



Testing new skills
for the circulation
of innovative
co-creation methods
in the performing
Arts sector

Study Visits Tour Pack

Project acronym:	TestArt
Project full title:	Testing new skills for the circulation of innovative co-creation methods in the performing Arts sector
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Work Package 2

Deliverable n.7

Description:

Report in .pdf format developed in EN packing together the 2 Study Visits implemented. Main elements (at least): 2 agenda of the visits, 2 lists of participants, 2 info on good practices and experts involved, 2 training material (any practical exercise/workshop programme), 8 pictures.

Responsible Partner:

Welcome Aps

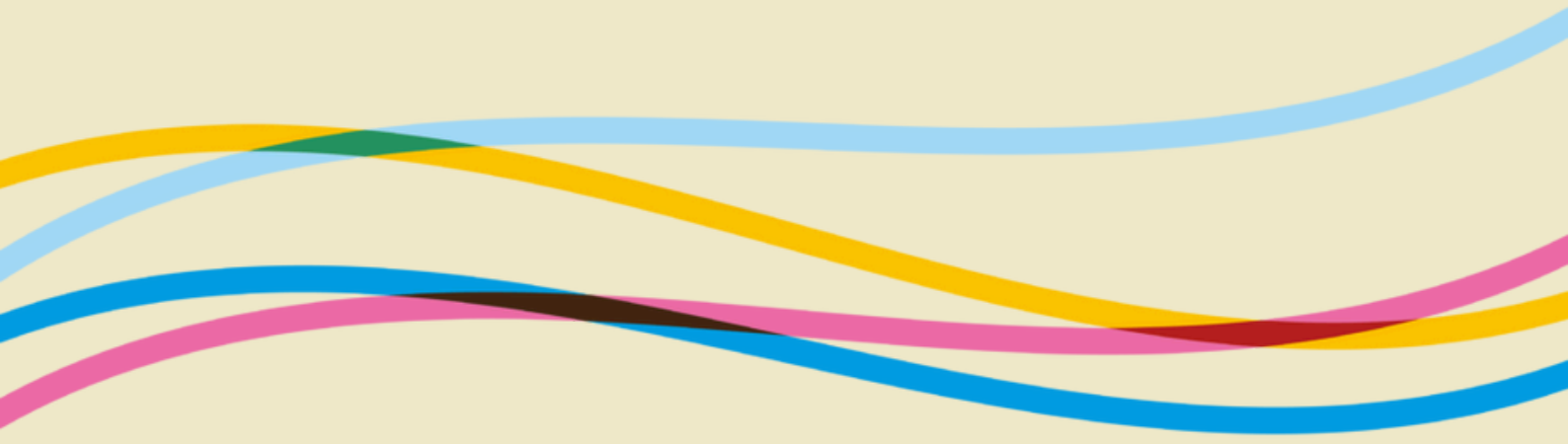
Dissemination Level:

Public



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Executive Summary


“TestArt - Testing new skills for the circulation of innovative co-creation methods in the performing Arts sector” is a transnational cooperation project aiming to achieve the Creative Europe Programme - Culture strand’s objective of enhancing artistic and cultural cooperation at the European level, in order to support the creation of European artistic works and strengthen CCI’s economic, social and external dimension and innovation and mobility in Europe’s cultural and creative sectors.

TestArt wants to reach two specific objectives:

- To build and test new capacities for European grass-roots and micro-organisations to work internationally in the cultural and creative sectors;
- To foster the transnational creation of performing-art works by organizing a permanent European network for their circulation.

To achieve this, TestArt activities are implemented along 3 project phases:

- The first phase is dedicated to MAP creatives needs and to MATCH artistic capacities transnationally. Partner organisations have to firstly explore common needs and visions, according to which they are matched together and sorted into transnational creative groups. The mapping and matching phase is also a researching moment, in which partners can also find inspiration by exploring European best practises of grass-roots and micro-organisations on field, which have built their international dimension.

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- The second project phase is dedicated to the COOPERATION for CREATION, which sees the transnational creative groups in action with their co-production works through a programme of artistic residencies hosted in the partners' countries. During this phase, grass-roots and micro-organisations will receive constant mentoring support by the partners appointed as tutor in field A (i.e. for cultural spaces hosting artistic residencies) and tutor in field B (i.e. for artistic co-creation process in residency programme).
 - The third project phase is dedicated to the CIRCULATION of the CO-PRODUCTIONS and focuses on organizing the European network of the co-producing partners hosting and delivering the transnational performances, and to the very implementation of a joint European tour for the circulation of the artistic works that will be co-produced at transnational level.

In reference to the exploration of European best practices, the objective of this deliverable is to track the activities carried out during the 2 Study Visits scheduled by the project, whose aim was to transfer cross-sectorial experiences by providing partners with direct experiences of how grass-roots and micro-organisations had been building their capacities to permanently work at European level.

