



october-december 2004

www.educ.queensu.ca/~idea

Newsletter

A word from the IDEA President

Greetings from IDEA's newly-elected Executive, General Meeting and Accountancy Committees! We hope this newsletter finds the members of your association well, creative and thriving! As the new president of IDEA and the editor of this first quarterly newsletter of our 2004-07 mandate, I am proud to introduce this three-part document which maps our vision for the coming years, and proposes the new structures of collaboration we hope will make this vision practical.

This newsletter is the fruit of three months of collective discussion whose seeds lie not only in the exciting debates of the General Council meetings held during the 5th IDEA world congress in Ottawa, 2004, but in more than a decade of dedicated personal and international preparation and experimentation within IDEA. Soon, you'll be able to visit an updated, interactive IDEA website to read about the congress and to participate in ongoing debates in drama/theatre education. In this newsletter, you can see how IDEA intends to include more practitioners, educators and young people from every region of the world to fulfil its visionary aims, built around four important decisions made in Ottawa:

- to develop IDEA through project collaborations rather than 3-yearly world congresses;
- to create two new positions on the IDEA Executive Committee – the Director of Solidarity and Director of Young IDEA – to ensure that IDEA guarantees the greater participation of practitioners and young people from Africa, Asia and Latin America;
- to form working committees to mobilise your expertise and that of new friends;
- and to prioritise communication between the IDEA EC and IDEA members.

These decisions are reflected in the three sections of this newsletter. Part One introduces the theatre-educators who have just been elected to coordinate IDEA, and reveals the diversity of knowledges and depth of commitment that our international association possesses. This explains why UNESCO and other international organisations are increasingly turning to IDEA as a key voice in the development of progressive education and multicultural democracy through the arts. Part Two defines the aims and criteria of the working committees we want to create with you: please circulate this among your associations and friends. We plan to form these committees in the four weeks following the publication of this newsletter so that those who were not at Ottawa have an opportunity to participate. Part Three reveals a glimpse of what some member associations are planning for 2005 and 2006. Your own plans should swell this section in the next newsletters, to inspire dialogue and project collaborations in the future.

I'll conclude with news which demonstrates one of the defining priorities of our mandate. In September, we decided to hold our next EC meeting in Lima, next August 2006. This is not just a step towards a first regional congress in Latin America in 2006 and a first world congress in Latin America in 2010. It is also the first time the IDEA Executive will have met in the Southern hemisphere since our 3rd World Congress in Kisumu, in 1998. This decision affirms our commitment to continue to build the democratic, multicultural and effective world organisation we all know we need. How else will we intervene, advocate and demonstrate, by example, the social and cultural importance of drama and theatre-education, in these dark times of increasing militarization, exclusion and dehumanisation?

We look forward to receiving your questions, ideas and proposals in response to this global challenge!

We send you our collective embrace of solidarity and hope,
Dan

Part 1: Portraits and priorities of IDEA's elected members



IDEA's newly-elected Executive, Accountancy & General Meeting Committees:

Top, left to right: Lili, Steven, Dan, Mok, Vlado, Ghonche and Robin

Bottom, left to right: Tintti, Aud, Asa, Larry and Laura

Dan Baron Cohen (Wales/Brazil)
IDEA President (Executive Committee)

danbaronmst@hotmail.com

Born in London, to Welsh-Quebecois parents, I am an independent arts-educator and writer, living in Brazil. Following an MA in Educational Theatre in 1982, I apprenticed myself to Edward Bond (England) and Ngugi Wa Thiong'o (Kenya), before living two extended collaborations with marginalised youth and their communities in post-industrial England and Northern Ireland, developing a community theatre of personal and collective transformation. I moved to South Wales in 1994 to develop drama as popular education at Glamorgan University, but following a theatre collaboration in Brazil in 1998, gave up my post to learn with Brazil's landless and indigenous movements, evolving a drama-based pedagogy of cultural literacy for self-determination. I have participated in IDEA since 1995, contributing as president of the General Meetings Committee between 1998-2004. I am a member of the International Committee of the World Social Forum.

Priorities as President:

To continue the work of developing an *inclusive, decentralised, transparent, dialogic, democratic, accountable, creative, effective and professional* world association

To guarantee the increasing professionalisation of IDEA

To guarantee the development of a project-centred IDEA

To liaise with national and international organisations and networks to further the aims and objectives of IDEA

To actively support the formation and development of IDEA's Finance, Communication, Project, Solidarity, Young IDEA, and Translation working committees

To guarantee continuous consultation of IDEA's members through a regular newsletter and interactive website

Liliana Galván (Peru)
IDEA Vice-President (Executive Committee)

lgalvan@upc.edu.pe

I believe in personal and social transformation through arts and education. I have been a drama educator for children and youngsters for 20 years, and an educational psychologist and university teacher in the last 10 years. I direct the Department of Quality in Education of the Peruvian University of Applied Sciences where I founded the Center of Leadership. I am president of the Association "Arte y Vida", dedicated to promote the decentralization of education and the arts in marginal zones and provinces. I have directed youth theater and participated in collective creations, written one book on creativity and many articles, and given workshops and designed manuals on pedagogy for teachers. I specialize in organizational and curricula design.

