



Iran Theater- Marko Stojanovic, the head of the World Mime Organisation, met with Amir Pourpezeshk, Cultural attaché of the Islamic Republic of Iran Embassy in Belgrade (Serbia) and announced his readiness to hold training workshops in Iran in order to exchange experiences and views.

Before his trip to Iran to participate in the 2nd Zanjan International Pantomime Festival, Marko Stojanovic met with Amir Pourpezeshk, Cultural attaché of Iran Embassy in Belgrade (Serbia) on Friday, October 6.

Marko Stojanovic said: This is my first trip to Iran and I am very excited about it.

Ivana Vujic Kominac, the former director of the Belgrade National Theater and a professor at the University of Arts, was invited to Iran to be the jury of 2023 FITF. She was also very excited about her trip.

The closing ceremony of the largest Street Theater Festival in the Middle East

Iran Theater- The 16th Marivan International Street Theater Festival came to an end on October 21, 2023.

The 16th Marivan International Street Theater Festival presented awards in its various sections at the closing ceremony. The closing ceremony of the 16th Marivan International Street Theater Festival was held on the morning of Saturday, October 21 in the Neshat meeting hall of Marivan with the presence of Kazem Nazari (Director General of Dramatic Arts), Esmaeel Zarei Kosha (Governor of Kurdistan) and Esrafil Farajollahi, (the CEO of the Dramatic arts association).

At the beginning of this ceremony, it was announced that this program was dedicated to the memory of Ferdous Kaviani, Atila Pesyani and Dariush Mehrjui.

Rahman Hoshyari, the artistic director of the



festival and the first speaker of the closing ceremony, said: A generation of Marivan population has participated in this ceremony and some were not yet born when we planned this festival.

He explained: Marivan Festival is the only festival specializing in outdoor shows, and we can say that it is the largest street festival in the Middle East.

Esmaeel Zarei Kosha, the governor of Kurdistan province, welcomed the audience: Our province has become the

land of celebrations and festivals due to its unique and irreplaceable capacities.

He continued: I hope the next festival will be more magnificent and will be held with the participation of more artists from Iran and other countries.

Kazem Nazari, the Director General of performing Arts Center and ITI President of Iran, expressed hope that this festival, which has flourished, will continue to hold stronger and powerful in the coming years.

He explained: We use the Marivan festival as an example in the whole country in terms of the planning and compassion of its officials. If International festivals like Venice and other art events are successful, it is because of their official's effort. Marivan Street Theater Festival has been successful thanks to the efforts of the managers of this province and will be more successful from now on.

At the end of this ceremony, the winners of Marivan Street Theater Festival were announced in various sections: free, child and young adult, ritual and traditional, disabled, sacrifice and martyrdom and other performance categories. Avat Jalal, the director of the show "Sivi 21" from Chachal of the Kurdistan Region in Iraq took home main award of the international section.

The Armenian director: Iranians are warm audiences



Iran Theater-Karen M. Echatrijan, the Armenian director of "Carnival", called the International Traditional and Ritual Theater Festival an opportunity to exchange cultures and considered attending this event a memorable experience for his group. He introduced Iranians and especially the people of North Khorasan as warm audiences.

Karen M. Echatrijan, the director of the "Carnival" show from Armenia, has participated in the puppet section of the 21st International Traditional and Ritual Theater Festival hosted by North Khorasan.

Iran: Although there has been cultural and artistic exchange between Iran and Armenia for many years, However, holding a festival of ritual and traditional shows by using the language of art will be a platform for exchanging cultures and is a very good opportunity for Armenia to get to know the culture of Iran.

He continued: Even though the Armenian language was not the native language of the audience and they were not familiar with it, they reacted and communicated well with the show.

Echatrijan is participating in this festival for the first time: Participation in this festival doubled the group's motivation to produce better and richer works, and we are trying to show better works not only for Armenia but also for other countries.

Karen who has been watching the works of other groups, welcomed the opportunity provided to exchange experience and gain information and said: Watching the works of other groups was interesting to me and we were able to communicate well with them.

Iran celebrated Intl. Drama Therapy Week

Iran Theater- The closing ceremony of the Int. Drama Therapy Week was held with the presence of artists and Ghotbedin Sadeghi Ph.D was awarded the Ibn Sina Medal.

The closing ceremony of the World Drama Therapy Week was held on Thursday, October 26, 2023, in the Hall of Ostad Shahnaz, Iranian artists Forum.

Officials and artists were present in this ceremony: Esrafil Farajollahi (CEO of Iran Dramatic Arts Association), Ghotbedin Sadeghi, Shahram Karmi, Majid Amrai, Vahid Agha, Shahram Gilabadi, Hossein Sazmand, Mohsen Hosseini, Vahid Lak and Ehsan Hajipour (artistic director of World Drama Therapy Week).

Ehsan Hajipour said: "DTCI in Iran started its work since 2002 as an official organization and in 2017 it became a member of World Alliance of Dramatherapy and expanded its global activities.

This artistic activist added: At the same time in Iran, 108 other countries are holding International drama therapy week, and it is an honor that the drama therapy association has reached a good position in Iran.

