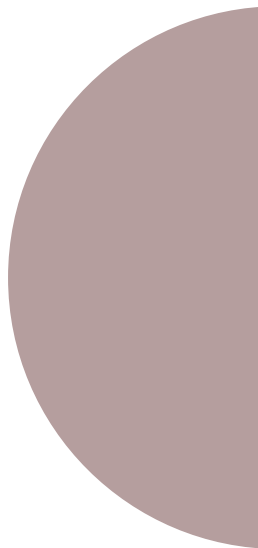
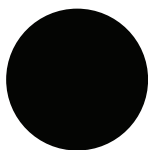
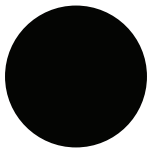


Baltic Contemporary Opera Network



April 17–20, 2024
Vilnius, Lithuania

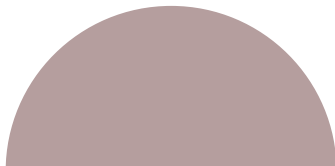


Dear members of the Baltic Contemporary Opera Network,

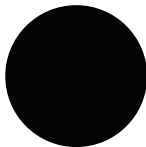
We are very pleased to host the first meeting of the Baltic Contemporary Opera Network in Vilnius. About a year ago it was quasi-jokingly suggested that although we are geographically close, we are quite distant because we do not know each other very well. We have all sort of agreed that the time has come for the Baltic countries to find points of contact in the field of contemporary opera – and this is finally turning into tangible action.

We do not yet know where this will take us. Will these meetings of 2024 bring new creative contacts and collaborations, brilliant ideas, and outcomes? Meanwhile, we are very excited and curious to dive into this adventure, and we want to believe that these meetings in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, and later in other cities in Latvia and Estonia, will be productive, meaningful, and will inspire new and exciting activities, outlining the directions and strategies for the future Baltic cooperation.

In the meantime, we, the initiators of this network – Operomanija (Lithuania), Sansusī and Ģertrūdes ielas teātris (Latvia), and New Opera (Estonia) – would like to wish you interesting and meaningful experiences, intriguing acquaintances, amazing discoveries, productive discussions, and inspiring ideas. We are open to your initiatives, ideas, and suggestions and are determined to dive together into the Baltic waters of contemporary opera.



Organising partners



operomanija

Operomanija is a production house based in Lithuania, dedicated to the creation and promotion of new music theatre through diverse cross-disciplinary artistic collaborations. Since its formation in 2008, it has produced about 60 contemporary operas and various multidisciplinary art projects. The organisation runs Contemporary Opera Festival NOA (New Opera Action). It also holds creative residencies related to contemporary opera, organises production and release of sound recordings, along with the national and international promotion of produced works.

Website: www.operomanija.lt

Contact person: Ana Ablamonova, ana@operomanija.lt



Theatre **Gertrūdes ielas teātris** is a contemporary performing arts venue in Riga, Latvia which offers its audiences diverse theatre, dance and interdisciplinary productions, by local and Baltic artists and companies. It also takes part in the realisation of other art and education-related ideas, opening its doors to more than a hundred events each season. Our goal: to stimulate the processes of the Latvian performing arts by aiding artists in the development of their artistic practice through the provision of working space and administrative support and promotion of their international mobility, as well as expansion of the audiences of contemporary performing arts. We are interested in long-term collaborations with artists, based on a shared belief in the value of creative work and the crossing of borders.

Website: www.git.lv

Contact person: Maija Pavlova, maija@git.lv

S A N S U S Ī

Sansusi started as a small rural open-air festival for chamber music in 2013, annually taking place in Aknīste, in the south part of Latvia on the second weekend of August. Year by year it developed into a multidisciplinary stage art festival focussed on academic chamber music, especially in its contemporary forms. It has established a residency centre for artists there, and the association acts as a producer commissioning diverse art pieces to composers, including works for music theatre.