First Study Visit (Slovenia)



The first study visit took place on 29th, 30th and 31st August 2024 in Ljubljana (Slovenia) and it was hosted and organised by the Slovenian project partner Bunker. TestArt's study visit activities were embedded into the Mladi Levi Festival 2024, one of the most important events for the international performing art scene in Slovenia. The festival has been operating in the capital for 20 years and hosts numerous events and international premieres in different locations in the centre of the capital, including the redeveloped space Stara Elektrarna – Elektro Ljubljana (Old Power Station), an old power station now transformed into a cultural centre managed by Bunker.

Background information on the good practices explored



From 29th to 31st August 2024, partners had the opportunity to get to know numerous realities in the Slovenian territory, involved in different areas of the Slovenian and international cultural scene, including:

- Gledališče Glej

Glej Theater is the oldest non-institutional theater in Slovenia (and one of the first theaters of this kind in the former Yugoslavia), boasting bold performances, (re)thinking interesting production models and non-hierarchical forms of work in theater. It is based on collective and socially engaged work. Operating in the area for 50 years, they explore the possibilities of contemporary theater in relation to collective theatre creation, community and the various forms that the concepts of “collective” and “community” can encompass.

- Mesto žensk – City of Women

Association that promotes and supports the inclusion of women in culture. The Association for the Promotion of “Women in Culture – City of Women” was founded in 1996, one year after the first edition of the City of Women festival, with the aim of preparing and managing the festival annually. Today, the association is a multifaceted organization that focuses on artistic, activist and theoretical presentations and productions by women* throughout the year, while expanding its activities to arts education - managing projects for youth and teachers - to community building - initiating temporary communities that engage in the co-creation of art - and to the connection of art and culture with other sectors, such as social, educational and entrepreneurial.

*The term women and other words written in the feminine grammatical gender are used inclusively and address anyone who identifies with the feminine gender, as well as non-binary, trans- and intergender people.



- Ustvarjalni center Krušče – Krušče Creative Center

Krušče Creative Center is a small cultural center run by Tomi Janežič, theater director and psychodrama psychotherapist, and Katja Legin, dancer/performer and choreographer. It offers an intimate and peaceful space for inspiration and creation, a place where art has its value, purpose and meaning. It creates conditions in which avant-garde art meets other contents, from live entertainment to psychodrama, from education to group work.



- Pogon – Zagrebački centar za nezavisnu kulturu i mlade

Pogon is an independent house of cultures based in Zagreb (Croatia), which makes its premises and equipment available free of charge to associations, artistic organizations and informal groups. Since 2009, Pogon, under the direction of Emina Višnić and the entire team, has gradually become an important place of production and presentation of culture and art, not only for the independent cultural scene but also for the entire cultural panorama of the city.

As partners of the Stronger Peripheries: A Southern Coalition project, Sonja Soldo and Anja Pletikosa illustrated to the TestArt partners the virtues and difficulties in realizing transnational artistic residencies and productions, providing important examples of collaborations and useful feedback that can be used in reference to TestArt activities as well.



Programme of the first study visit

1st STUDY VISIT
29h-31st August 2024
Ljubljana, Slovenia

- 📍 Venue for the meeting: Športna dvorana Tabor, Tabor 13, Ljubljana
- 📍 Venue for lunch: Stara elektrarna, Slomškova 18, Ljubljana

August 29th

9:30 - 10:00

Participants registration and welcome coffee

10:00 - 12:00


Steering Committee Meeting

12:00 – 13:00

Meet up with all the partners and guests

13:00 - 14:30

LUNCH BREAK (at Stara elektrarna)



14:30 - 16:30

Presentation of the local contemporary performing arts scene by Alma R. Selimović
(director of Bunker)

17:00 - 18:30

Debate cafe in the ŠD tabor Park

[More info on the format](#)

18:30 - 20:00

Networking café between TestArt partners and local artists

21:00

Performance "[Fun fact](#)"

August 30th

9:30 - 10:00

Participants registration and welcome coffee

10:30 - 12:30

From grass-roots to the European level: roundtable with Slovenian Stakeholders

- Mesto žensk – City of Women
- Gledališče Glej

13:30 - 14:30

LUNCH BREAK (at Stara elektrarna)

14:30 - 16:30

From grass-roots to the European level: roundtable with Slovenian Stakeholders

- Ustvarjalni center Krušče – Krušče Creative Center

17:00


Performance "Mending the invisible"

18:30

Performance "Tourism – romanticism - activism"

20:00

Performance "Haribo Kimchi"



August 31st

9:30 - 10:00

Participants registration and welcome coffee

10:00 - 12:00

From grass-roots to the European level: learning from the peers

- Pogon – Zagrebački centar za nezavisnu kulturu i mlade and the “Stronger Peripheries: A Southern Coalition project”