Then the global message of drama therapy was read in Iran at the same



time as in different countries.

Ghotbedin Sadeghi was awarded the Ibn Sina medal by Iranian Drama Therapy Association. After receiving this medal, this veteran theater artist and lecturer thanked and said: In a modern society, there are organizations and institutions that can handle the affairs of the city, and the more the society has these organizations, the more civil this society is.

In this ceremony, two drama therapists were honored. And the "Master" badge was awarded to Zohra Soleimani and Maryam Yasinzadeh.

Hossein Sazmand, director of Danje publishing house, the best publisher in the field of drama therapy books, was honored. Shima Shahreki was honored as the best psychologist of Iran Drama Therapy Association. 11 young drama therapists received their degrees.

Also, Mehdi Yavarmansh (editor of Iran Theater website), Ali Keyhani (reporter of Iran Theater website) and Fariborz Daraie (experienced reporter of Mehr news agency) were honored for media coverage of drama therapy.



Iran Theater-The director of the show "Resurrection of Love", Hossein Mosafer Astaneh, believes that the content and structure of the show does not limit it to a specific time and place: "We must keep in mind that it is necessary to spend more time and money to deal with different aspects of our civilization."

Hossein Mosafer Astaneh, actor, director and theater teacher, plans to direct the musical show "Resurrection of Love" written by Mohammad Rahmanian, which he previously produced in 2006 with commission by UNESCO on the occasion of Molana Rumi's 1000th birthday. Shahrzad Theater Complex will stage the show with the performances be-

Hossein Mosafer Astaneh on "Resurrection of Love"

ginning from November 6 to December 6 in Hall No. 2.

Astaneh explained that the musical show is non-verbal: "Resurrection of Love" is a work without words based on music and movement. This show had limited performances in Turkey, Iran and Azerbaijan in 2015, and now, considering the opportunity that has been provided, we are trying to perform it with the cast who were with us in the first performance and new members of production.

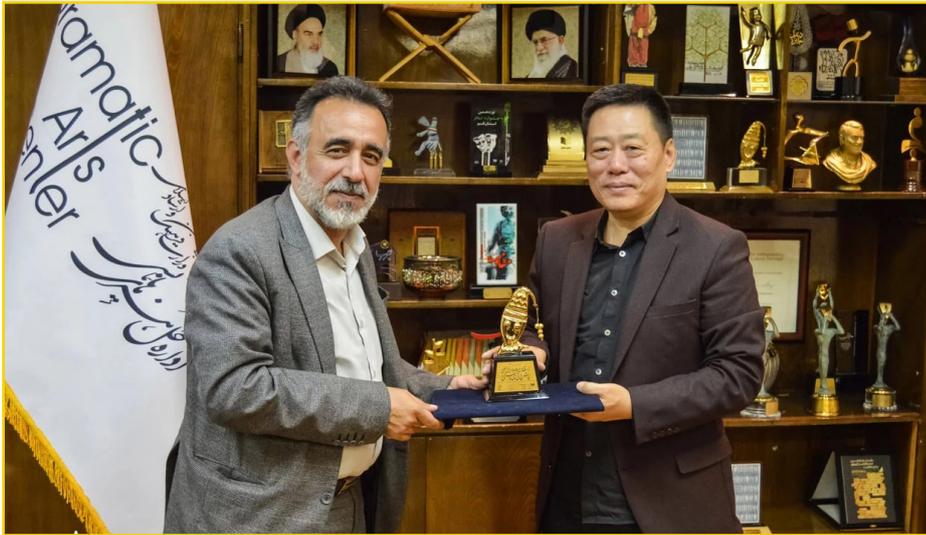
He continued: we have been done rehearsals continuously and hard. The music was composed by Saeed Zehni and the choreography was done by Nader Rajabpour before.

We will stage the show with small changes according to the conditions of the performance.

The artist explained about that the music is not a copy of other works and is influenced by the mystic music and traditional music. In fact, the composer and choreographer were present in all the initial rehearsals of the show and based on the content and structure they created the music and choreography.

He emphasized that the story deals with Rumi's life. So it will never become old-fashioned. He hope that watching the work will pay more attention to the thoughts of this prominent Iranian personality and poet.

Kazem Nazari signed MOU with the director of Chinese Cultural attache



Iran Theater- Cultural Attaché of the Chinese Embassy in Iran Zhuzihao attended a meeting with Kazem Nazari, the Director General of Dramatic Arts Center and ITI President of Iran in Tehran on Tuesday and was briefed on improving the level of cooperation between the two countries.

Mozhgan Vakili, who has been the director of international relation department of Dramatic art center of Iran and Zhuzihao, the cultural advisor of the Chinese Embassy, were also present in this meeting.

Kazem Nazari appreciated the presence of Chinese artists in the Traditional and Ritual Festival: We are grateful to the artists and the

Chinese government for their presence and artistic performance.

He added: "If we continue the cooperation and the presence of Chinese artists in the Fajr International Theater Festival, we will name a day as the Chinese Culture and Art Day. We consider a space for different Chinese groups so that the Iranians have a full day to attend and learn about the culture, customs and rituals of your country. Fortunately, China has a lot of growth in film and television productions, and we would like to invite great Chinese artists in various fields to exchange and transfer experiences to students and people.