Website: www.sansusi.lv

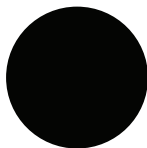
Contact person: Armands Siliņš-Bergmanis, info@sansusi.lv

O

New Opera

New Opera is a freshly established contemporary opera movement in Estonia. We are connecting artists, producers, and institutions for collaborations and networking, both locally and internationally. **New Opera** aims to structure a largely uncharted landscape of Estonian contemporary opera.

Contact person: Marit Shethia, marit@nofo.ee



Participants

1. Ana Ablamonova (Lithuania), founder and producer of "Operomanija"
2. Martynas Aleksa (Lithuania), photographer
3. Kateryna Alymova, artistic director of "Jauna Muzika Festival", co-founder of the educational and concert platform "Kyiv Contemporary Music Days"
4. Ferenc Balcaen (Belgium), stage director, participant of "Creators Connection" programme
5. Baiba Bartkeviča (Latvia), artistic director "Liepāja – European Capital of Culture 2027"
6. Indrė Baranauskaitė (Lithuania), coordinator at "Operomanija"
7. Vaidas Bartušas (Lithuania), singer, manager at "Operomanija"
8. Rugilė Barzdžiukaitė (Lithuania), stage director, film-maker, co-creator of "Have a Good Day!"
9. Chloé Bieri (France / Switzerland), director, musician, participant of "Creators Connection" programme
10. Léo Collin (Switzerland), composer, participant of "Creators Connection" programme
11. Reinis Dzudzilo (Latvia), visual artist, set designer
12. Aīda Gabriēls (Netherlands), "Music Theatre NOW" artistic coordinator, stage director
13. Vaiva Grainytė (Lithuania), librettist, writer, co-creator of "Have a Good Day!"
14. Liisa Hirsch (Estonia), composer of contemporary and stage music
15. Mantas Jančiauskas (Lithuania), theatre director, co-creator of "The Filler"
16. Vaidas Jauniškis (Lithuania), theatre critic
17. Rima Jūraitė (Lithuania), theatre / opera critic, chief editor of "Menų Faktūra"
18. Julija Karaliūnaitė (Lithuania), opera singer, NB8 ART general manager
19. Liis Kolle (Estonia), opera director
20. Lina Lapelytė (Lithuania), composer, artist, co-creator of "Have a Good Day!"
21. Barbara Lehtna (Estonia), theatre maker and music theatre director
22. Jurgis Lūsis (Latvia), theatre director
23. Miks Magone (Latvia), artistic director of the venue "Hanzas perons"

24. Märt-Matis Lill (Estonia), composer, the head of Estonian Composers Union
25. Lauma Mellēna-Bartkeviča (Latvia), music / theatre researcher and critic (Jāzeps Vitols Latvian Academy of Music)
26. Evarts Melnalksnis (Latvia), music theatre dramaturg
27. Rasa Murauskaitė-Juškienė (Lithuania), music critic, senior editor at the Lithuanian National Radio KLASIKA, PhD student at the University of Cambridge
28. Kotryna Nekrošiūtė (Lithuania), head of Panevėžys Musical Theatre
29. Åsa Nordgren (Sweden), opera singer, co-creator of "Confessions"
30. Jelena Novak (Portugal / Serbia), musicologist, contemporary opera researcher (CESEM, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa)
31. Maija Pavlova (Latvia), producer, theatre "Gertrudes ielas teatris"
32. Rimantas Ribačiauskas (Lithuania), playwright, producer, co-creator of "The Filler"
33. Marit Shethia (Estonia), director of "New Opera" company
34. Ilze Siliņa-Bergmane (Latvia), project manager at "Sansusī"
35. Armands Siliņš-Bergmanis (Latvia), opera singer, founder of "Sansusī"
36. Jurgita Skiotytė-Norvaišienė (Lithuania), Deputy General Manager of the Lithuanian National Opera and Ballet Theatre
37. Jūra Elena Šedytė (Lithuania), composer, performer, co-creator of "The Filler"
38. Greta Štiormer (Lithuania), stage director
39. Gabrielė Tamutytė (Lithuania), project coordinator at the Lithuanian Culture Institute
40. Andra Teede (Estonia), screenwriter, dramaturg, librettist
41. Kapitolina Tsvetkova (France), stage director, participant of "Creators Connection" programme
42. Ardo Ran Varres (Estonia), composer and music director
43. Mees Vervuurt (Netherlands), composer and stage director, participant of "Creators Connection" programme
44. Rūta Vitkauskaitė (Lithuania / Scotland), composer, co-creator of "Confessions"
45. Sandis Voldiņš (Latvia), board member of the Latvian National Opera and Ballet Theatre



