

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Caravan International
Youth and Social Circus Network

CARAVAN

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10 years 2008-2018
CARAVAN
Changing lives through circus



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INTRODUCTION



“On the first day we only caught a glimpse of the other groups from all over the world and we were all nervous. But about two days in I knew everyone and was great friends with so many of them. I don’t think that nationality was anything we had to overcome - we were all teenagers that loved circus.”

Youth Participant

Caravan is an international Youth and Social Circus network consisting of 30 circus schools from across Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia, that advocates for the positive impact of youth and social circus. The network was established in 2008 by 6 European circus schools with a common goal to use social circus as an educational tool and to dedicate this work to groups from disadvantaged backgrounds with specific needs.

We are a non-profit organisation that is committed to developing the sector and empowering our members and their participants through international collaborations, training for trainers programmes, youth exchanges, volunteer exchanges, meetings and seminars, production of research and gathering of resources.

Caravan has grown in the last decade and has become a diverse international network, gathering circus schools from all over the globe. We currently have 30 different countries in the network, including 16 from Europe. We are proud of the diversity of our members and their varied expertise in the youth and social circus field.

Perhaps fittingly, our tenth anniversary year was a key development year for the organisation. We gained a new employee, a Communications and Projects Coordinator, so for the first time in Caravan’s history, our team consisted of two salaried staff members, based at Le Plus Petit Cirque Du Monde in Bagneux, France.

We introduced our first communications strategy, which was presented at the Autumn General Assembly. We began to create some key strategic changes to increase awareness and recognition of both our members’

activities and the organisation’s activities. The new communications actions have already seen some important positive results and we look forward to developing it further in 2019.

This year we gained 5 new members Fekat, CIAM, Cirkokrog, Hringleikur and Compagnie des Contraires. Hringleikur joined the network to gain support for their activities in Iceland, as they are the first organisation to bring youth circus to the country.

In 2018 we organised 7 board meetings and 2 general assemblies. It was a pleasure to welcome so many members to our General Assembly meetings in Brussels and Berlin. The increased involvement of members created an exciting and dynamic space for ideas and partnerships. The general assemblies also gave us space to share ideas in working groups for ongoing and new projects.

In 2018, Caravan received a three year structural grant from Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). The security of this grant is having a large impact on our potential to develop in the next three years.

Our programme consisted of several strands. We trained 59 trainers with our Circus Transformation programme. They followed the 140-hour training course entirely designed by Caravan. With Extending Circus Transformation we continued to strengthen and develop our training for trainers programme, which is still the core important element of our organisation.

This year also saw a focus on new social circus projects for migrants. This included a working group meeting at the Autumn General Assembly and the Circusonication meeting with Asociación Mojo de Caña.

We continue to advocate for youth and social circus internationally and represent our members. A key element to our activities was the representation of Caravan and our members at 9 international events and conferences.

-Ophélie Mercier, Development Manager



OUR TEAM



Vincent Wauters
President

Ecole de Cirque
Bruxelles, Belgium



Dennis Wezenberg
Board Member

Zaltimbanq',
Luxembourg



Barbora Adolfova
Board Member

Cirqueon, Czech
Republic



Taina Kopra
Treasurer

Sorin Sirkus, Finland



Ulla Hokkanen
Board Member

Galway Community
Circus, Ireland



**Elefterios
Kechagioglou**
Board Member

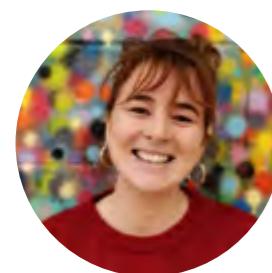
Le Plus Petit Cirque du
Monde, France



Ophélie Mercier
Development Manager



Susan Burnell
Communications and
Projects Coordinator



Léana Valentini
Intern

OUR OBJECTIVES

Main objective

To use Circus Arts to create positive personal, community and social change.

General objectives

- To advocate for the positive impact of youth and social circus
- To develop innovative pedagogical approaches for youth and social circus
- To promote, through international co-operation, the sustainable development of organisations working in the field of social circus
- To maximise opportunities and pathways for people engaged in youth and social circus to connect across Europe and beyond
- Professionalise pedagogic, social, artistic and administrative skills of the sector

To this end, CARAVAN determines to

- Organise intercultural exchanges to promote personal development, citizenship and circus creativity of young people
- Organise vocational educational programmes for trainers, artists and managers in the field of youth and social circus
- Support hosting and sending of volunteers on international level
- Develop agreed accreditation in the field of youth and social circus
- Evaluate and disseminate evidence of the impacts of social circus and promote best practice
- Operate on local, national and international level
- Promote the inclusion of circus arts in formal and non-formal education



“Through Caravan we’re able to show that social circus is part of a bigger world - we’re taking part in this world and it’s something important.”