Priorities as Vice President:

To reinforce internal liaison among IDEA members

To collaborate with the organizational structure of the Executive Committee

To form and coordinate the Translation Working Committee

To facilitate the creation of a declaration of working principles

Robin Pascoe (Australia)
IDEA Secretary (Executive Committee)

rpascoe@it.net.au

I bring broad experience in drama and the arts education to my role as Secretary. Between 2001 and 2004, I have been Secretary to the General Meetings Committee of IDEA. I currently work at Murdoch University in teacher education. In my former lives I have been Superintendent for the Arts for Western Australia, consultant for dance and drama and a teacher. I am Immediate Past President of Drama Australia and currently Director of Research for DA, on the board of the National [Australian] Affiliation of Arts Educators and the Australia Council's International Arts Education Research Network. I am chair of the board of the Western Australian Youth Theatre Company and a director on the board of Black Swan Theatre Company. I am co-director of the National Review of School Music Education set up by the Australian Federal government.

Priorities as Secretary:

- To develop the IDEA web site
- To enhance communication within IDEA
- To continue to build a professionally run organization

Dr. Parasuram Ramamoorthi (India)
IDEA Treasurer (Executive Committee)

velvi@touchtelindia.net



As a playwright, director and applied drama practitioner, I believe theatre/arts can heal the wounds of people and society. I currently teach theatre arts at Madurai Kamaraj University. I also write poetry and run dramatherapy workshops for psychiatric patients and senior citizens in homes and in prisons. I have written several books on Shakespeare, modern Indian theatre, and published papers in many International journals on theatre. I sit on jury of the International Experimental Theatre at Egypt. My workshop '3rd eye opens' has been run in many British Universities and Europe. I am married with a son who is a software engineer working for IBM India. My wife has recently retired as Professor of English from Madurai Kamaraj University. I am new to IDEA, participating for the first time in the Ottawa world congress.

3rd Eye Opens

Priorities as Treasurer:

- To form and coordinate a Finance Working Committee
- To shift the bank account to Australia
- To create an international funding directory
- To enrol at the least 15 new members before March 2005
- To build up a corporate fund for IDEA before 2007



Steven Clark (France)
IDEA Director of Projects (Executive Committee)

carosteveclark@hotmail.com

I am 49, married, father of 4 young children, and live and teach English & Theatre Studies in Evreux, Normandy. As I was brought up in a bilingual family (French mother, American father), I have always found myself exploring new ways to celebrate intercultural exchanges and cultural diversity. My main area of expertise in the last 15 years, as a secondary school teacher, an advisory teacher and an ANRAT militant, has been to develop school exchanges based on drama Projects, and in-training courses and workshops for British and French Drama teachers and Theatre artists. I am brand new to IDEA!

Priorities as Director of Projects:

- To form and coordinate an active Projects Working Committee
- To write an IDEA Projects Chart defining the new policy on projects based on strong interaction between members
- To structure IDEA around projects, through the PWC, an efficient website and ambitious world-wide IDEA projects
- To develop continuous action and research, using Special Interest Groups as legitimate, visionary and powerful foundations



[Young IDEA performers from Hong Kong, IDEA 2004](#)

Åsa Peterson (Sweden)
IDEA Director of Solidarity (Executive Committee)

asapeterson@telia.com

I graduated as a drama pedagogue in 1988 and have since then worked full-time with different groups from 8 years old up to adults. Since 2001, I have worked part-time as a drama teacher in a secondary school, and part-time in a project with colleagues from Eastern Africa. In 1997 I became the leader for the Solidarity Fund for IDEA 2001. This work was a big challenge and very interesting. A thorough report of my work for IDEA 2001 was compiled and presented on the *Congress Handbook CD* issued to all participants after the congress. During this work, and later, I realised that there are a lot of questions that need to be discussed further in order to improve the solidarity work within IDEA.

Priorities as Director of Solidarity:

- To build and coordinate a Solidarity Working Committee
- To develop the policy for IDEA's Solidarity work through the Solidarity Working Committee
- To fundraise
- To spread information about IDEA and Solidarity

Ghonche Materego (Tanzania)
IDEA Director of Young Idea (Executive Committee)

gmaterego@yahoo.com

I have been practicing theatre for the past 30 years as a theatre director and researcher, and working as a film maker. I have worked extensively with the marginalised community in the East African region as well as internationally, particularly with women and young people both in rural and urban contexts. To date, I have produced a number of 'edutainment' videos as training tools for use in gender and empowerment processes. Using "Tuseme" (Speak out) process, I work extensively with young girls in Secondary Schools in Tanzania and other countries in the Eastern, Southern and Western Africa. My specialization is mainly in participatory methodologies, on which I have co-authored a book and written widely.

