

# QENDRA MULTIMEDIA

A YEAR IN REVIEW - 2023



# ISOLATION THEATRE PRESENTS

qendra multimedia

TEATRI KOMBETAR  
EXPERIMENTAL  
KUTIM SPANIVOGU

EVROPIANËT E RINJ



AUTOR: JETON NEZIRAJ  
REGJIA: BLERTA NEZIRAJ  
AKTORË: EDONA RESHITAJ, JULI EMIRI,  
VERONA KOXHA, RAFAEL HOXHAJ, BLEND SADIKU  
KOMPOZITOR: JURICH CIZEK  
KOSTUMOGRAF: BLAGOJ MICEVSKI  
KONCEPTI VIZUAL DHE SKENA: MENTOR BERISHA

REALIZIMI I SKENOGRAFISË: BEGO NANAJ  
DITAT: YANN PERREGAUX, MURSEL BEKTESHI  
TEKNIK I DRITAVE DHE NDRICIMIT: TAULANT KOTORRI

COOP, NED, and other logos

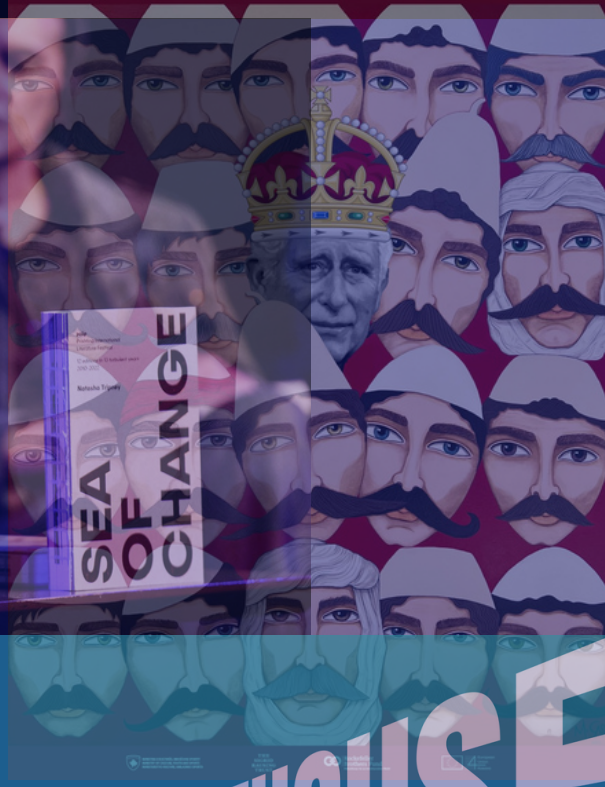
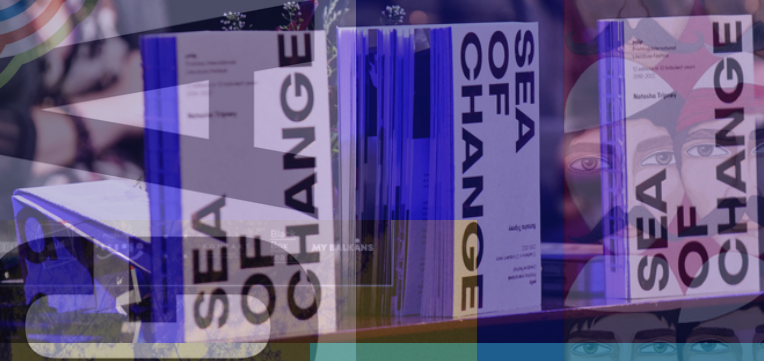
## CHARLES III

REGJIA:  
AGON MYFTARI

AKTORË:  
DUKAGJIN PODRIMAJ  
BLEND SADIKU  
VJOSË TASHOLLI  
DARDAN GASHI  
ALBINA KRASNIGI

TEKSTI:  
JETON NEZIRAJ

qendra multimedia



# NEGOTIATING PEACE

polip  
INTERNATIONAL  
LITERATURE FESTIVAL  
PRISHTINA

BY:  
JETON NEZIRAJ

DIRECTED BY:  
BLERTA NEZIRAJ

ACTORS:  
SHKUMBIN ISTREFI, EMA ANDREA,  
HARALD THOMPSON ROSENTHOM, EJLA BAVCIC,  
MARTIN KÖIV, MELIHATE QENA, OREST PASTUKH