13:30 - 14:30

LUNCH BREAK (at Stara elektrarna)

END OF THE PROGRAMME

List of participants

ATTENDANCE SHEET STUDY VISITS

LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA
29th-31st August 2024

	NAME	ASSOCIATION
1	ILARIA C.	CONSORZIO MARCHE SPETTACOLO
2	KATIUSCIA C.	CONSORZIO MARCHE SPETTACOLO
3	MARTINA P.	WELCOME APS
4	MILAN V.	KULTURANOVA
5	SARA Ö.	TEATER NU
6	MATILDA K.	TEATER NU
7	MOJCA J.	BUNKER
8	BETTINA L.	ZENTRALWERK
9	CHRISTIAN P.	ZENTRALWERK
10	FILIPPO M.	COLLETTIVO COLLEGAMENTI
11	FRANCESCA M. B.	COLLETTIVO COLLEGAMENTI
12	FILIPPO P.	ASINI BARDASCI
13	ELEONORA B.	ASINI BARDASCI
14	FREJA H.	POTATO POTATO
15	ANDREA C.	ASSOCIAZIONE CULTURALE MALTE
16	LUCIA C.	FONDAZIONE PERGOLESÌ SPONTINI
17	MARIANNA B.	CENTRIPETA
18	STEFANO M.	CENTRIPETA
19	KONSTANTINUS P.	ŠOK ZADRUGA

	NAME	ASSOCIATION
20	EMILIJA V.	TEATAR MLADIH MIŠOLOVKA
21	MAJA V.	BUNKER
22	ALMA R. S.	BUNKER
23	TAMARA B.V.	BUNKER
24	AJDA K.	BUNKER
25	ŠPELA K.	BUNKER
26	VALERIJA B.	SONIAKH.COM
27	LAURA T.	INDEPENDENT ARTIST
28	TJAŠA Č.	INDEPENDENT ARTIST
29	KATARINA S.	SNG LJUBLJANA
30	KARIM Z.	ORCHESTRA CONDUCTOR
31	MAJ B.	SAXOPHONIST/COMPOSER
32	KAROL F.	DAMU
33	UNA B.	UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB - ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ART

Second Study Visit (Germany)



The second study visit took place on 12th, 13th and 14th February 2025 in Dresden (Germany) and it was hosted and organised by the German project partner Zentralwerk. This second study visit's activities were embedded in the Forum "February 13th Transnational", a format event co-organised by Zentralwerk that remembers to the bombing of the city happened in 1945, during the Second World War. In its 80-year anniversary, participants came together in a space of dialogue and community to examine the role of international actors and perspectives in the culture of remembrance.

Background information on the good practices explored



During the study visit, participants had the opportunity to become more familiar with each other, to deepen their teamwork and to get in touch with several German organisations.

- Storytelling Workshop: RE ESISTERE (Lavinia Xausa)

In this workshop, participants were asked to create fictional stories inspired by personal memories and experiences. By sharing stories with each other, the aim to foster connection and solidarity - a peaceful act of resistance against polarization. Participants also explored the Zentralwerk neighbourhood to take Polaroid photos that capture their perspective and sensibility. Through a series of small exercises, all participants were able to develop short stories to accompany these images, which they also shared with the other participants. At the end of the workshop, a small public installation was also created with all the Polaroids to give others an insight into creative journey. After the forum, participants were welcome to take their Polaroids home with them.



- Reading and discussion with Alexandria Peary

This three-part workshop features a reading, a prepared talk, and an interactive session. Alexandria Peary, the daughter of a woman born in Pforzheim in 1946, read an excerpt from her 2023 long poem, "The Pforzheim Quartet: <https://consequenceforum.org/the-pforzheim-quartet/>. The reading was followed by a prepared talk in which Dr. Peary discusses the context behind the writing of "The Pforzheim Quartet" and her current multi-genre projects as a Fulbright Scholar in Germany, including her use of scholarly research methods (archival research, interview, site-visits) to imaginatively reconstruct Pforzheim, 1933-1950. Among other questions, Dr. Peary discussed what it's like to lack intergenerational identity as the child of a post-war German, a Trümmerkind who emigrated to the United States. For most of her life, she had no contact with 50% of her family (the German half) and did not understand until age ten that her mother was German. What happens to a child whose family members are strangers who live on another continent and speak another language? What happens to a writer in this position? Is that writer in a good position to co-exist with the incomplete, the partial, and the fragmentary and to write about a broken and then reconstructed place such as Pforzheim? To close this three-part session, Dr. Peary provided writing prompts and invited the audience to consider the gaps and longings in their own intergenerational identities.

- Film Screening: "Für Joseph (Die Arie)" by John Moran


A personal view of Dresden by US film composer John Moran in a cinematographic composition. Followed by an audience discussion to be initiated and moderated by Alexandria Peary.

