



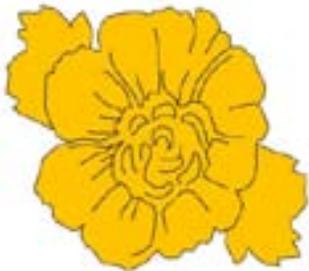
Homepage for WPI, www.wpinternational.net

WPIC is an opportunity to meet, to build networks, to create genuine, lasting contacts between women playwrights and theatre professionals. Our aim is to have a supporting impact on cooperations and to build bridges between people from different parts of the world.

Follow us on Facebook!

Join us at:

<http://www.facebook.com/WPIC2012>



More info on the conference in Stockholm,
go to

<http://wpic.riksteatern.se>

Mail adress wpic@riksteatern.se

Contact Mireille Bergenström, project manager

9th Women Playwrights International Conference Stockholm - Sweden 15-20 august 2012

Theme: The democratic Stage • Newsletter #7 - 2012

We did it!

Almost 300 participants from 50 countries came to Stockholm!

It was six amazing days. The Södra Teatern was simply steaming with creativity, good thinking, love and support. That also ran across the square to our other venues, Dramalabbet and Intercult. All you members of WPI, this wonderful organization, made a true impact on Swedish theatre as well as got new international networks going. As you can see on facebook and twitter, friendships have been made and they're giving results, across borders, across oceans, meeting soulmates.

The conference ment hard work for the staff involved and all the voluntary workers. It's not an exaggeration when I write: *You all paid us back! It's been worth every effort!*

A full report from the conference will be done of course - from us in the WPIC Stockholm Team. We have also asked an artistic group called FUL to gather material to present their view of the event.

In this letter you'll also find info on the new management committee, who's among the senior advisers and who's hosting the next conference. Karen, Amy, Fatima and Zara say their first Hello!

You can also read about how to stay in contact. In July 2015 we'll meet again, with many more participants, hopefully, from Africa and Latin America. We've also missed colleagues from European countries like Spain, Greece, Austria and Belgium. Come on, ladies, start writing your submission texts and save up money for the travel.

See you in Cape Town 2015!

Mireille Bergenström
proud project manager
WPIC Stockholm 2012

Feel free to spread this news letter among your colleagues!

Suddenly it was over.



Photo: Mireille Bergenström

The conference is over. I have lost a baby!

It was so nice to meet all you people in Stockholm - and to get to know you better - through your work as playwrights, through talks, discussions - on stage and off stage, and by watching many of you at the open microphone.

Some people were missed; people we knew and who could not come - and also some we don't yet know, but want to get to know from other countries, regions and world parts!

Fortunately we have a new opportunity in three years.

We have a wonderful new management committee, a very good host committee and a board of advisors with tons of experience.

My belief is that we will grow and keep networks alive - even make stronger networks, or new ones - throughout the next 3 years.

Now we need all of you WPI-people to think about how you can make groups in your region or country that can continue to be in contact with us the next 3 years.

Now WPI is dependent on people having ideas - but also about them making the ideas come through - so please tell us about the ideas and how we can make things happen!

To conclude this short text I want to thank Riksteatern once again for making the conference possible. Great thanks to Mireille and her staff in Stockholm for the great work they have done. We are so proud that they wanted to use all their effort to make WPIC Sweden such a fantastic gigantic event. Efficient, smiling, serving good food and people helping out in any way possible - along with a fantastic group of moderators/directors and actors who all did a tremendous job reading and communicating plays from all over the world.

And I will not start to mention logistics, visas, flights! Very impressive.

We will never forget this - some people have already said it - and I want to repeat:

This changed my life.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lene Therese Teigen". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Lene Therese Teigen
WPI president

Visit WPIC 2012 on your computer!

Five different events are able to join on the net.

All info at the WPIC web site: <http://wpic.riksteatern.se/live-seminars>

You don't need any special computer demands but good Internet speed is recommended.

The videos will be on the web site for at least six months.