Magalie Jaquet
Ton sur Ton

IN NUMBERS

22

Countries

30

Members

13,000

young people
engaged by
our members

59

Trainers
trained

815

Newsletter
subscribers

34

Volunteers
exchanged

OUR MEETINGS

Board Meetings

Caravan organised 7 board meetings in 2018. These meetings gathered the 6 representatives to discuss the strategy of Caravan and following up closely the financial development of the organisation.

The board meetings are moments where important strategic orientations of the network can be debated in order to support the employees. These discussions provide content and orientations for the team to implement the strategy and ensure that this constantly grows in line with the needs of Caravan members.

- > Saturday 3 February in Paris
- > Thursday 30 & Friday 31 August in Brussels
- > Monday 14 May in Paris
- > Wednesday 28 November in Paris
- > Thursday 14 June in Brussels
- > Monday 17 December in Brussels
- > Monday 9 July in Bagneux

Spring General Assembly

Brussels, Belgium, 12-13 March 2018

14 Caravan organisations met in Brussels to launch this 10th year Caravan anniversary. It was the occasion to welcome two new associate members : Fekat (Ethiopia) and the Centre International des Arts en Mouvement (France). After presenting the member updates, their vision and expectations of the network, the participants split in small groups to discuss various topics such as

- > Leadership and management in the field of youth circus
- > Circus with migrants
- > Youth involvement

Autumn General Assembly

Berlin, Germany, 11 October 2018

9 Caravan organisations were represented in Berlin, among which 7 full members. The network was delighted to welcome its newest member Hringleikur from Iceland.

During this meeting, Susan Burnell, who had started working with Caravan a couple of months earlier, presented the Communications strategy for the network. The members could comment and input on the new use of social media, website and events to take part in, in order to pursue the work towards better recognition of the youth and social circus field.

The members also had the chance to visit Cabuwazi-Altgliniecke and witness the start of their new building.



STRUCTURED DIALOGUE



Cirque de Demain club PRO **Paris, France, 1-2 February 2018**

Besides the Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain, a group of volunteers is organizing the meeting of the « Club Pro » creating a space for professionals from the circus world to meet and discuss their practice.

This year, the focus was on social circus. In this perspective, social circus practitioners met and presented their work along side the presentation of the Caravan network and other examples of international cooperation. It was an interesting opportunity to introduce our work and our research on social circus pedagogy in a field very close to ours, yet with professionals we are not so connected to.

Participating members : Sorin Sirkus - Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde - Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles - Sirkhane - Mobile Mini Circus for Children



Fresh Circus **Brussels, Belgium, 13-15 March 2018**

Fresh Circus is an international seminar for the development of Circus Arts. During three days, FRESH CIRCUS#4 had been the occasion to explore circus arts from every angle and create links with artists and professionals coming from all over Europe and beyond.

Caravan was curating and facilitating a two-day roundtable entitled « Developing Circus Production in various socio-political contexts ». This workshop looked at contemporary circus production in contexts outside of Western Europe. This workshop looked at the reality of 5 circus organisations in Egypt, Palestine, South Africa, Sweden and Russia from the perspective of reaching new audiences through circus arts and the development of innovative economic models based on the specificity of their local environment and the larger social, economical and political challenges surrounding them.



Voices of Culture **Brussels, Belgium, 17-18 April 2018, 17 September 2018**

Voices of Culture provides a framework for discussions between EU civil society stakeholders and the European Commission with regard to culture. It aims to strengthen the advocacy capacity of the cultural sector in policy debates on culture at European level, while encouraging it to work in a more collaborative way.

Caravan was selected along with 34 other organisations to discuss how the cultural sector can contribute to social inclusion through partnership with other sectors. In order to feed into the social inclusion working group and the European Year, Caravan and the other participants contributed by sharing their views and recommendations.

In order to do so, the Structured Dialogue on social inclusion: partnering with other sectors takes place in two steps: a Brainstorming Session on 17-18 April 2018 and a Dialogue meeting held on the 17th of September 2018.



STRUCTURED DIALOGUE



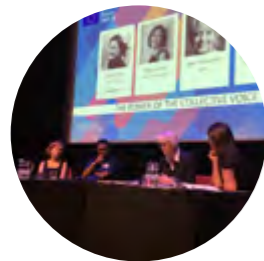
Trans Europe Halles

Bagnex, France, 27-30th September 2018

In the framework of the 36th Trans Europe Halles General Meeting that was organized by Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde, Caravan contributed to various panel discussions. Entitled "Factories of Imagination – Spaces of Transformation", this meeting was looking in to cultural third places as hybrid spaces open to everyone fostering cultural exchanges among different populations. The visitor is not only the spectator but rather an actor of the learning process, also part of the experimentation of knowledge and cultures

In front of 50 actors from the French circus and performing arts scene, Ophélie presented the network and provided examples on how the youth and social circus sector finds its way to build and develop its own adequate spaces. Explaining that with various size organisation, the network gathers many different models.

Caravan was also represented in the discussion on Arts Education facilitated by Katérina Flora and Susan Burnell.



