

### **Conference: The Performing Arts and Community Development**

ITI's Grand 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event in Hainan, China, will grant a platform to esteemed guests from the world of the performing arts to gather and exchange. The goal of the event is to create a rich environment for discussion through its educational events, such as workshops and presentations, as well as its top-class artistic performances. These activities are intended to inspire, enlighten and galvanise those present, encouraging them to fortify their efforts for the benefit of the performing arts.

A key facet of this is to be the Conference and Panel Discussion, scheduled for the 24 November, which is to take as its topic: **The Performing Arts and Community Development.**

The Conference looks to explore and examine the importance of performing arts not only to the cultural fabric and identity of a community, but also as a functional consideration within the community's development and its planning.

The benefits that the performing arts can give to the development of a city are manifold:

- At grassroots level it can instil a sense of community through participation and historical cultural identity through preserving local forms of theatre.
- For the education sector, performing arts schools, colleges, universities and local associations can provide a solid educational path for students as well as employment.
- In the penal system it can be implemented as a means of rehabilitation and reintegration.
- As a performance, it can inspire and entertain the citizens – the list goes on and on.

Practically speaking, performing arts, especially theatre can help to build a community, not only in being a physical building in itself, or through the changes an influx of tourists or students necessarily bring to a place, but also as part of a wider artistic community which prioritises innovation – to the benefit of the locales economic and social standing.

Here the performing arts, and the arts in general, become not simply a by-product, but the very cause of a community's growth.

To discuss this issue, a global cast of the speakers has been assembled, consisting of: Lemi PONIFASIO and Anatoly VASILIEV. Each will be looking to share their wealth of expertise and experience on the matter at hand, and discuss the key issues pertaining to the topic.

This is an issue of upmost importance to the performing arts as it strives for relevance and is particularly poignant in relation to the locale of the Conference: Haikou, Hainan Island.

Hainan Island is the southernmost province of China, and due to its climate, a popular tourist destination. The area is undergoing a lot of urban development as a result of this, and the ITI Grand 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, with its Conference, offers an opportunity for the local authorities, in association with the members of the International Theatre Institute, to put the performing arts at the forefront of the island's future developments, as it seeks to become an international cultural hub in the area.

This is sure to be an inspiring and interesting Conference which will help to make the Grand 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ITI an unforgettable occasion.

## 研讨会：表演艺术与社区发展

国际戏剧协会 70 周年庆典将在中国海南举行，届时将为来自世界各地的表演艺术嘉宾创建一个聚集与交流的平台。本次活动旨在启发和激励参与者为表演艺术的发展持续不断地努力，希望通过工作坊、讲座、一流艺术家现场演出等教育类活动创造一个丰富的氛围来促进交流探讨。

而体现这一主旨的重要的活动就是 11 月 24 日的大会与专题研讨会，主题为：表演艺术与社区发展。

这次会议不仅将探讨表演艺术对社区文化结构与身份认同中的重要性，还包含其在社区规划发展中的功能性考虑。

表演艺术给社区发展所带来的益处是多层次多样化的：

- 首先，通过全民的参与，增加市民的社区认同感，通过对本地特有戏曲形式的保护，增加城市的文化自我认同。
- 从教育层面来讲，表演艺术的各个级别的院校、社团又能为学生提供扎实的教育，为相关从业人员提供工作机遇。
- 甚至在司法领域，表演艺术对于犯罪人员重返社会都能起到一定的作用。
- 总体而言，表演艺术对城市居民有着其他及娱乐的作用。

实际上，表演艺术中尤其是戏剧对城市的改变还在于，除了新兴的剧院场所、各类演艺节目吸引到的游客这些显而易见的改变之外，更深入的变化在于表演艺术发展所形成的艺术社区而带来的创新的活力——这些对于当地经济的发展和地位的提升都是非常有益。

在这里，表演艺术及其他艺术形式将不仅仅是附加产品，而是成为支撑社区发展的重要因素。

为了这个议题，全球该领域的专家都将在这里汇集：莱米·波尼西奥西（Lemi PONIFASIO）和阿纳托利·瓦西里耶夫（Anatoly VASILIEV）。每位专家都将就这个议题向与会者分享他们丰富的专业知识与经验，并讨论与之相关的重要问题。

这个议题是目前表演艺术领域一个备受重视的问题，尤其与会议地点海南省海口市紧密相连。

海南岛是中国最南端的省份，是一个气候宜人的旅游胜地，也正处于城市快速发展的阶段。国际戏剧协会的 70 周年庆典活动邀请了来自世界各地的国际戏剧协会会员，为当地政府提供了一个把表演艺术置于城市未来发展前沿的机会，并不断积极推动这座城市成为世界文化中心。

本次大会将会是一场妙趣横生、发人深省的活动，一定会让国际戏剧协会 70 周年庆典成为令人难忘的美好时刻！