- **The Arab World**

- Years of Ember and Ashes**

- With Nidal Al Achkar, founder & director of Al Madina Theatre, Beirut

- Young Arab Theatre Makers: Challenges and Opportunities and Initiatives**

- With Mona Knio, Department of Communication Arts, The Lebanese American University

- Storytelling to resist and remember**

- With Sondos Shabayek, Egyptian journalist, dramatist, director & activist, part of the protesters at Tahrir Square in Cairo. Now working with the Tahrir Monologues, stories from the revolution.

- www.tahrirmonologues.com

- **Etel Adnan Award**

- Founded by Al Madina Theatre and Riksteatern, this award aspires to increase the number of plays penned by women playwrights residing in Arabic-speaking countries, and making them acknowledge by the rest of the world.

- **Young women playwrights around the Baltic Sea**

- Six languages. Six voices. A staged reading in a collaboration between Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Russia. Playwrights: Emilia Pöyhönen, Sofia Aminoff, Maria Lee Liivak, Madara Rutkevica, Gabriele Labanauskaite, Lyubov Mulmenko.

- www.adelfa.fi/playwrights/

- **Theater impact on children and young people**

- With Suzanne Osten, founder and leader of the well known Swedish theatre Unga Klara, talks with Marina Barham, head of Al Harah Theatre in Palestine.

- **Women Writing Africa**

- With Fatima Dike & Amy Jephta, South Africa, and Patricia Olwoch, Uganda.

Documentation

If you were at the WPI conference in Stockholm, you might have noticed a bunch of magazines laying around in the KGB lobby. That was *Ful Art Magazine*, a periodical produced by the art group Ful.

Ful were present at WPIC to document the conference. This will result in a special issue of *Ful Art Magazine* that will be published early spring 2013.

In the meantime we will publish some web exclusive material from the conference at:

www.tidskriftenful.se.

This material will be available from October 1.

Scripts on the web?

There're many questions on how do we share our work in an easy and still legal way on the web? Is it possible without jeopardising the wrighter's rights?

We're working on this issue. Some lawyers are looking into it and I hope we'll have a good solution before the end of this year.

In the meantime, we're aiming to publish the excerpts from the selected plays together with the presentation of the playwrights, on the web site: wpic.riksteatern.se/selected-plays

If you choose to publish your play somewhere else, that's fine with us - it's totally your own choice. We're just looking for a functional system within WPI.

If you DON'T want us to publish your text, please let me know.

Any ideas? Questions? Just mail me!

Mireille

mireille.bergenstrom@riksteatern.se

Whatinta bafazi, wathinti'mbokodo

- You strike a woman, you strike a rock

Following the highly successful and important 2012 WPI conference, hosted so ably by Riksteatern in Sweden, we are proud to announce our next conference. In 2015, the Woman Playwright's International Conference is coming to Cape Town, South Africa.

We've kept a keen eye on this year's conference and the challenges, successes and lessons that have come from talking to the participants and organisers. For the first time the conference will find its home in Africa, broadening the already vibrant conversation that WPI has facilitated for so many years. Within themes of writing beyond the spoken word, exploring multilingualism on stage or in our audiences, writing work that you yourself will perform, practical ideas of how to edit and "wright" your plays and broadening the conversation to include directors and actors, the conference will bring together women writers from around the world. To explore questions of how they write, what they write, and who they write for. To share their words and stories, their experiences and ideas. For a week, the tip of Africa will be the hub of women's playwriting.

The call for scripts, papers and workshops will go out in 2013, so you will hear from us soon! The local committee is headed by Karen Jeynes, Amy Jephta and Fatima Dike, and any communications can be directed to the local coordinator, Zara Trafford, on wpic2015@gmail.com

Karen Jeynes Amy Jephta Fatima Dike Zara Trafford

WPI elected for 2012-2015



Sondos, Lene, Andrea, Marcia, Valantina, Vanessa, Patricia, Helena & Sally.
Missing: Catherine & Marili