CONNECT! A Creative Europe Desk UK Forum on the Value of Networks

London, United Kingdom, 12 September 2018

This event was organised by the UK Creative Europe Desk to reiterate that in the current political context, the role of culture is to connect when politics are difficult, highlighting that it is important for the UK to pursue in EU cultural cooperation.

This meeting was especially the occasion to meet with Lynn Carol, the coordinator of Circus Works, the UK youth circus network.



Circus and its Others 2

Prague, Czech Republic, 27-29 August 2018

Circus and its Others is an international research project that explores how the mainstreaming of contemporary circus may be affecting the genre's historic status. As researchers and practitioners, we ask in what ways contemporary circus artists and companies are embracing and exploiting (or not) difference in their practice.

Caravan was present through the presence of its members, especially Cirqueon as the main organiser of the event and Altro Circo, represented by Ilaria Bessone who presented a paper entitled « Engaging with Gender and Sexuality in Social Circus Trainings for Trainers ».



Amateur? Oui et Alors?

Paris, France, 12 December 2018

Conference organised by the Maison des Pratiques Artistiques Amateurs, a Paris-based cultural organisation advocating and developing non-professional artistic practices. The conference and roundtables focused on the importance of transferring knowledge and especially the transmission of knowledge between artists and children in the formal education setting. Caravan had the opportunity to present the research that led to the guidebook « Training for Social Circus Training » as an example of good practice highlighting the importance for artists to be trained to transfer knowledge in an adjusted manner.

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

Extending Circus Transformation

Extending CTF was a project enabling new circus schools and circus trainers to deliver CTF in Action, thus participating in its development all over Europe. Therefore, the Caravan board decided to evaluate former CTF in Action training programmes and implementations in order to continue delivering a training of quality and improving its benefits for social circus trainers.

Objectives:

- 1: Evaluating and ensuring the quality of CTF: In the framework of the guidebook, this training gave opportunity for all partners involved in the implementation of CTF to reflect and evaluate the quality of the training.
- 2: Fostering exchange of good practice among Caravan members: the experienced Caravan members who have been hosting CTF in Action shared their good practice and expertise in the implementation of the training with other Caravan members.
- 3: Developing training capacity of Caravan members to host and organise Circus Transformation in Action in the legacy of the research that was conducted from 2009 to 2013.

The project took place during two modules

Module 1 : 15-19 January 2018 hosted by Zaltimbanq' in Luxembourg : The aim of Module 1 was to evaluate and ensure the quality of CTF in Action and to foster exchange of good practice among Caravan members (Objective 1 and 2)

Module 2 : 6-10 March 2018 hosted by Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles in Belgium focused on developing the training capacity of Caravan members (Objective 3) and implementing the recommendations formulated during Module 1 for future CTF in Action implementations.

Partners: Sorin Sirkus, Ecole De Cirque De Bruxelles, Skala, Zaltimbanq, Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde, CIRQUEON, Galway Community Circus, Belfast Community Circus School

Participants: 22 participants from 11 different circus schools in Europe took part in this project.

Two collaborators also participated in the activities that took place during Module 1. They contributed in the design and conducted the methodology of the evaluation of CTF in Action:

Bernard Mercier, a Doctor in Educational Sciences and originally a primary school teacher, has been designing and delivering training for school teachers for over 20 years. He recently finalised his PhD from Sherbrooke University (Canada) during which he studied the learning processes of primary school headmasters. Starting from people's knowledge and know-how, he supports his trainees in analyzing their practice in order to identify elements where they can improve and develop. He helped in designing the methodology of the CTF in Action evaluation and participated in Module 1 by proposing and conducting evaluation activities.

Léana Valentini, intern for Caravan, who is pursuing a master's degree in « Life-long Education » in Paris 8 University. Through her studies she has acquired the qualities and skills needed to evaluate and analyse the circumstances and impact of educational projects taking into consideration the target groups and social contexts. In the framework of her studies, she was looking for a placement in a social education centre or association. Her interest in educational phenomenon outside of school establishments led her to discover Caravan. While working with Caravan she put into practice her acquired competences, specifically working on the evaluation of the two first CTF in Action projects.

YOUNG CARAVAN

Volunteers

Caravan assists in the mobility of young people through the facilitation of volunteer exchange between its members. Through the European Voluntary Service (EVS) programme young people travel abroad to our member's circus school to participate in volunteering projects.

In 2018, 34 volunteers were received by Caravan members and they were hosted by Cabuwazi (Berlin, Germany), Galway Community Circus School (Galway, Ireland), Ecole De Cirque de Bruxelles (Brussels, Belgium), Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde (Bagneux, France), Skala (Ljubljana, Slovenia).

Circus Legends Youth Exchange in Prague, July 2018

Partners:

CIRQUEON (Prague, Czech Republic)
Galway Community Circus (Galway, Ireland)
Belfast Community Circus School (Belfast, United Kingdom)
Zaltimbanq 'Zirkus (Luxembourg)
Skala (Slovenia)

In 2018, circuses from six countries met in Prague for a youth exchange, during which, under the direction of Lukáš Houdka, they studied the legends of the participating nations, looking for their similarities and differences, as well as the possibilities to introduce them through the techniques of the new circus.

