

European Conference
Cities and Urban Spaces: Chances for Cultural and Citizenship Education

29 September - 1 October 2010
 Trieste, Italy

Project Fact Sheet

Workshop II Performing Arts and Culture in the City: New Fields of Action for Cultural and Citizenship Education

	Section	Indications of content
1	Title of the project	The angel, the street and happiness
2	Location	Amsterdam, the Netherlands
3	Main topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community theatre; • Active participation of inhabitants in professional theatre piece; • Developed through their own individual stories; • Directed by professional theatre makers.
4	Practice-related keywords	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural education; • Stimulation of creative potential; • Support of individual voices; • Aesthetic education.
5	Brief description of the project	In "The angel, the street and happiness" the audience is sitting on a slow-moving tribune, which is cruising through Amsterdam-Noord. Twenty inhabitants of this neighbourhood are performing their personal experiences, stories or dreams of happiness. At the same time, an angel (the only professional performer) is wondering what happiness might be or feel like. At the end, the audience is invited to step down from the tribune and have a drink together with the inhabitants of the streets they just drove through. The project is inspired by the film "Wings of Desire" by Wim Wenders. "The angel, the street and happiness" was developed and performed in Amsterdam during the "Over het IJ Festival" 2006.
6	Objectives of the project	It is a project with high artistic value that is developed with the participation of more than twenty inhabitants of a certain neighbourhood. Through the presence of the project in this area the inhabitants had the opportunity to get in contact with the theatre festival. The participants were taken to another performance during the festival and "felt part of the festival". The projects stimulated their creative potential, made their own stories heard and it was tried to support active participation.
7	Impact/ Chances for cultural and citizenship education in the context of the development of cities and urban spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens that are hardly ever in contact with theatre or other cultural events; • To stimulate a neighbourhood network that encourages one another to actively participate in cultural and political activities.
8	Target groups	Inhabitants of the chosen neighbourhood; a neighbourhood with little contact to cultural events; participation is voluntary; all ages

9	Project methods/ project format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project took place in cooperation with already existing social networks in the area; • Sustainable policy: The project was run for a period of nine months; • Using the voices of the citizens for an artistic project that has been developed in cooperation with them.
10	Project planning schedule	The project was planned 1.5 years in advance; contact was established with several social networks in the neighbourhood; all participants have been working more than half a year together with the two theatre makers.
11	Project initiator	Anne Rooschüz and Andreas Bachmair
12	Resources involved	Cooperation with several social networks in Amsterdam-Noord: Buurtcentrum Ons Huis; Ymere, Jacob Nielen; Kansweb; Jongeren centrum Stadsdeel Noord; and others
13	Evaluation of the project/ materials/ presentation format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DVD with whole performance and trailer; • Evaluation by written statements of the participants; • Evaluation of the theatre makers for the funds; • Several newspaper and internet critiques; • Presentation format: Showing trailer or part of the whole performance and short lecture about the working process, difficulties and successes.
14	Range and sustainability of the project	The project is planned to take place from 2012 onwards in several European cities. It is planned to work with local participants in every city.
15	Project funding	Funded through several funds of The Netherlands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amsterdamse Fonds voor de Kunsten (AFK) • VSB-Fonds • FAPK • Stichting Doen • Over het IJ Festival Total budget: €100.000
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