



DahTeatar

Festival

ARTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

From October 23 to 28, 2020, together with its partner organizations, DAH Theatre launches a Festival that is conceived as a platform for generating and presenting ideas that push to the forefront and put in a meaningful relationship arts and human rights. The focus is on the concepts and activities that promote equality and peace building in the region, as well as general advancement of the human rights in Serbia.



This year marks the seventieth anniversary of the European convention on human rights that represent one of the fundamental legacies upon which the European civilization was built, thus each of its nations has an obligation to protect and implement them.

Unfortunately, there is no deep-rooted understanding of human rights in Serbia, neither the idea that no one should be allowed to impinge on someone else's rights. Therefore, our reality consists of the

non-existence of public dialogue, the restriction of media freedoms, the lack of critical thought, and the destruction of the already existing rights and freedoms. The key issue of human rights in Serbia is not simply the restriction of individual rights, but the absence of culture of human rights in general.

The goal of the festival is to inspire and empower citizens to take an active role in the change of their own communities and to make human rights no longer understood as something imposed from the outside, but to promote an understanding that it is the responsibility of each individual to engage in the process of their creation and implementation.

The arts play an important role in the creation and raising awareness of human rights culture. Different art forms can provide a more liberal environment for expressing what cannot be said otherwise and encourage discussion and open debate. Art can bridge the boundaries, such as politics and language. Art can retell/record human rights violations, thus providing a unique form of testimony. Art can help heal wounds caused by human rights violations. Art can transform a victim's sense of active civic responsibility. Music, dance, film, performance, spoken word, and the action performed on stage are usually far more powerful media than the formal speech commonly used by the human rights experts.

The theme of the festival becomes even more relevant under the new circumstances caused by the pandemic that instigated feeling of isolation and helplessness, which led to the passivity and paralysis amongst some of our fellow citizens. Therefore, it is important to enable constructive and creative encounters, where a live voice can be heard and different views on the topics proposed by the Festival can be shared in an engaging, open-ended, and encouraging format.

The Festival will present a series of events that are free and open to the public. Donations will be welcome, and all the collected funds will be donated to the Solidarity Fund for the most endangered independent artists.

The program consists of performances, plays, films, installations, workshops, debates as well as artists, activists, and audiences' meetings. A special part of the Festival will be the conference entitled "Art in Challenging Contexts from the Perspective of Gender Equality." Festival activities will take place in open spaces, such as parks, streets, squares, as well as in enclosed theaters, museums, and cultural centers, in compliance with all the health measures and allowing only the permitted number of participants.

The Program will be posted soon!

We are looking forward to seeing you!

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