Youth Feedback:

"I loved being responsible for my own learning as I can push myself in order to achieve and grow as much as possible. I discovered that I work far harder than I had believed and not only that but also achieve far more than I had thought."

Demain's Volunteers

Demain's Volunteers is a social Circus Project run by the Festival Mondial du Cirque de Demain. The project was created by Festival's Club PRO and is organised with social circus partners, including Caravan. The aim of the project is to increase links between the professional circus community and social circus projects: they take artists who participated at the Festival, and train them in how to teach their skills and send them abroad to volunteer in social circus schools working with young people and inspiring circus artists around the world.

The first participants were The Wise Fools trio. They volunteered in South Africa during October at Zip Zap Circus School, Caravan members' based in Cape Town. They worked with children in Cape Town and performed with the school at the end of the project.



CIRCUS TRANS FORMATION IN ACTION 3

Our Circus Trans Formation In Action training programme is still at the core of Caravan's activity, and continues to develop new generations of social circus trainers. It's the outcome of a 5-year European research carried out by 2 universities, 8 Caravan members and the Caravan office, resulting in the development of a framework of competences for social circus trainers.

We continue to use our Guidebook for Social Circus Trainers to teach social circus trainers across the world and produce international exchanges of ideas.

Circus in Trans Formation in Action 3 concluded this year in December, creating a strong group of inspiring trainers, that continue to develop partnerships after the training.

Partners

Galway Community Circus, Ireland

AltroCirco, Italy

Belfast Community Circus School, United Kingdom

CIRQUEON, Czech Republic

Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde, France

Sorin Sirkus, Finland

Upsala Zirk, Russia

Metis Gwa, Guadeloupe

Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles, Belgium

Sirkhane, Turkey

Ton sur Ton, Switzerland

Participants

20 circus trainers

Activities

Module A : Social Context. 26-30 March 2018 in Bagnex (France) and hosted by Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde (France)

Module B : Act of Teaching. 4-8 June 2018 in Tampere (Finland) and hosted by Sorin Sirkus

Module C: Management/Steering of teaching. 8-12 October 2018 in Brussels (Belgium) and hosted by Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles

Module D : Circus Techniques & Creativity. 3-7 December 2018 in Galway (Ireland) and hosted by Galway Community Circus

"I've learnt so much about the social circus world, how big the network is, how many people are interested in social circus. It's important to share; and Ton sur Ton's projects are new and we have a lot to learn. I already know a lot of theory, but I have a lot to learn about how you make a bigger social project."

Magalie Jaquet, CTF3 Participant
Ton sur Ton, Switzerland



CIRCUS TRANSFORMATION IN ACTION 4

The fourth round of our training for social circus trainers programme kicked off in September in Cabuwazi in Berlin. We're looking forward to continuing working with our talented participants in 2019.

Partners

Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde, France
Ecole De Cirque de Bruxelles, Belgium
Sorin Sirkus, Finland
Cabuwazi, Germany
AltroCirco, Italy
Cirkokrog, Slovenia
Skala, Slovenia
Galway Community Circus, Ireland
Sirkhane, Turkey
Upsala Zirk, Russia
CIRQUEON, Czech Republic

Participants

22 circus trainers

Activities

Module A: social context from 3-7 September 2018 in Berlin hosted by Cabuwazi

Further activities in 2019:

Module B: Act of teaching, from 7-11 January 2019 in Brussels hosted by Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles

Module C: Management/Steering of teaching, from 18-22 March 2019 in Bagneux hosted by Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde

Module D/E: circus techniques & creativity / foundations, from 3-7 June 2019 in Tampere hosted by Sorin Sirkus

A Caravan story

Sarah Cinardo, participant in CTF4 now Assistant Producer & Project Coordinator at Galway Community Circus

"I began by training aerial hoop in Flic Circus School in Turin as an amateur for 4 years, while studying Clinical Psychology. In January 2014 I went to Berlin, Cabuwazi Altglienicke, for a year as an EVS volunteer, where I stayed for another year and a half working as a social circus trainer.

I left Berlin for Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles (2016-2017), where I first became aware of Caravan's CTF programme. I then decided to spend one year abroad with different social circus projects to feed my curiosity. First in Turkey at the Syrian border then three months in Cape Town with Zip Zap Circus.

I then cooperated with Clown Without Borders Belgium and other youth circuses in Europe (like Zaltimbanq, Luxembourg) with inclusion and youth projects. I begin now a new adventure working in Galway Community Circus. Caravan is giving the possibility to do all this, creating a huge cooperative network of shared values. And I'm happy to seize it."



COMMUNICATIONS

2018 saw the introduction of a communications coordinator to Caravan's team for the first time. With this new resource and a doubling of its team members, Caravan is now better equipped to increase awareness and recognition of the network and its members' activities.