COMPOSER: ARDO RAN VARRÉS STAGE DESIGNER: AGATA SKIWARCZYŃSKA COSTUME DESIGNER:  
BLAGOJ MICEVSKI CHOREOGRAPHY: GJERBU PREVAZI DRAMATURG: MINA MILOŠEVIĆ VIDEO:  
BESIM UGZMAJLI LIGHTING DESIGNER: YANN PERREGAUX AGATA SKIWARCZYŃSKA  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: SOVRAN NRECAJ TRANSLATED BY: SUZANA VULJEVIĆ ART DIRECTOR:  
AURELA KADROU DEVELOPMENT & FUNDRAISING SUPPORT: SVEN SKORIC TOUR MANAGER:  
DEJAN JOVANOVIĆ INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH: MAUD DINAND PR & COMMUNICATIONS:  
MOBIUS INDUSTRIES SOUND: BUJAR BEKTESHI TECHNICAL COORDINATORS: KULZIJAN REXHA,  
ADEM SALIHU PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS: FLAKA BRUSTEMI, VERONA KOXHA

# TO THE LIGHTHOUSE

12-14 MAY 2023  
13<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

qendra multimedia

- polip – International Literature Festival, Edition XIII
- Publication of polip monograph: SEA OF CHANGE
- GADJO (the young europeans)
- NEGOTIATING PEACE in coproduction with various European theaters.
- Charles III
- Kosovo Theatre Showcase, Edition VI
- Shows on tour: Negotiating Peace, The Handke Project, The Sworn Virgin, Gadjo, The Return of Karl May.

- SEEstage platform expanded.
- ODA Theatre Program with over 100 events
- Literary and Artistic Residencies
- Books published
- Wide local, regional and international media attention

**Polip – International Literature Festival 2022**  
**12-14 May**

**TO THE LIGHTHOUSE**

**polip**

INTERNATIONAL  
LITERATURE FESTIVAL  
PRISHTINA

**Over 30 artists and authors from Kosovo, Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Turkey, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, France, UK, Greece, Cyprus**

**Two reading sessions**

**Three book launches**

**Jazra Grozni Khaleed by Jazra Khaleed (Albanian edition translated by Eleana Zhako, published by Qendra Multimedia)**

**A Walk Around Srebrenica by Faruk Sehic (Albanian translated by Fadil Bajraj)**

**SEA OF CHANGE: polip monograph by Natasha Tripney, published by Qendra Multimedia**

- **Three panel discussions:**
- **Coffee and talk with translators**
- **Literature Festivals: What Format We Need Today?**
- **Monograph Promotion: Sea of Change: polip – Prishtina International Literature Festival (12 editions in 13 turbulent years 2010–2022)**
- 

**Two music performances:**

- **With Art Lokal & Band**
- **With Vala Mulliqi & Band**

# Kosovo Theatre Showcase 2023

24–29 October

- Organized in partnership with IETM – International Network for Contemporary Performing Arts
- Organized in close collaboration with local public theatres and independent cultural institutions: National Theatre of Kosovo, City Theater of Prishtina “Dodona”, City Theater of Gjilan, City Theater of Ferizaj “Adriana”, City Theater of Gjakova “Hadi Shehu”, Barabar Centre
- Over 80 guests: theatre critics, journalists, theatre managers and festival selectors from over 20 countries of the world.
- 8 locations around Kosovo and it featured: 11 theatre productions: 1984; Negotiating Peace; Gadjo; Hana is Flying; Shadow Garden; Measure for Measure; Antigones; Arbri; A Short History of Burgers and Other Things; 90s Journey; The Lament of the Earth. Husino’s Miner

- 7 networking and educational programs:
- Panel Discussion | Theater in Times of Social Crisis.
- Panel Discussion | On Trends and the Determinability of Value
- International Theatre Market with theatre professionals from Italy, Poland, Kosovo, Belgium, Greece, UK, Croatia
- Stage Readings and Q&As with authors | New Plays, New Worlds with Vera Morina, Zymber Kelmendi, Zeynep Kacar, Mia Efremova.
- Workshop | Analytic: A Theatre Criticism Workshop with Natasha Tripney and Tom Mustroph
- Info Session: Perform Europe
- Intercultural Visit: Pathways to Prizren Independent Cultural Scene

# GADJO

## (the young europeans)



"Ultimately, the play ends with the beating up of this Roma woman by this unhappy gang, which willingly believes that she is the man dressed as a woman who is kidnapping children. She is beaten to within an inch of her life. But even in this, Blerta Neziraj does not allow anyone in the audience or the young characters onstage to get any sense of enjoyment out of it. When the gang beat the woman up, they literally hit air and space. The Roma woman stands parallel alongside them, reacting to the blows. This beating doesn't matter, is what this scene is saying. The kids don't get anywhere, they don't achieve anything when it is over, everything is still the same (apart from the fact they might get arrested – in real life someone was)."