During a performance in Germany, New York performer Joseph Keckler is reunited with another American artist, John Moran, who is living in Dresden, and who invites Keckler to his music studio at Zentralwerk in order to finally complete an unfinished work the two had started in New York tens years earlier. In a comedic parody of Hollywood film musicals, Keckler is drawn into increasingly bizarre situations, which offer a fascinating insight into Moran's creative process. The work is presented by everyone company, Europäisches Zentrum der Künste Hellerau, Schaubühne Lindenfels and Zentralwerk e.V., produced by Marieluise Herrmann with the support of the Cultural Foundation of the Free State of Saxony and the Office for Cultural and Monument Protection of the City of Dresden.



Programme of the second study visit

2nd STUDY VISIT
12th-14th February 2025
Dresden, Germany

 **Zentralwerk**
Riesaer Str. 32

February 12th

9:30 - 10:00

Participants registration and welcome

10:00 - 11:00

Warm-up activities (with Matilda Klamas)


11:00 – 11:30

COFFE BREAK

11:30 – 13:00

Workshop by Lavinia Xausa (priority to the participants of the FORUM February
13th TRANSNATIONAL

- 5a: Storytelling Workshop: RE ESISTERE (Lavinia Xausa, engl.)
- 5b: "Das Pforzheimer Quartett" with Alexandria Peary (Salem State University, USA)



13:00 - 14:30

LUNCH BREAK (offered by Zentralwerk)

14:30 - 15:30

Final discussion at the FORUM 13. of February transnational or visit the exhibition in the Gallery Kabinett (Zentralwerk)

15:30 - 17:00

Operative guidelines workshop for transnational creative groups (with Martina Paccova)

17:00 - 19:00


Free time for a chat at Zentralwerk for the creative groups (optional)

19:00

Pizza (organized by Zentralwerk, every organization pays for itself)

20:00

Film Screening: „Für Joseph (Die Arie)“ by John Moran
Talk with Alexandria Peary (Salem State University, USA)



February 13th

9:00 - 10:00

Steering Committee Meeting

10:30 - 13:30

Team Building training for transnational creative groups and individual sessions with TestArt mentors

13:30 - 14:30

LUNCH BREAK (offered by Zentralwerk)

14:30 - 17:00

Networking Café

Space and time for exchange and invision possible collaborations with programmers and artists of the local performing art scene

17:20

Take Tram 3 to the city center - Participation to human chain (official remembering 80 years after the bombing of Dresden)

19:30

Dinner at Zentralwerk (offered by Zentralwerk)



February 14th

10:00 - 12:00

Visit Zentralwerk: the cooperative, the institution, the activities, the spaces

END OF THE PROGRAMME

List of participants

DRESDEN, GERMANY
12th-14th February 2025

	NAME	ASSOCIATION
1	ILARIA C.	CONSORZIO MARCHE SPETTACOLO
2	MARTINA P.	WELCOME APS
3	MILAN V.	KULTURANOVA
4	SARA Ö.	TEATER NU
5	MATILDA K.	TEATER NU
6	MOJCA J.	BUNKER
7	BETTINA L.	ZENTRALWERK
8	BARBARA L.	ZENTRALWERK
9	FILIPPO M.	COLLETTIVO COLLEGAMENTI
10	FILIPPO P.	ASINI BARDASCI
11	DANIELA R.	AMAT
12	FREJA H.	POTATO POTATO
13	SONIA A.	ASSOCIAZIONE CULTURALE MALTE
14	MARIANNA B.	CENTRIPETA
15	STEFANO M.	CENTRIPETA
16	KONSTANTINUS P.	ŠOK ZADRUGA
17	EMILIJA V.	TEATAR MLADIH MIŠOLOVKA
18	VASILJE Z.	TEATAR MLADIH MIŠOLOVKA
19	STEFANIE K.	ZENTRALWERK
20	LAVINIA X.	VISUAL ARTIST
21	CAROLINE F.	DD GE
22	LUDWIG F.	TU DRESDEN

	NAME	ASSOCIATION
23	ADELA V.	GYMNAZIUM Kladno
24	GABRIELA K.	CITY HALL Kladno
25	INGVILL S. S.	DAS KONZERTS
26	ALBRECHT S.	EL PERRO ANDALUZ
27	MARTIN C.	MUNICIPALITY OF DRESDEN
28	ANNA T.	TANZNETZDRESDEN
29	JACQUELINE H.	FARBWERK E.V.
30	MATTHIAS N.	INDEPENDENT ARTIST
31	DANIELE G.	INDEPENDENT ARTIST
32	SHAYLA H.	INDEPENDENT ARTIST
33	MEINSARDT M.	SZENE12
34	JOHN M.	EVERYONE COMPANY
35	JAN M.	LANDESBÜHNEN SACHSEN





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