

ADNICH

Adriatic Network of artistic production for the development and enhancement of Intangible Cultural Heritage

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Partners: Qendra EVENT & University of Arts

Content productions

The content of the 3 Albanian productions in the framework of ADNICH festival were created in the closer cooperation between the University of Arts and Qendra EVENT.

The University of Arts treated the Theatrical Production and the Evening with verses and sounds, while Qendra EVENT, took another challenge, the production of one film dedicating the theme to the Blood Feud and its repercussions in the country.

The Evening of the University of Arts used the word as another and still strong component of the communication, while the Qendra EVENT, used the power of the image and film movement.

The **Sounds and Verses** was created as an interesting positioning starting from of the poems written by kids in isolation, combined with the music (folk and/or relaxing) but meantime separated by a deep darkness created by the director concept. This concept made an interaction between three kids and three youngsters, who performed the poems of the kids - not able to leave their actual homes.

Several meetings were necessary to define which poems to be included in the play, and in which order. Without modifying significantly, the verses, the participants had the task of shaping the screenplay by using poems combined with the music - where the selection of the verses and of the music are of course the most important aspects of this dramaturgy: texts are unchanged, but still meanings could be changed by contrast, or by suggesting a chain of reasons and effects and, therefore, producing the actions of the play. These meetings were held in the premises of the University of Arts, in Tirana.

The other show of the University of Arts "**Blood handcuffs**" was itself a big challenge. It starts from one idea of Dajana Nenaj, and then, three young Directors, decide to create their own theatre performance, for the same theme, with their directing plan, not being influenced by each other. Each Director worked to his own screenplay, presenting drafts of parts of it to a selected audience of students. During the co-writing meetings, these three groups were encouraged to suggest textual, narrative, and music remarks - along with keywords, references, and meanings of the world of "kanun". The co-writing process for "Blood handcuffs" lasted for 3 weeks (one week per group) and was held in the UART's premises in Tirana. After this step, the Directors used the written material - when possible - to complete their own screenplay. Each of them was then put on stage.

The third production was entitled "**21001 days**" and was a short movie. The title refers - in a very emotional way - to the number of days a boy spent secluded due to Kanun rules - the tradition of self-isolation families was obliged to follow. The movie takes the motive from a story of Albanian blood revenge in a simple family living in the countryside. The youngest family member, the boy, becomes the living victim of his father's crime and stays locked-in for 21001 days, or more than 57 years. The draft screenplay was discussed during the workshops activities first, then the co-writing process took place through informal meetings between the film crew, dramatists, and professors of the University of Arts in Tirana. Within the elaboration process, parts of the screenplay were analyzed and discussed within the participants, to find points of intersections between the society relying on the rule of Kanun and the contemporary one. Exploring similarities and differences brought the participants to new interpretations of the screenplay - thus inspiring changes to it. The co-writing process for "21001 days" lasted for 2 weeks and was held in the UART's premises in Tirana, with the participation of students and professionals: from this mix, a fruitful debate began to harmonize the contribution of the two categories.