This new focus on communications gives Caravan an opportunity to further fulfil one of our key aims - to spread the positive impact of youth and social circus. The plan also provides a new focus on promoting the organisation itself, something that has not been a priority in the past, but could help the organisation develop as it gains more recognition.

The coordinator will also maintain and support the membership, promoting their activities and thus making Caravan membership more appealing to prospective members and more sustainable as an organisation.

Communications objectives

- Highlight the positive impact of youth and social circus and become a key information point for the sector
- Increase awareness and recognition of Caravan
- Support network members and promote their activities
- Contribute towards improving the sustainability of Caravan



Key moments in 2018

- The first communications strategy was presented the GA in Berlin.
- A new newsletter was launched in September.
- We developed our social media content. Our Facebook became much more active, with daily posts and regularly high engagement levels.



Our new newsletter

- Caravan's activities, member's activities, news, volunteer and job opportunities, funding, training and events from the youth and social circus sector.
- Increased recognition for the activities of the network and members
- Improved information sharing between members and international mobility.
- We have sent **5** newsletters - now with over **800** subscribers and nearly **1000** total opens.
- **Sign up here: www.caravancircusnetwork.eu/subscribe-to-our-newsletter**

Getting to know Ton Sur Ton with Magalie Jaquet



Based in La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland [Ton sur Ton](#) is a leading voice in social circus world in Switzerland. We interview Magalie - who manages their social circus projects.

Ton sur Ton translates as 'tone on tone' and represents a wide range of artforms. Starting as a contemporary music school (jazz, funk, blues, beatbox, etc.), and later joined by dance, theatre, yoga, pilates - and of course circus and social circus.

When I was a child I wanted to be an artist, my parents said 'No, you have to have a real job!' I had some difficulties in my adolescence, and circus has helped me a lot. I realised it's something I wanted to give to people too.

I'm a social worker. I studied social work at university in Switzerland and then I took part in Formation Pédagogique in Bruxelles. I then travelled to Quebec to work with Cirque du Monde and Ecole de Cirque Quebec on social circus projects.

Ton sur Ton has specialised in social circus for 3 years. Some circuses specialise in social circus because there's money available in that area, and sometimes it's only about that. Ton Sur Ton is different.



CARAVAN NEWSLETTER December 2018

Season's greetings!

Welcome to Caravan's December newsletter, we hope you've all had a great year, full of fun and laughter!

This week we will be at the [MFAA meeting](#) 'Amateur? Yes. And so?' on the 12 December in Paris, to interrogate the position of non-professional practices in the artistic field, specifically in formal education, if you're interested in joining us.

[Caravan](#) will also be at the [Cirque de Demain](#) in Paris 31st January - 4 February, where there'll be a focus on pedagogy and social circus - please do [join us](#) to share your expertise.

This month, as well as the usual opportunities and news, we've got a special 'Spotlight on our Members' - where we interview [Ton Sur Ton's](#) (pictured) Magalie Jaquet on the brilliant social circus projects they're running in Switzerland.

See you in 2019!



Jobs Opportunities

Social Circus Producer, Maternity Cover, Sorin Sirkus (pictured), [Tampere, Finland](#)



Training, Events and Volunteering

[What Has Happened in the Tarn](#) film showing (pictured) 13 December, [Gent, Belgium](#)
Documentary makers Majd Khalifeh and Roel Nollet search for the connecting power of circus. [The Palestinian Circus School](#), an exchange project between two circus schools - one from the West Bank in Palestine, the other from Molenbeek in Belgium - brings together two groups of young people from vulnerable areas.

[European Juggling Convention](#) 3-11th August, [Newark, Great Britain](#)
The Convention is calling out for Youth Circus leaders to bring their young people. They hope to have workshops just for young people - if they find enough to attend the event. Young people can also enter the 'European Young Circus Performer' competition, with entries be split over disciplines and possibly age groups.

[Association Francaine de Cirque Adapte](#) [new trainer call out](#)
Based in France and considering being a circus trainer? Contact AFCA as soon as possible. La Nouvelle Aquitaine is offering 10 training courses (pedagogical cost and training allowances) for the BPUEPS 'Activités du Cirque' State diploma.

CIRCUS WITH MIGRANTS

Since the early 2000, the Central Mediterranean route – from North Africa to Southern Italy and Greece – has become an important route for migration. Moreover, following the outburst of the Syrian war and turmoil in the Middle East in 2011, many migrants have arrived in Europe. At a national and European level alike, recent arrivals have become a highly political matter, affecting relations among EU member states. The economic crisis and the recent terroristic attacks have intensified polarisation, turning migration into an issue of national security in most European states.

In this context, many youth and social circus organisations have developed activities with newly arrived migrants. Discussing and sharing these new experiences appeared to be a key topic for Caravan members this year.

Circus with migrants

Berlin, Germany, 12th-14th of October 2018

Following the 2018 General Assembly, Caravan members created a working group to discuss circus activities/projects implemented with refugees and newly arrived migrants.

Four Caravan members exchanged through several skype meetings in order to discuss their needs, their questions and will for the future on this topic. They decided to organise a « Brainstorming session » that took place in Berlin from 12th to 14th of October 2018.