Priorities as Director of Young Idea:

- To create and coordinate a Young Idea Working Committee
- To build a coherent definition of Young Idea and structure for its participants
- To build a strong and efficient Young Idea network
- To expose young people to a diversity of cultures through cross-cultural collaborations



The Flame Players of Cameroon

Laura A. McCammon (USA)
IDEA Director of Publications (Executive Committee)

mccammon@email.arizona.edu

For the last nine years, I have been on the faculty in the School of Theatre Arts at the University of Arizona in Tucson where I am the coordinator and advisor for the BFA and MA programs in Theatre Arts Education. I also serve as the Director of Graduate Studies. Previously I taught at East Tennessee State University and was a high school drama teacher for fifteen years in Tennessee. I work in drama/theatre teacher education especially preparing teachers to work in an increasingly diverse student population in the US. I also write about drama/theatre education research. Prior to my election as IDEA Director of Publications, I served on the EC as General Member. Currently I am the 1st Vice President of the American Alliance for Theatre and Education and editor of the Youth Theatre Journal.

Priorities as Director of Publications:

- To translate key IDEA publications into French and Spanish
- To develop a marketing and distribution plan in coordination with the IDEA Secretariat
- To create a new online publication geared for drama/theatre practitioners
- To establish an IDEA archives within the Child Drama Collection at Arizona State University in Tempe
- To link IDEA committees and projects to publications

Mok Chiu Yu (Hong Kong) gusmok@yahoo.com
Congress Co-Director of IDEA 2007 (Executive Committee)

I am a founding member of Asian People's Theatre Festival Society (APTFS) set up in early 1990s to promote people's theatre in Hong Kong and cross cultural collaborations including the Asian People's Theatre Festivals (APTFS) and *Big Wind, Yours Most Obediently etc.*, that toured Asian cities. I have been involved in IDEA Congresses since Brisbane, and presently am an Executive Committee member of TEFO (Hong Kong Theatre/Drama & Education Forum – IDEA's member in Hong Kong/China) and Congress Co-Director of 2007 IDEA Congress. I have been CEO of Arts with the Disabled Association Hong Kong from 1995 till August 31st 2004. I will be involved in the work of APTFS and IDEA Congress 2007 full time in the next 3 years. I am a practitioner of *theatre of the oppressed*, *playback theatre*, and community cultural development.



Photo: Julia Dodge/IDEA 2004

Priorities:

To form an International Congress Committee (ICC) through consultation with IDEA's members

To promote the 2007 congress through regional activities: the 'Planting IDEAs Forums in Asian Cities' in July 2005 and July 2006

To celebrate IDEA and its work in Asia in Hong Kong when modern theatre will have been introduced to China for 100 years, and the British Colonialists will have departed from Hong Kong for a decade

To enable a dialogue/multilogue of practitioners from all over the world involving in theatre/drama and education, while attempting to fully showcase Chinese and Asian activities, performances etc.

To ensure that the international convergence of practitioners from all over the world is a significant impetus for the interest and growth of theatre/drama education in Hong Kong, mainland China and Asia



Young IDEA close IDEA 2004 with a celebration of diversity and multicultural unity

Larry O'Farrell (Canada)
President of IDEA's Accountancy Committee

ofarrell@educ.queensu.ca

Having completed my second term as President of IDEA, I am delighted to continue my involvement with our wonderful organization as a member of the Accountancy Committee. I live in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, where I am Professor of Drama Education at Queen's University. I am also the Coordinator of Continuing Teacher Education for my Faculty. In this capacity, I am responsible for a program of professional development courses in all subject areas for over 4000 teachers per year. You can see some of the work that we do by visiting our website: (www.coursesforteachers.ca). I have had the privilege of visiting many countries to give keynote addresses, papers and workshops on drama and theatre education at many national and international conferences. My publications include a recent book that I co-edited with Rachel Mason on Issues in Arts Education in Latin America. My wife, Renée and I are parents to three grown children.

Priorities of the Accountancy Committee:

The AC is committed to enhancing its contribution to IDEA. In the past, most of the committee's work was done immediately before and during meetings of the EC and the GC. We feel that, as the auditing board for IDEA, the committee has a role to play in reviewing spending decisions on a regular basis so that it can give current and constructive advice to the EC and to the GC. Specific responsibilities include the following:

To ensure that IDEA accounting is correct and reliable.

To ensure that IDEA develops an annual working budget that takes into account both administration and project spending.

To ensure that IDEA develops a 3-year estimated budget in accordance with a strategic plan.

Aud Berggraf Saeboe (Norway)

aud.b.sebo@his.no

Vice President of IDEA's Accountancy Committee

I am an associate professor at Stavanger University College, Faculty of Arts and Education, and teaching a whole range of drama and theatre in education subjects, but my speciality is process drama. I was the president of the Norwegian Drama in Education Association for ten years (1992–2002) and the Congress Director for IDEA 2001 in Bergen, Norway. For the last three years I have done and still do mostly research on how drama is realized and integrated in the curricula and the teaching challenges the teacher faces when integrating drama in the different subjects. I've published two books, a lot of reports and articles on drama in education, but (for the moment) only in Norwegian language.

