

laLut Centre of Theatre Research and Production *Siena (ITALY)*

laLut is a Centre of Theatre Research and Production operating in Tuscany since 1995. It was born in 1995 in Siena as a group of university students, encouraged by Prof. Lia Lapini and supported by the Municipality of Siena.

laLut completed its starting self-training inviting guest directors as Bob Marchese and Fiorenza Brogi, Italo Spinelli, Virgilio Liberti and Annalisa Bianco, Claudio Morganti, Alfonso Santagata, Jerzy Stuhr, in order to carry out workshops, original plays and performances.

Nowadays it gathers many cultural operators working in different sectors (theatre, music, photography, video) involved in the realisation of: shows, performances, workshops, seminars, festivals, videos.

It produces different projects with the aim to contribute to the cultural and artistic development of the territory, through the diffusion and the promotion of theatre.

Since 2003 LaLut produces ***Voci di Fonte – Festival di Siena***, one of the main emerging theatre festival in Italy, in residence at Municipality Theatre, and it's one of the founders and organizers of ***Sienafestival*** – the festival of performing arts of Siena, (first edition held in September 2012).

In 2001 and 2007 is the first company in the graduation of recognized young companies by Regione Toscana and admitted to regional financing - according to the provisions of law number 45/00); according to the provisions of the same law, from 2008 is recognized and financed as a Professional Theatre Company.

In 2004 participates to the project ***Edgar Walpor's Journey*** within the UE Culture Programme, realising the play *P.P.P. Passaggio per Pianoforte e Piuma*.

From 2009 to 2011 is involved in the conception and the realisation of the Project ***Playing Identities*** within the EU Culture Programme 2007/2013.

LaLut is always sensitive to development of theatrical processes, trying to foster the social dimension of the theatre and make aware the public to the contemporary drama through the development of artistic languages.

Operators of laLut realize and direct different theatre workshops and courses in many school grades, in various territory of the Region (Municipalities of Siena, Castelnuovo Berardenga, Colle Val d'Elsa, Montalcino, Moteriggioni, Monteroni d'Arbia, Poggibonsi, Rapolano Terme, Arbia, Monticiano, Chiusdino, Sovicille) and also theatre workshops for college students and adults.

It also realizes experimental educational project for school students: one of these was "Diritti Elementari" (Elementary Rights), in which the audience is directly involved in a performance on the deprivation of basic human rights.

LaLut is actively involved in the utilisation of theatre as a therapeutic and re-socialising practice since the 1990s. Currently, it carries out theatrical laboratories with two groups of mentally-impaired in the Siena District (one in Poggibonsi and one in Siena) which have brought to the production of a series of performances and videos (the last performance, *Silenzio*, has won the First Prize at the *Festival Altri Teatri* of Bitonto, Bari). The importance of

the work conducted in this field has showed itself not only in its therapeutic value for the individual participants, but rather for its overall import as a creative and collective experience, which is able to bring to surface new artistic potentialities and new forms of relations and learning, both for the mentally-impaired and for the volunteers and the operators.

laLut is member of the following networks:

- **Teatri delle Differenze** – which fosters the development of social theatre in Tuscany (network at a regional level);
- **C.Re.S.Co**, an organization that coordinates many companies, associations, festivals of the contemporary italian theatre (network at a national level)
- **IETM** - *International Network for the Contemporary Performing Arts* (network at an international level)

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WEBSITES

www.lalut.org (website of the Association)

www.vocidifonte.org (website of *Voci di Fonte Festival*)

www.sienafestival.it (website of *Sienafestival*)

www.playingidentities.eu (website of European Project *Playing Identities*)

FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/lalut.siena?ref=ts&fref=ts>