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Lene Therese Teigen	President, Norway
Marcia Johnson	Vice-president, Canada
Vanessa Adams-Harris	Secretary, USA
Helena Hoogenkamp	Treasurer, the Netherlands
Patricia Olwoch	Conference Convenor, Uganda
Sondos Shabayek	Conference Convenor, Egypt
Catherine Fitzgerald	Communications, Australia
Andrea Assaf	Communications, USA
Sally Campusano Torres	Latin-America region developer, Chile
Marili Fernandez-Illagan	Asian region developer, the Philippines
Valantina Abu Oqsa	Arab region developer, Palestine

SENIOR ADVISORS

Anna Kay France, USA
Jyoti Mhapsekar, India
Lynn Hayes, USA
Linda Parris-Bailey, USA
Mireille Bergenström, Sweden
Julie Holledge, UK/Australia
Malou Jacob, the Philippines
Ratna Sarumpaet, Indonesia
Margareta Skantze, Sweden
Meena Natarajan, USA/India

HOST COMMITTEE/SOUTH AFRICA

Karen Jeynes, head of committee
Amy Jephtha
Fatima Dike
Zara Trafford, conference coordinator
e mail: wpic2015@gmail.com

SIGN UP AS A COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE!

The Women Playwrights International Management Committee is putting out a call for playwrights; not for your writing but for your involvement in this vital organization.

The work load for the representatives will depend on the willingness and availability of the individuals who sign up for the task. The aim is to build networks which remain strong between conferences.

Some of you already signed up as a WPI Country Representative in Stockholm, as one of two volunteer representatives from your area.

However, our lists are still incomplete.

- If you signed up, please reply to CONFIRM that you will be the representative.
- If you haven't signed up but would like to, please contact us no later than Oct. 10th 2012.

Our primary goal is, in order to develop country/regional networks, to share information, stay connected and be more informed of what is happening in member areas.

The aim is also to make sure WPI grows and strengthens toward South Africa 2015 WPI Conference and beyond.

If you have things you'd like to share with the WPI community right away, please "Like" our Facebook page and post interesting info here: www.facebook.com/WPIC2012.

Wishing you all a good and creative october!

**2012-2015 WPI
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

To be a representative from your country/region, please respond to:

Vanessa Adams-Harris, WPI-Secretary

vadamsh@mac.com

1.

In the Subject line, write:

WPI Country/Region Representative

2.

In the message, write:

NAME – COUNTRY

E-MAIL ADDRESS + PHONE NUMBER

Two women playwrights from each country/region are needed, if possible.

Stockholm

A salute to the 9th Women Playwrights International Conference, 15-20 August 2012

Words by Marianne P. Fedunkiw (Toronto, Canada) Sung to the tune of **'Downtown'**, music and original lyrics by Tony Hatch.
Presented on Open Stage, KGB East.

W.P.I.C.
Is just where
I want to be,
With all you, here
In Stockholm.

All women,
Gathered here,
All races,
Straight, dike and queer
We're playwrights, yeah!
In Stockholm.

I got a fresh banana
From a funny girl 'guerrilla'.
I've made new friends from Africa,
Estonia, Manila.
Then there's the Swedes ...

Our hosts
Have put
On a program,
That has challenged,
Informed,
And the
Weather's been warm!
Here in ...

Stockholm, things are much nicer here,
Stockholm, little bit pricier here,
Stockholm, where they fund women's plays, too!

Dramalab shows
Were great!
The herring ...
I kinda hate.
Don't want to go,
From Stockholm.

Södra Bar chats –
A blast!
Cushions
For my old ass.
Won't say 'hej då',
To Stockholm.

Just listen to the rhythm
Of the words put on to paper.
Sharing stuff with you girls
That I'd never tell a neighbour!
Happy again!

The blue jeans
Are tighter here.
And I am told,
That the Swedes
Put more hops
In their beer.
Where? In:

Stockholm, things are much nicer here,
Stockholm, little bit pricier here,
Stockholm, I want to move here, right now!

Stockholm ...
Stockholm ...
Stockholm ...

[Fade out]

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Södra Teatern, the conference venue.