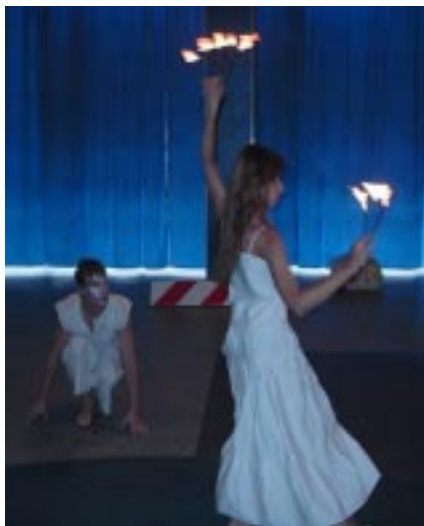
Janinka Greenwood (New Zealand)

janinka.greenwood@cce.ac.nz

Secretary of the Accountancy Committee



I am from New Zealand and have been involved in IDEA since the first Congress in Oporto. I've been involved work in theatre and in education for years that add up to too many decades for me to want to count them exactly. In that time I've been a theatre activist, a writer, a teacher, a teacher educator, a researcher, and a trade unionist. I've worked in youth theatre, theatre for change, and theatre for learning, and I am particularly interested in a very wide range of uses of theatre to explore, and extend, the space where cultures meet and interact. It is this passionate interest in cultures, people, learning, and the role that theatre can play that makes me eager to put my energy into being part of the working organisation of IDEA.



Vlado Krušić (Croatia)

vladimir.krusic@zg.htnet.hr

President of IDEA's General Meeting Committee

I am a theatre director and drama pedagogue, born in Zagreb, in 1948. During the 1970s and 1980s, I was a member of the editorial staff of *Prolog* and *Novi Prolog*, the most important theatre magazine in Croatia. In 1983, I completed an M.A. at the Zagreb Academy of Dramatic Art, and in 1988 became head of the Educational Department of the Zagreb Youth Theatre, the most important institution for drama and theatre work with children and youth in Croatia. In 1996, I initiated the foundation of the Croatian Centre for Drama Education (Croatian Centre IDEA), of which I am president. For more than 20 years, I have conceived and guided workshops in acting, directing, clowning, speech, group creation, mask work and drama teaching. I have just completed two terms as the Membership Secretary of the IDEA EC).

From 17-19 September 2004, the Centre for Drama in Education and Art (CEDEUM), the IDEA member organisation from Serbia and Montenegro, organised the DiE/TiE Conference in Belgrade, part of the Belgrade International Theatre Festival. A key focus was communication and networking among practitioners from the region of South-Eastern Europe. Vlado Krušić spoke about IDEA's plans to build a new spirit within the association and anticipated the regional IDEA conference in Mostar, February 2005, to unite practitioners from the Balkans, Central and Mediterranean Europe, and even the Mediterranean Arab countries.

Priorities of the GMC:

To support the IDEA Secretariat

To work for democratic and fluent decision-making in all IDEA GC meetings and between them
To prepare necessary changes to the constitution for voting in GC (either in meetings or postal ballot)

To help all members, especially those who don't speak any of IDEA's official languages (as their mother tongue) to be active in IDEA

To plan - in the long term - IDEA meetings by taking care of global balance

Tintti Karppinen (Finland)

tintti.karppinen@welho.com

Vice President of IDEA's General Meeting Committee

I am a drama teacher, specialised in socio-drama, communication skills, and drama-for-peace education, training teachers of different subjects and levels, nurses, social workers etc. Planner and teacher in the Theatre Academy 1995-2001. I have given workshops and courses for personnel in different organisations and firms, in prison for men with long sentences, for refugees and immigrants and for whole families. I was President of FIDEA (Finnish Drama/Theatre Education Association) 1974-1984, Vice President 1984-2002, and now International Liaison in the EC since 2002. In IDEA's EC, Regional Liaison 1995-1998, Vice President 1998-2001; and Vice President of GMC 2001-2004 and again 2004-2007. I have represented Finland in drama congresses and seminars and given workshops and lectures throughout the world. Main organiser of the UNESCO congress *European Arts in Education - Cooperation over Borders 2003* (FIDEA/UNESCO). I speak Finnish, Swedish, English, German and Russian. Hobbies: singing, playing accordion... Family: husband Risu, two children, son-in-law and one grandchild.

Richard Sallis (Australia)

sallis1@netspace.net.au

Secretary of IDEA's General Meeting Committee



I was born in Cheltenham, England and now live in Australia, working as a lecturer in Drama education at the University of Melbourne and as the President of Drama Australia. I am a co-author of the 'Acting Smart' series of drama books in Australia. My research interests are drama, gender and sexualities, and in ethnographic performance drama. For ten years I was the Victorian Editor of Lowdown Performing Arts Magazine, and from 2000-2003, the Editor of Drama Victoria's 'Mask' magazine. I trained in drama in Victoria, Australia, and began my career with theatre-for-schools companies where I wrote, directed and performed in plays for young people. I have also acted professionally in theatre and on television. I am the current director of Melbourne's *Identity Theatre Company*.