Programme

April 17, 2024, Wednesday

18:00 Registration & Welcome / *Arts Printing House, Glass Hall*

18:30 Lithuanian contemporary opera context. Presentation by music critic Rasa Murauskaitė-Juškienė and theatre critic Vaidas Jauniškis / *Arts Printing House, Glass Hall*

20:30 Spatial opera in the dark "Confessions" / *Arts Printing House, Pocket Hall*

21:30 Dinner & networking / *Arts Printing House, Shinzo*

April 18, 2024, Thursday

10:00 Meeting creators of the opera "Confessions" Rūta Vitkauskaitė and Åsa Nordgren / *Arts Printing House, Glass Hall*

10:30 Contemporary music(al) theatre in Latvia: processes, developments examples. Presentation by Lauma Mellēna-Bartkeviča / *Arts Printing House, Glass Hall*

11:30 Coffee break / *Arts Printing House, Glass Hall*

12:00 Estonian contemporary opera context. Presentation by Liis Kolle, Märt-Matis Lill, Ardo Ran Varres, moderated by Marit Shethia / *Arts Printing House, Glass Hall*

13:00 Co-productions between National and non-governmental institutions. Lithuanian case. Presentation by Ana Ablamonova, Jurgita Skiotytė-Norvaišienė / *Arts Printing House, Glass Hall*

14:30 Lunch / *Arts Printing House*

16:00 Music Theatre NOW. Presentation of the network by Aida Gabriēls and pitches of the participants of "Creators Connection" programme / *Arts Printing House, Glass Hall*

20:00 Opera for 10 cashiers, supermarket sounds and piano "Have a Good Day!" / *Arts Printing House, Black Hall*

21:00 Dinner & networking / *Arts Printing House*

April 19, 2024, Friday

10:00 Meeting the creators of the opera "Have a Good Day!" Vaiva Grainytė, Lina Lapelytė, Rugilė Barzdžiukaitė / *Arts Printing House, Studio 2*

11:00 Estonian pitch session / *Arts Printing House, Studio 2*

12:00 Coffee break / *Arts Printing House, Studio 2*

12:30 Latvian & Lithuanian pitch session / *Arts Printing House, Studio 2*

14:30 Lunch / *Arts Printing House*

16:00 What's next in the Baltics? / *Arts Printing House, Studio 2*

Starting from 18:00 Sonic experience at the Vilna Ghetto "The Filler" / *Starting at Jewish Culture and Information Centre*

Starting from 19:30 Dinner & networking / *Jewish Culture and Information Centre*

April 20, 2024, Saturday

10:00 Meeting the creators of the sonic experience "The Filler" Rimantas Ribačiauskas, Mantas Jančiauskas, Jūra Elena Šedytė + brunch / *Arts Printing House, Shinzo*

12:00 Departure

Addresses

Hotel IBIS Vilnius Centre

Rinktinės Str. 18, Vilnius

Arts Printing House / Menų spaustuvė

Šiltadaržio Str. 6, Vilnius

Jewish Culture and Information Centre / Žydų
kultūros ir informacijos centras

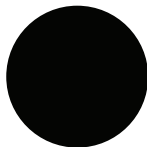
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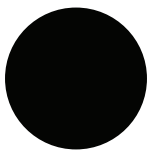
Contacts

Ana Ablamonova, producer, +370 616 30 814

Vaidas Bartušas, manager, +370 650 70 083

Indrė Baranauskaitė, coordinator, +370 636 07 835

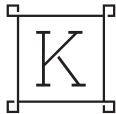




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