This meeting was attended by 11 representatives from Mobile Mini Circus for Children (Kabul, Afghanistan), Cirkus Cirkör (Stockholm, Sweden), Cabuwazi (Berlin, Germany) and Altro Circo (Italy).

In depth understanding of each project, gave the members important keys to highlight their needs, strength and issues when working with refugees and newly arrived migrants. Although, local and national contexts create large differences when it comes to implementing circus activities with this target group, European cooperation can help and support on various levels :

- > Designing and delivering training for better understanding of interculturality
- > Ensuring emotional safety of participants, trainers and staff
- > Mapping circus projects working with refugees and newly arrived migrants



Partnership building Activity - Circusonication

Gran Canaria, Spain, 12th - 17th November 2018

The Partnership Building Activity “Circusonication” was organised by Mojo de Cana.

This project gathered coordinators of youth-projects on the one hand, and coordinators of European schools of social circus, on the other.

Two Caravan members came along Caravan in this event : Sirkus Magenta - Altro Circo

This four-day meeting gave the opportunity for organisations to :

- Share our realities and needs working with migrants and refugees through activities in a multicultural, relevant and experienced environment
- Present and work with circus to address issues such as social exclusion, social diversity, acceptance, integration and pluralism in Europe today.
- Plan common projects that would be carried out throughout 2018-2020 within the ERASMUS + program.

Together the Caravan members presented their work using circus as a tool for social inclusion and learnt from other youth work organisations how they implement their activities working with young refugees and newly arrived migrants.

This project led to the creation/development of two projects that should become reality in 2019.

FULL MEMBERS



AltroCirco

AltroCirco is a program of Association Giocolieri & Dintorni for the development and acknowledgement of Social Circus in Italy. It has developed a network of associations and individuals working with Social Circus in Italy, in order to support a common process of growth and promote circus as an instrument of social transformation. AltroCirco has the following mission:

Network - Research - Professional Training & Sharing methodologies

Website www.altrocirco.it



Ateneu Popular de Nou Barris

The Ateneu Popular de Nou Barris (Ateneu) is in operation since 1977 in the district of Nou Barris in Barcelona. It is managed by the non profit association "Bidó de Nou Barris". It uses circus and culture as a means of education to reach a social transformation. "Bidó de Nou Barris" is governed by a board elected by the assembly members and several working committees, in which anyone interested can participate. The various committees respond to different concerns, needs and facets of the project (in areas such as the organisation of training in circus, theatre and percussion, programming, communication, or artistic criteria).

Considering circus as a tool for education in values and the transformation of society, Ateneu provides training and social circus activities to the benefit of around 4,500 children, adolescents and young people. It includes a Children and Youth Circus School, educational proposals with groups in situations of social exclusion and training of trainers in social circus.

Website www.ateneu9b.net



Belfast Community Circus School

Belfast Community Circus School was established in 1985 and it is considered as a leading circus arts organisation in the UK and Europe. It is a registered charity with six full time employees and more than 25 regular sessional workers. BCCS teaches around 1000 sessions of circus classes for young people each year across Northern Ireland. BCCS has a long established focus for its work on using circus as a tool for personal development. BCCS works to create opportunities for young people from different communities work, learn and play together to develop a better understanding of difference.

BCCS targets work in areas of high social need using circus as a tool to combat social exclusion. BCCS ran the first ever full time professional training in Community Circus teaching in 1999. In the same year, the organisation moved into Ireland's only dedicated circus building - located in the centre of Belfast. Over the past 5 years BCCS has staged a full time training course to develop professional circus teachers and performers in Northern Ireland and continues to train social circus trainers. BCCS has engaged in numerous international exchanges since 1986 and has been a member of Caravan since its foundation.

Website www.belfastcircus.org/news



Cabuwazi

In 2017, CABUWAZI organized different circus festivals, a celebration of encounter beyond all borders, languages and countries: CABUWAZI Altglienicke produced already for the third time the "Festival Circus 2:0", where circus shows next to live music and workshops were offered for people from the area and from Berlin in general.

The new CABUWAZI Tempelhof, which was opened in the summer and is placed at the Tempelhofer Feld, organized the "Freedom of Movement Festival" with shows on the topic of forced migration and the freedom of movement for all people. Moreover, most of the five places of CABUWAZI intensified their work with refugees.

CABUWAZI showed its work with kids and youngsters also at other events based in Berlin. For example, CABUWAZI Marzahn curated the international children and youth festival at IGA Berlin 2017 - a festival of international garden design and green urban lifestyle.

In 2017, we also developed our international youth exchanges. CABUWAZI Treptow established the project "Learn to Upcycle" in Greece, where kids from Berlin and from Mirtos, a small town in Greece, worked together and created their one show. The project is a reaction on the situation in Greece and conveyed political topics through art elements like dance, theatre and circus.