–Verity Healey for The Theatre Times

AUTOR: JETON NEZIRAJ

"Playwright Jeton Neziraj brings this story to life on stage. He confronts us with the fact that we are the aggressors – and he knows how to be harsh with aggressors."

–Flamur Dardeshi for SEEstage

REGJISOR: EDONA DEKURAJ, SULEJ EMIRI,  
VERONA KUXHA, RAJFALL HOKIASI, BLEND SADIKU

KOMPOZITOR: JINDRICH CIZEK

KOSTIMIER: BILAL DACEVSKI

KONCERTI VIZUALI DHE SKENA MENTOR PERISHA

"The title is denunciation and irony at the same time. "Gadjo (New Europeans)", premiered in Kosovo at the "Oda" theater, is an alarm for society. It is a reflection of what it looks like in everyday life, a call not to close your eyes. The audience is very close, both to the stage and to the event."

–Gonxhe Konjufca for Koha.net

REALIZIMI I SKENOGRAFIË: BEGO NANAJ

DRITAT: YANN PERREGAUX, MURSEL BEKTESHI

TEKNIK I DRITAVE DHE NDRIÇIMIT: TAULANT KOTORRI

# NEGOTIATING PEACE



Produced by Qendra Multimedia in association with: Teatro della Pergola (Italy); euro-scene Leipzig (Germany); Prague City Theaters (Czech Republic); R.A.A.A.M (Estonia); Mittelfest (Italy); Kontakt (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Black Box Teater (Norway) and My Balkans (USA/Serbia)

*When political leaders present war as the only solution, it is up to artists to remind people that finding peace is still possible. That is the starting point for a Kosovo-based theatre company, Qendra Multimedia, whose new play returns to the last war in Europe before Russia's invasion of Ukraine and explores how it was stopped.*

*-Philip Oltermann for The Guardian*



DIRECTED BY:  
BILETA NEZIRAJ

COMPOSER: AR  
BLAGOJ MICEVSKI CHOREOGRAPHY: GJERGI PREVAZI DRAMATURG: MINA MILOŠEVIĆ



*"Neziraj's work highlights absurdity and hypocrisy through amplification. We see the negotiators fret over protocol and bicker over the position of the chairs in the negotiating room in a way that feels at once exaggerated but also plausible. While Neziraj deals more in types than in characters, he captures the interplay of egos in the room, the pettiness and self-aggrandisement. Through extensive use of live video feeds, the play captures the scrutiny they are under. It also shows the downtime, the after-hours drinking, and the flashes of humanity beneath the professional veneer."*

*-Natasha Tripney*

# CHARLES III

By blending comedy and drama, the show is able to give voice to harsh criticisms about the past and the current reality of our countries (Kosovo and Albania together). The play questions everything: our traditions, our role models, our ideals, and the ugly reality we have created by giving too much weight to superficial narratives. It makes us think about the people we look up to, the people we have written songs about and the ideals we hold. Has the time come to rewrite our songs? Should every country be writing its own new songs?

- Florida Kastrati for SEESTage



*In the play, mythical heroes meet contemporary figures. The world that belongs to a distant past and the effect it gives when confronted with the modern world.*

-Gonxhe Konjufca for Koha.net





SEEstage platform – [www.seestage.org](http://www.seestage.org)



In 2023 we proudly expanded SEEstage – the platform for independent theatre criticism and arts journalism in South East Europe. In 2023 we had a total of 25 regular writers, 13 of which were female critics and more than 45.000 readers from all over the world.