The Director General of Dramatic Arts Center

added: Creative workshops focusing on the common dimensions of mythological figures and heroes of the two countries can be significant in the co- production of plays and performances with Chinese and Iranian artists.

Nazari emphasized the importance of the economic benefit of these co- productions for theater groups: The good relations between Iran and china can provide the conditions for the works that are culturally very similar in both countries. I believe that art diplomacy creates more effective communication for countries.

He added: I know China for its rich art and culture, and if the governments introduce their culture to

each other, the respect and communication between their people will increase. Communications are the essence of humanity and I hope this cultural exchange will be bilateral and Iranian artists will be able to present their works in China.

Zhuzihao pointed out that the reception of the Chinese show performed in the 21st International Traditional and Ritual Festival in Gorgan was unimaginable: "The China Performing Arts Association invited a group of famous theater artists to perform in Iran. The welcome of the Iranians motivated us to contact the China Performing Arts Association and request the introduction of two works to participate in the 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival and the International Children and Youth Theater Festival which is scheduled to be held in Yazd.

He continued: In people's minds, China is an international factory that makes everything. We are also very interested in introducing our culture to the people of Iran, because there are cultural similarities between the two countries.. In this regard, we are ready to cooperate with Iran.

Every theater festival must have a research attachment

Iran Theater- Eshraf Farajollahi, the CEO of the Dramatic arts association, emphasized that every theater festival should have a research attachment and it should continue throughout the year.

Eshraf Farajollahi, was one of the attendees at the closing ceremo-

ny of two sections of the 21st International Traditional and Ritual Theater Festival in Tabriz City.

He explained about the importance of research in theater: The research section should exist in all festivals. Academic research and reviews, as an attachment of

any festival, should be continuously active throughout the year. With the addition of research in the festivals, the quality of performances are improved, and the published books and academic articles bring freshness to the atmosphere of the festival.



Mozhgan Vakili is selected as the International Relations Manager of 2024 FITF



Iran Theater- Mehdi Hamedsaghayan appointed Mozhgan Vakili as the International Relations Manager of 2024 Fajr International Theater Festival.

As The artistic director of 2024 FITF , he selected Mozhgan Vakili because of her valuable experiences in the field of international relations and inter-cultural relations.

Mozhgan Vakili, who has been the director of international relation department of Dramatic art center of Iran since 2018, got BA in English translation from the Faculty of Foreign Languages of Islamic Azad University (Central Tehran Branch) and a MA in English Language Education from Payam Noor University.

Sh has more than 25 years of experience working with the General Directorate of Dramatic Arts, from 2001 to 2003 he was an expert in charge of reviewing books in the English Department in the Book Department of the Cultural Vice-Chancellor of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, she was a senior expert of Fajr International Theater Festival, Child and youth Theater Festival, Street Theater Festival, Traditional and Ritual Theater festival from 2003 to 2018.

Efforts to expand the theatrical cooperation between Iran and Japan



Iran Theater- Director General of Iranian Center of ITI met with the head of the Cultural and Information Center of the Embassy of Japan and pointed out the richness of culture of the two countries and expressed hope that the relations between Iran and Japan in the field of performing arts will expand.

The meeting between Kazem Nazari (Director General of Dramatic Arts Center) and officials of the Information Center of the Embassy of Japan was held in the office of the Director General of Dramatic Arts of the Ministry of Islamic Guidance on October 22.

Mozhgan Vakili briefly introduced the international theater festivals in Iran. Then, Kazem Nazari, ITI President of Iran, said: Ms. Takiko Korosu (Head of the Cultural and Information Center of the Japanese Embassy) was present at the 2nd Zanzan International Pantomime Festival, and I thank you for

paying attention to theater art. Nazari added: In the next few months, we are planning to hold two international Fajr Theater and children and young adult theater festivals, in which we can invite leading groups or Japanese theater masters to hold educational workshops.

Takiko Korosu, head of the Cultural and Information Center of the Japanese Embassy in Tehran, also said in this meeting: The Japanese Embassy attaches great importance to cultural and artistic activities, and it is good that the General Directorate of Dramatic Arts Center is trying to internationalize artistic events to exchange cultures.

She continued: Dr. Nazari proposed very good cooperation and exchanges. Our priority is to participate in the Fajr and Children and Youth festivals, and we will also plan to hold an educational workshop in Iran.

Editor : Mehdi Yavarmanesh

Page design : Hossein Sayanjali

Editorial secretary: Hossein Mohamadiani

State: Mitra Rezaei

Reporters: Negar Amiri, Ali Keyhani

Translator : Arghavan Ashtari

<https://theater.ir/en>



President of ITI Center of Iran & General Director of Dramatic Arts Center of Iran: Kazem Nazari (Ph.D.)

Director of International Affairs of DAC: Mozhgan Vakili

Director of Public Relations of DAC: Mehdi Yousefikia

Contact us:

dac.internationalaffairs@theater.ir

dramatic.artcenter.iran@gmail.com

Tel: +98 21 66708861

Fax: +98 21 66725316