

Information from Stages without Borders 2014-03-03

To our partners old and new

The platform Stages without Borders (Scen utan gränser/ Rajaton näyttämö) goes one step beyond

Over the past three years, *Stages without Borders*, has worked to create a common platform for the theatre world's of Finland and Sweden. This collaboration is evolving further and now seeks new Nordic partners.

Central to the platform are the development of stage technology and a desire to make accessibility to the performing arts transcend national and language boundaries through the development of areas such as technology, artistic exchange, interactivity, competence development and leadership.

Stages without Borders's projects for stage technology lie at the forefront of our development and have given rise to innovations in the fields of texting and performance technology. Playwrights meetings, leadership development and festival visits have furthered the cause of bringing institutions, independent groups and educational establishments together to create and strengthen a bilateral network.

- It has been a delight that in just three years, Stages without Borders, has managed to create a solid collaboration which has reached a broad audience, overcoming language barriers and transcending national borders. The numerous industry events have created a network that will stand the theatre world in good stead in both countries for many years to come, says Gunvor Kronman, CEO, The Hanasaari Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre

The Swedish National Touring Theatre (Riksteatern) and The Hanasaari Swedish-Finnish Cultural Centre (Hanaholmen) have led the collaboration so far. January 2014 we will see a progress of this structure to create a more open network where each partner commits to contributing competence and experience.

- As one of the founding partners we welcome new contributors to Stages without Borders. Our goal is that the network should be enhanced by the competence and capabilities of new partners. Active partners are the foundation on which more exciting

meetings and projects can be built, says Ann Cathrine Fröjdö, Riksteatern's project manager and former coordinator.

The breadth of the network where research, education, institutions and independents have participated in cross-border meetings to develop the enterprise, is without precedent in the Nordics. On the shared site, scenutangranser.com everyone within the network is welcome to share their own activities, projects and any productions that fall under the development areas specified by Stages without Borders.

Here is a selection from the calendar

If you would like to know more or to share your experiences, ideas or events – we will help you to get started. More dates and activities are added continuously. Keep yourself updated on scenutangranser.com or via facebook.com/scenutangranser.

February – *Stages without Borders* will contact all partners with information on how to post your information on the platform.

Feb-Mar: Working group meeting Guest players strategy Finland and Sweden

4-6 April: Theatre Days at the Swedish National Touring Theatre (Riksteatern)

7-11 April: Seminar for Nordic theatre research, Helsingfors, Rovaniemi

6-9 May: Theatre management meeting in Umeå in conjunction with Swedish performing arts meeting

May: VIMMA – Motion capture design workshop

6-9 June: Theatre meeting Hangö

4-10 August: Tammefors Theatrefestival

September: VIMMA – Seminar Motion capture at Aalto University

October: Magic technology seminar with Takia theatricals (provisional)

13 November: Conference and evaluation of platform over the year at Hanaholmen - cultural centre for Sweden and Finland, Esbo.

If you want to become part of the network or would like more information contact:

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About Theatre without Borders

“Stages without borders” began as a touring collaboration between Riksteatern and nine regional and city theatres in Finland which has gradually evolved since 2005. Between 2011 – 2013 this collaboration has gone from strength to strength and now acts as a broad platform supporting cross-border collaboration and branch development of the performing arts in a network which involves theatres, educational, cultural and business organisations from both countries.

Riksteatern in Sweden administrate and manages the platform.