Part Two: Invitation to participate in IDEA's Working Committees

During the next month, IDEA's new Executive Committee will form five working committees to continue the work of developing an *inclusive, decentralised, transparent, dialogic, democratic, accountable, creative, effective and professional* world association, capable of:

- demonstrating and advocating drama/theatre education through its IDEA projects
- promoting dialogue and research around drama/theatre education methods
- supporting the use of drama/theatre education to achieve human rights and peace throughout the world, particularly for young people, children and excluded communities threatened by violence

General Criteria for members of working committees:

- Committee members will affirm and develop the philosophy and aims of IDEA
- The three official IDEA languages (english, french, spanish) will be represented in each committee
- Committee members will have access to the internet for regular e-communication
- Committees will be balanced in terms of gender and geographic representation
- All committee members will be members of IDEA (either *individual members*, members of institutions or organisations which are *associate members* or *ordinary members*)
- Potential IDEA members may volunteer and/or be proposed by IDEA members
- The elected EC member responsible for coordinating the working committee, together with the EC, selects the committee volunteers in this first phase of their formation
- The Project Working Committee, Young Idea Working Committee, and Solidarity Working Committee all aspire to having at least 12 representatives from the following ten regions and two areas:

Latin America and Caribbean Islands
 Northern America
 East and South Africa
 Northern, Central and Western Africa
 Western Europe
 Central and Eastern Europe
 Central Asia
 South East Asia
 Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Islands
 Middle East and Arab countries
 Community Theatre and Drama Pedagogy
 Practitioners
 Applied Arts Practitioners and Artistic Directors



**New Zealand's NZADIE actors on stage
*Les Polyscenes 2003, Montpellier, France***

General Expectations of working committee members:

- 1** Contribution and evaluation: members should be prepared to present his/her motivations, reflections and expectations about his/her role in the committee and about the committee work itself
- 2** Modes and frequency of communication:
 - E-debates: members should be willing to participate in regular e-debates with other members and the EC member who is facilitating the working committee.
 - Live meetings: members may be able to meet during:
 - The Paris Conference on IDEA Projects 2006
 - The 2006 International Young IDEA Project (January for World Social Forum, or March for UNESCO Summit in Portugal, or General Council Meeting IDEA)
 - The IDEA World Congress in Hong Kong (July 2007)

The Finance Working Committee

The FWC aims to:

- 1** fund the gradual expansion and professionalization of IDEA's secretariat
- 2** identify funding agencies in IDEA projects' regions
- 3** help mobilize resources of funding for IDEA projects
- 4** market IDEA publications
- 5** generate income for IDEA through sale of congress and project posters/postcards/t-shirts
- 6** help the treasurer and Accountancy Committee in fiscal issues



Specific criteria for the FWC: members should be

- 1** members of IDEA who are experienced in international fundraising projects
- 2** young IDEA members who can market IDEA publications among the youth/student community
- 3** solidarity-funded participants of past IDEA congresses who are willing to devote time to fundraising by selling IDEA postcards, posters, t shirts
- 4** corporations which support IDEA's objectives



**Young performers from Niedersachsen on stage
 at the BVDS 20th School Theatre Festival in
 Stuttgart, Germany, September 2004**

The Project Working Committee

As we now intend to place members' projects at the centre of IDEA, working definitions of what might define an IDEA project are included below. These should help to clarify the expectations of the PWC.



First Nation peoples' dance takes centre stage at the IDEA 2004's cultural evening in the Museum of Civilization, Ottawa.

Photo: Julia Dodge/IDEA 2004

The PWC aims to:

- 1 help the Director of Projects fulfill his constitutional responsibilities
- 2 network with IDEA members
- 3 help IDEA members to find resources / funding
- 4 make sure there is a regional balance
- 5 inform on existing projects in specific region
- 6 stimulate IDEA members in regions where there are no projects
- 7 suggest options which have emerged from IDEA's Special Interest Groups
- 8 accompany, evaluate and publicize accepted IDEA projects
- 9 consistently clarifying what an IDEA project is: e.g. *it should be based on activities, concrete action, proactive; it should be limited in time and space; it should be new*

Specific criteria for the PWC. Members should:

- 1 have experience and knowledge about how to initiate, accompany and evaluate projects using different angles of approach:
 - worldwide intercultural development policy
 - budgetary balance and coherence
 - artistic excellence
- 2 be sensitive, flexible, aware and able to incorporate new elements during the process of the project
- 3 be able to interact with regional IDEA members in a supportive and stimulating way
- 4 have access to internet
- 5 advise and stimulate IDEA members, to enable their empowerment
- 6 not hold another post in IDEA

Working definition of an IDEA project:

- 1 involves people who have agreed to confront their practices, skills and problematics; to experiment together on new directions and options; to evaluate the outcome of their joint work
- 2 is limited in time and space, and cannot be repeated by the same people and groups or organizations
- 3 consistently strives to rely on *exchanges* of youngsters/young people engaged in Drama/Theatre; on *exchanges* of performances either by young people or professional groups; on *exchanges* of teachers/theatre educationalists/theatre artists *training together*
- 4 explores the issues of cultural diversity; languages; artistic codes in performing arts; and social, ethical and political questions
- 5 is innovative and constantly questions previous achievements in the field of Drama/Theatre and Education
- 6 It stems from careful enquiry about options provided by private funding and foundations, by public funding from international institutions, such as EU, UNESCO and Ministries of Foreign Affairs.
- 7 It should always answer the following question with great self-confidence: "What is the clear benefit *anyone* can draw from an IDEA Project, both subjectively and objectively?"

Suggested typology of exchange-based or training-based projects

- 1 explores the dialectics of traditional codes and modern society
- 2 explores universal myths and archetypes, and creating new artistic codes to express these
- 3 explores the music of several languages within a common theatrical form
- 4 explores gender, social or political issues by using theatrical texts or forms
- 5 explores a wide range of images most likely to clash when confrontation begins, *not* to create some illusion of consensus but to grasp the beauty of diversity



Hong Kong's Theatre of the Deaf inspires IDEA 2004

Photo: Julia Dodge/IDEA 2004

The Young IDEA Working Committee

Young Idea is a new post in the IDEA Executive Committee. I am therefore offering a definition of who might be Young Idea, how the **YIWC** might form Young Idea, and the possible aims of Young Idea.



Who is Young IDEA?

- 1 any group of young people working in the theatre
- 2 a group of young people linked with a person working with IDEA
- 3 a group of young people linked with IDEA Association
- 4 or any group of young people identified to attend the IDEA Congress
- 5 a project

Young performers from PETA at Outil Theatre's 3rd Encounter of Young People's Theatre, *Les Polyscenes 2003*, held in Montpellier, France.

The formation Young IDEA:

- 1 each member association starts by identifying at least one group of young people to be linked to their association
- 2 each association involves its group of young people in as much of their activities as possible

Young IDEA should be recognized as one among best practices of IDEA. Therefore we need to trace those who have so far taken part in the **Young IDEA** programs. The **YIWC** will therefore need to know:

- i. who they are
- ii. where they are
- iii. what they are doing
- iv. what impact **Young IDEA** made on them
- v. their proposals for the future of **Young IDEA**

I therefore propose that each association or country that had groups/young people that participated in **Young IDEA** trace all those who took part in the past congresses.

The YIWC aims to:

- 1 develop a comprehensive questionnaire for this fact finding mission.
- 2 establish a **Young IDEA** Newsletter as a forum for exchanging and sharing information among the Young people. The first newsletter should contain information about:
 - i. the background of YI as a concept
 - ii. participants of YI in Brisbane (1995), Kisumu (1998), Bergen (2001) and Ottawa (2004)
 - iii. activities/performances that were done during their meetings in congresses
 - iv. YI workshops and projects between congresses
- 3 organise tours of **Young Idea** devised performances. This can motivate the twinning (collaboration between two IDEA groups or associations from different continents) of two or more groups of young people, regionally or worldwide.
- 4 form a team of **Young Idea** that will feature in the IDEA 2007 world congress, to be selected in advance to enable it to meet and work regularly before the actual congress. This will allow their interaction during the congress, either as conference participants, performers or as helpers so that they get first hand experience in coordinating and running of congresses.

Specific criteria for the YIWC.

10 of the 13 members who will make up this working committee should represent the regions defined above. The other 3 shall be IDEA Executive Committee members: Director of Publications, Director of Solidarity, and Director of Projects.

Members should:

- 1 have substantial experience of working with young people, empowering rather than patronising them
- 2 enjoy working with young people and be flexible and able to work in collective creations
- 3 have time to develop the YIWC
- 4 have access to the internet
- 5 be interested in experiences of exchange and multicultural dialogue
- 6 be able to advise on and design young people's theatre projects and programmes
- 7 be democratic, tolerant and lead by example, as a role model for young people
- 8 be interested in publications and research

The Solidarity Working Committee

The SWC aims to:

- 1 develop the policy for IDEA's Solidarity work
- 2 develop a long term plan and to integrate projects in between the congresses and during congresses
- 3 fundraise for IDEA officers, eligible for solidarity support, to attend the EC meeting 2005, the GCM 2006 and the IDEA 2007 world congress
- 4 handle applications for solidarity support from delegates
- 5 consistently evaluate the solidarity work
- 6 spread information about IDEA and Solidarity
- 7 write reports to sponsors and briefs to attract new sponsors
- 8 keep members updated

Specific criteria for the SWC. Members must be able to:

- 1 represent relevant drama/theatre and education milieus in their regions, and have experience as a past solidarity delegate; **or**
- 2 represent countries that have agencies that sponsor development work, e.g. Sida, CIDA, NORAD, Oxfam.