Website www.circusakademie.de



Cirkus Cirkör

In our pedagogical department we arranged term courses and workshops in schools for over 25 000 children and youths, continued with our collaboration project for refugees with Clowns without Borders Sweden and had a number of activities for residents in our municipality.

Cirkus Cirkör's upcoming production Epifónima, premiere September 2018, finds its inspiration in women's voices, endeavors, ways of creating and organizing themselves. Its role models range from the goddess Ishtar, via Hildegard of Bingen, the Beguine movement to today's activists such as Fatemeh Khavari and Tarana Burke. Epifónima, which means "exclamation" in Greek

"Clearly, we have already witnessed the havoc that war wreaks and the deadlock it leads to! In this production, we want to explore what happens if we break up the traditional hierarchies, think in circles rather than right angles, look one another in the eye instead of up and down, walk side by side rather than single file."

/Tilde Björfors founder and artistic director Cirkus Cirkör

Website www.cirkor.se

CIRQUEON

CIRQUEON

CIRQUEON is an umbrella organization dedicated to the support and development of contemporary circus in the Czech Republic.

The main purpose of CIRQUEON is to provide information about the Czech and European contemporary circus events, to support projects of the new circus wave emerging in the Czech Republic and to facilitate educational and training programs for children, youths and adults.

CIRQUEON supports the creation of new performance projects and provides rehearsal space for artists. Not only Cirqueon gives training for professionals in the field of contemporary circus skills, but it also runs research and information activities in the field of related theory.

In February 2010, Cirqueon, the Center for Contemporary Circus was founded in a rented industrial space. The center houses a training space, an office and an information center. There is a library available which collects Czech and foreign publications, articles and DVD's related to the contemporary circus. The library is registered in the SIBMAS international network of performing arts collections.

In March 2012 Cirqueon and other partners established a Czech Social and Youth Circus network – Cirkonet.

Website www.cirqueon.cz

Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles

The Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles (ECB) has forged, through more than 35 years of experience, its own methodology and pedagogy in circus arts. It considers that circus arts, beyond the mind-soul and skills-creativity conciliation, can be used as a tool for education, pedagogy and integration.

In that framework, circus lessons are provided for children, adolescents and adults, whether they are physically and/or mentally challenged or not, and from disadvantaged or more privileged neighbourhoods.

These various empirical experiences led to a systematic development of specific and global competences and tools.

For more than 20 years Ecole de Cirque de Bruxelles offers specific training programmes, such as the internationally recognised training Circus Arts Training (FP): acquisition of a complete package of teaching skills, as well as an in-depth knowledge of circus arts

In 2010, the Brussels Circus School created “Le Centre Européen de Funambulisme”, which offers tightrope walking trainings and performances throughout Europe.

Website hwww.ecbru.be

Galway Community Circus

Galway Community Circus is Ireland's flagship organisation for youth and social circus, located in the heart of Galway City with a local, national and international remit. Our mission is to unlock personal and creative potential and deliver social inclusion for young people through circus arts. Through our ground-breaking programmes and high-quality productions, Galway Community Circus has proven itself to be a cradle of artistic excellence and educational innovation in Ireland, working with over 500 young people from diverse backgrounds every week.

Website www.galwaycommunitycircus.com



Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde

Founded in 1992, Le Plus Petit Cirque du Monde (PPCM) – Centre des Arts du Cirque et des Cultures Emergentes – is a non-profit organisation that develops and promotes circus and emergent cultures (hip-hop, parkour...) in the field of youth and social circus, street performances, partnerships with professional artists, vocational training for artists and trainers and international exchanges.

Located in Bagneux (a close suburb in the South of Paris), in the heart of a disadvantaged area, PPCM is recognised as the leading organisation for social circus in France by the European Commission and the French Ministries of Culture and Disadvantaged areas (4550 participants, 27 employees, a budget of 901 000 Euros in 2013).

In cooperation with another association, PPCM started in February 2010 a VET in Circus activities recognized by the Ministry of Youth as a Level 4 degree BPJEPS (Brevet Professionnel Jeunesse Education Populaire et Sports – Circus activities). PPCM is preparing now a 2 – year VET programme in the field of Urban Cultures and Social Circus.

Website www.lepluspetitcirquedumonde.fr



Sorin Sirkus

Sorin Sirkus is a youth circus from Tampere Finland, established in 1985. The main objective is to maintain, enhance and develop circus studies for children and young people.

Sorin Sirkus has been giving basic education of circus arts since 1993. Currently the circus school has around 500 students aged from 4 to 20 years, that are gathered weekly to practise variety of circus disciplines. Sorin Sirkus offers a broad variety of social circus workshops to youth at risk and short term courses and camps from small children to adults.

Sorin Sirkus is a forerunner in the field of Finnish youth and social circus. Its active working both domestically and internationally is one of its main assets.

Sorin Sirkus organises diverse activities from youth circus schools to social circus and work welfare workshops and all the way to festivals and camps as well as productions of performances in different lengths. We also operate actively to develop circus arts, pedagogy and youth work both at municipal and national levels.