Revolt

serbia

The Cherry

croatia

The Women

kosovo

Reviews

Moll

kosovo



In 2023 we had over 70 shows of our six productions around Kosovo, Albania, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovenia, Croatia, Romania, Italy, Germany, Czech Republic, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The shows we toured were:

- Negotiating Peace
- GADJO (the young europeans)
- Charles III
- The Handke Project
- The Sworn Virgin
- The Return of Karl May



# Our work was awarded

The Best Show of 2022 – The Handke Project awarded by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of the Republic of Kosovo

Best Show – The Handke Project at the 38th edition of FIAT – Festival of International Alternative Theatre Montenegro

Best Actor – Arben Bajraktaraj for The Handke Project at the 38th edition of FIAT – Festival of International Alternative Theatre Montenegro

Best Foreign Play – Jeton Neziraj with The Handke Project, Journées de Lyon des Auteurs de Théâtre

Best Show – Gadjo at the 13th edition of Etnofest

Best Director – Blerta Neziraj for Gadjo at the 13th edition of EtnoFest

Best Actress – Edona Reshitaj for Gadjo at the 13th edition of EtnoFest

Best Actress – Edona Reshitaj for Gadjo at the 2nd edition of MOISIU Festival

# ODA Theatre Program

In 2023, in collaboration with ODA Theatre, we hosted rich and engaged monthly programs of readings, book promotions, discussions and theatre performances among which:

25 theatre shows performed over 100 times and;

...many discussions on literature, theatre and culture; book promotions, stage readings, poetry and music evenings.

# Residencies

In 2023 we hosted four literary and artistic residencies among which:

- Two literary residencies within our READ Literary Residency Program

Elsa Paja from Albania

Sarp Keskiner from Turkey

- Two artistic residencies within our Reconnection 2.0 Artistic Residency Program

Mina Milosevic from Serbia

Dejan Jovanovic from Serbia





## Publications

We published six books

- SEA OF CHANGE: polip monograph by Natasha Tripney
- I phurt by Jeton Neziraj (Roma translation)
- Loja e Bekim Lumit
- Ditari i fundit i njeriut që mungonte by Zymber Kelmendi
- Gjashtë Drama by Jeton Neziraj
- Jazra Grozni Khaleed by Jazra Khaleed





## NEGOTIATING PEACE Will Embark on Tour

The tour kicks off 16 October 2023 at ODA Theatre, Prishtina.

By Steph Wild Jul 12, 2023

POPULAR



**BONNIE & CLYDE**  
Producer Dan Looney Dismissed From His Own Company



**David Tennant**  
Criticises 'Ludicrous' West End Ticket Prices



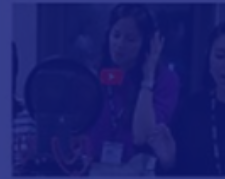
**Review: A GREASY SPOON** Liverpool's



Looking at peace negotiations including Dayton peace agreement, those in Northern Ireland and the Middle East, the still-unresolved talks between Kosovo and Serbia, and anticipating the conclusion of the war between Russia and Ukraine, Kosovo's Qendra Multimedia have brought together a pan European ensemble to create Negotiating Peace. This new production has been created with artists and theatre groups from Ukraine, Kosovo, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Italy, Czechia, Albania, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland and Estonia.

...fear and hope that accompanies the process, asking important

VIDEOS



Video: Get a First Look at the Music of LA BAMBA!



Photo: First Look at SHREK THE MUSICAL UK Tour



Get a First Look at Take That Musical GREATEST DAYS UK Tour



MONTY at Transcendence

**Our work created platforms for discussion and reflection**



## Cast Set For European Tour of NEGOTIATING PEACE

The tour kicks off 16 October 2023.

By Steph Wild Sep 12, 2023

POPULAR



**ATG and Preevue**  
Expand 'View from Seat' Service Across All UK Venues



Rehearsals are underway for Qendra Multimedia's Negotiating Peace and the pan-European cast has now been announced. This new

VIDEOS



Watch An All New Trailer For THESE DEMONS at Theatre503



Photo: Inside Rehearsal For the UK and Ireland Tour of FAITH



HEADER

**THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL 2023!**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING AND SHARING  
THE SUCCESS OF 2024 WITH YOU!**

**Follow us on our socials:**

**Website: [www.qendra.org](http://www.qendra.org)**

**Facebook: Qendra Multimedia**

**Instagram: [qendramultimedia](https://www.instagram.com/qendramultimedia)**

**Twitter: [qendramm](https://twitter.com/qendramm)**

**Or write to us: [info@qendra.org](mailto:info@qendra.org)**



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SIGRID  
RAUSING  
TRUST



traduki<sup>T</sup>