The Translation Working Committee

Unlike the other working committees defined above, there is no preferred number of volunteers: the more translators, the better distribution of work and less work for each translator. Members will receive a special discount for fees at congresses or special events.

The TWC aims to:

- 1 translate official documents.
- 2 verify that all IDEA's documents that appear in a public domain exist in three languages
- 3 discuss and dialogue on-line about special words, meanings and cultural differences
- 4 give support to the elected Executive, Accountancy and General Meeting committees, and to answer emails in other language when necessary
- 5 give support to the IDEA website communication, specially in French and Spanish
- 6 be IDEA's "language ambassadors" at any meeting where present, offering simultaneous translation
- 7 accompany special guests, keynotes or practitioners that only speak one of IDEA's official languages

Specific criteria for TWC members. Members should preferably have:

- 1 knowledge and experience in education and arts.
- 2 knowledge of at least two of the three official languages of IDEA: English, French, Spanish. Please specify your language ability:
 - English to Spanish
 - English to French
 - Spanish to English
 - Spanish to French
 - French to English
 - French to Spanish

For example, my maternal language is Spanish. I speak English. I can translate English to Spanish but I am not competent to translate Spanish to English.

- 3 sensibility to dialogue and be willing to discuss meanings, multicultural differences and idiomatic conventions
- 4 time to complete a translation. Please specify the time you have available
- 5 IDEA membership, but this is not essential. Volunteers could be collaborators interested in supporting IDEA's objectives

Young IDEA performers from Croatia and Bosnia & Herzegovina on stage on stage at Outil Theatre's 3rd Encounter of Young People's Theatre, *Les Polyscenes 2003*, Montpellier, France.



Part 3: Planting IDEAs



Celebration of our creative intelligences: a collective presentation during the debates about how arts in education can stimulate 'Cooperation over Borders' at the UNESCO meeting of European/North American experts, in preparation for the UNESCO 2006 World Summit on art-education.

Members and friends' of IDEA news for 2004-2005

Eastern Africa Theatre Institute, in collaboration with various Swedish artists, groups and institutions, will be holding its 3rd EATI Regional Theatre Festival from **22nd to 27th November, 2004** in Mombasa, Kenya to celebrate and showcase the contribution of theatre to social development. The theme *Drumming up the dreams of our society* celebrates the role of the artist as an upholder of the aspirations of society in its quest for betterment. The festival celebrates the role of theatre in addressing HIV and AIDS, conflict resolution, poverty reduction/eradication, gender and child education. Further information is available from **Ghonche Materego**:gmaterego@yahoo.com



Eastern Africa Theatre Institute (EATI)

The **Asociación Civil Festival Hispanoamericano de Pastorelas** (FESTHIP) and Arturo Morell invite independent amateur theatre groups for children and schools from the Mexican Republic, Latin American theatre companies and spanish-speaking groups from across the world, theatre groups from Youth Probation Centres, and internees (on trial and sentenced in the Mexican prison system) to participate in the **XII Festival HISPANOAMERICANO de Pastorelas**, México city, National Centre of the Arts, **November 2004-February 2005**. Further information from **Arturo Morell**:
festival@proyectointegrarte.com



Within the Festival Hispanoamericano de Pastorelas, there will be works written, performed and acted by prisoners within their cells, where they represent in an entertaining and reflective way, the struggle of good against evil for the human soul: converting theatre into an instrument of social rehabilitation.

Researching Drama and Theatre in Education (England) will hold its 5th international conference at the University of Exeter, England, between **12th-16th April 2005**. Entitled *Drama as Social Intervention*, the conference deadline for papers, workshops, roundtable discussions, posters and other forms of participation is 12th January 2005. Anyone who is interested should contact conference director **John Somers**: J.W.Somers@ex.ac.uk

Outil Theatre (France) is organising its 4th *Encounter of Young People's Theatre, Polyscènes 2005*, between **18th-24th April 2005**, in Montpellier. The aim of the encounter is to give 100 young Euro-Mediterraneans with a passion for theatre the chance to meet through theatre workshops, experimental workshops or performances. These encounters will be the occasion to celebrate several centuries of mutual and cultural influences between the north and the south of the Mediterranean sea, and to exchange and share diverse theatrical experiences. Anyone interested in further information should contact: outil.theatre@wanadoo.fr

Drama Australia is holding its annual conference, entitled *Heart of the Nation* in Canberra from **September 29th to October 3rd, 2005**. Next year the conference is in Launceston, Tasmania. Entitled *No-one is an island*, it will be held from July 7th to 9th, 2006. Details of the conferences and other Drama Australia activities can be found on its website: www.dramaaustralia.org.au

Collaborations and 'twinning' invitations in 2005

Natya Chetana (India) is now developing a campaign against domestic violence on women in three regions of Orissa, in preparation for its **10th Peoples Theatre Festival** which will focus on Women Directors and Playwrights. Founder-director Subodh Pattnaik writes: "In our state, the literature in my language has a long history but there is no woman who is a playwright till today and unfortunately there is no woman who is a theatre director. So we are organising a training in December followed by theatre productions by women and we will select plays for the festival, organised tentatively for **30th January till 5th February, 2005**. We are still searching for funding partners for this. Our friends will raise 1000 Euro by public donations. Natya Chetana will try to generate donations of 500 Euros. But the total Budget is 12000 Euro." Any association or individual member interested in collaborating in the building of this festival should contact **Natya Chetana** who welcome and exchange international workshop contributions. Contact **Subodh Pattnaik**: naatya@sancharnet.in.

Intercultural Action for Transformation (Brazil), and the *Association of Families of the Victims of the Accomarca Massacre of 1985*, invite IDEA members interested in participating in an international workshop on arte-education towards the building of a theatrical monument of reconciliation and transformation. The open workshop and community-based collective process of construction will be located in the Andean region of Ayacucho, Peru, developed in collaboration with the *National School of Fine Arts* between **March-July, 2005**. Those interested in further information should contact **Manoela Souza**: manosouza@hotmail.com



The monumental theatre of transformation constructed through story-telling and dance-drama by 800 survivors of the 1996 massacre at Eldorado dos Carajás in northern Brazil, coordinated by IAT-Brazil in 1999, inspiration for the Peruvian 2005 collaboration.

Contributions to the 2005 World Social Forum (Brazil): The international committee of the World Social Forum is currently preparing the fifth 'edition', to be held in Porto Alegre, Brazil, between **26th-31st January, 2005**. For the first time since its foundation in 2001, the WSF will place central importance on the role of culture in social change, and specifically on performing arts and art-education. IDEA members from Latin America are contributing to preparation of the Forum and its programme. Those interested in further information or offering a workshop or performance should contact **Dan Baron Cohen** or visit the WSF website: www.forumsocialmundial.org.br

RSVP by Ricardo Grasso, a play about the paradoxes of individualism and indifference in an age of startling communication, produced by Uruguayan theatre company A Proscenio, part of the Uruguayan association EducArte Al Sur, one of our new Latin American members who, along with Arte y Vida (Peru), Community of Producers in Arts, COMPA (Bolivia) and existing member-associations formed the Latin American Network during the 5th World Congress to build IDEA's first Latin American Regional Congress in 2006, in anticipation of a possible 7th IDEA World Congress in 2010.





Performance from the Athens International Conference *creativity and metamorphosis* (March 2004), hosted by the Theatre Education Network of Hellenic Teachers whose 2005 International conference will be announced on their site www.TheatroEdu.gr in December.



Participating in IDEA now!

www.educ.queensu.ca/~idea

Formation of Working Committees: The Executive Committee will be forming its *Finance, Project, Solidarity, Young People and Translation working committees* between **Nov 15th and Dec 15th 2004**. Please personally contact the relevant EC member if you have any questions, and send in your completed Volunteer Profile Forms by **December 15th** to **Robin Pascoe**, the EC secretary.

Planting IDEAs: In preparation for IDEA 2007, the Hong Kong coordinators are planning two Planting IDEAs Forums in Asian Cities, in **July 2005 and July 2006**. Congress co-director **Mok Chiu Yu** welcomes questions and suggestions from those who are interested in these IDEA initiatives.

IDEA Executive Committee agenda: The next IDEA EC meeting will be hosted by UPC in Lima, Peru, during its forthcoming 10^o National Congress of Education, **1st–3rd August, 2005**. The committee welcomes suggestions from IDEA members for its agenda, via the relevant elected members in Part One of this newsletter. The exact dates of the EC meeting will be confirmed in our next newsletter.

UNESCO 2006 World Summit on Arts Education: During the past three years, IDEA has been involved in dialogues with UNESCO, participating in its regional meetings of experts during 2002 and 2003, and gradually become a key partner in the creation of the forthcoming UNESCO world summit. Those interested in knowing more about how IDEA plans to participate in this summit, or actively becoming involved in this preparation should contact **Steven Clark**, our Director of Projects, or **Tintti Karppinen**, Vice President of our GMC.



Group portrait of participants from IDEA, InSEA and UNESCO at 2003 Meeting in Helsinki, Finland

January 2005 IDEA newsletter: Our EC volunteers hope to produce a quarterly newsletter in dialogue with you, our members. In the next issue, we are hoping to be able to publish the plans of action of our newly formed working committees, and to focus on new project collaborations in development. But we would also like to support your association by publishing your

- invitations to collaborate and build a 'twinning' relationship with associations in other regions;
- requests for project residencies, training workshops and courses;
- book recommendations;
- news of past and forthcoming events;
- suggestions about how we can develop this new newsletter;
- and recommendations on which international practitioners your association would like to recommend as patrons of IDEA.

We hope to include much of this information in a more interactive and advanced IDEA website as it develops. Please keep in mind that **December 15th 2004** will be the deadline for the next IDEA newsletter.

Young performers from Cameroons' *The Flame Players*, at *Les Polyscenes 2003*, France