Sorin Sirkus was granted with a State Prize in the field of Children's Culture in 2010 and the Ministry of Education and Culture appointed it the Finnish Young Cultural Ambassadors in 2008 and 2009. Sorin Sirkus has been nominated as a National Development and Service Center of Youth Work by the Ministry of Education and Culture in Finland 2010–2017.

Website www.sorinsirkus.fi



Ton sur Ton

For the past 18 years, the foundation Ton sur Ton, based in La Chaux-de-Fonds, has provided full and lively academic teaching to the students of the Bern-Jura-Neuchâtel region (Switzerland) in the disciplines of Jazz, Modern Music, Theater, Contemporary Dance and Circus Arts.

In the discipline of Circus Arts, the Ton sur Ton circus school provides weekly lessons to 240 students from 2,5-year-old toddlers to adults. These students are taught by professional teachers.

In parallel to the recreational and the pre-professional teachings, the Ton sur Ton foundation initiated in 2016 the program Art Sans Frontière. It is a participatory mediation and social circus program that aspires to use circus, dance, theater and music as integration and personal development tools. Art Sans Frontière favors a concrete, real and participatory access to performing arts and is facilitated by professionals.

It also raises awareness of the profession of performing arts of dancers, actors, musicians and circus professionals related to the Ton sur Ton foundation.

Website www.tonsurton.ch/cirque

Upsala Circus

Upsala-Circus Center for the New Circus combines socio-cultural, educational and art-projects for children and adults.

Our main goal is to develop new circus in Russia making it a known and understandable art trend. We raise the cultural level of the whole society by developing creative potential of its members and inspiring their desire to contribute.

We believe that contemporary art cannot be separated from life itself, its different aspects and all the different people around us. This is why we always invite the participants of our projects to be actively involved in the creative process and become co-authors.

Website www.upsalacircus.ru/en/home

Zaltimbanq' Zirkus

Luxembourg's only circus school has over 250 students, aged between 4,5 and 50 years old, taking part in one (or more) of the 30 weekly classes. These classes include parent-child circus, multidisciplinary classes, specific classes (acrobatics, unicycle, trapeze...) and performing group workshops. Furthermore there is an open training space once a week.

The school also provides workshops for children and/or adults with foreign teachers during school holidays and on weekends, social circus projects (prison, disadvantaged neighbourhoods, mentally and physically challenged people, ...) and performances for different audiences. In May, Zaltimbanq' organizes the festival "Cirque sous Chapiteau". During 10 days a number of international artists visit the big top to perform on stage and to work with the youngsters of the school. The festival also gives the students the possibility to show what they have learned from their parents and friends."

Website www.zaltimbanq.lu



ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



CIAM (Centre International des Arts en Mouvement)

Founded in 2012 in Aix-en-Provence, the International Center for Arts in Motion is a composite structure dedicated to circus arts in Provence, which vocation is to make a large public discover the diversity and the richness of circus arts in a pluridisciplinary and innovative perspective. From the beginning, innovation is in the DNA of the institution. The CIAM actively fosters reflexion and creativity in circus arts and in the cultural world by organizing several workshops, conferences and meetings.

Website www.artsenmouvement.fr



Cirkokrog

The Association for Circus Pedagogy – Cirkokrog is a nongovernmental nonprofit association that is developing and working in the field of circus pedagogy, youth and social circus in Slovenia since 2005. We use circus activities to stimulate creative expression, cooperation, connectedness, education, empowerment, promotion and activation of children, youth and other groups.

We are active with youth and social circus programs held in schools, multicultural schools, (re)educational homes for children and youth, asylum homes, student homes, youth centers and elsewhere. We also organize international youth exchanges and street circus projects in deprived communities. We aim to create mixed communities and create bridges between different groups of people.

Our focus is to develop and cherish youth and social circus programs based on the empowerment of youth, inclusion of deprived groups, culture animation and community work.

Website www.cirkokrog.com



Compagnie des Contraires

Created in Paris in 1991 by Neusa Thomasi, the association creates cultural and educational international activities linking theatre, circus, community education and training. A circus school, a theatre troupe and educative space, working with youth in marginalized neighborhoods.

La Compagnie Des Contraires' mission is also to support and train municipalities, artists and socio-cultural institutions to implement and stage performances locally in order to reinforce the competences in dealing with young people and the specific local issues that they face.

Website www.compagniedescontraires.com



Fekat Circus

Fekat Circus, blossoming circus in Amharic, was started in 2004 in the outskirts of Addis Ababa, by a group of young Ethiopians united by deep passion for circus.

Today Fekat circus comprises of 30 professional artists who perform in Ethiopia and abroad. Besides staging professional shows, Fekat Circus spreads the circus arts in the capital through its circus school and outreach programme.

Since 2009 Fekat Circus has been running a clown-doctor project called the Smile Medicine at pediatric ward of the largest referral hospital in the country.

With the aim of developing the circus sector within Ethiopia and African continent, Fekat circus facilitates capacity building, exchange programme and networking opportunities for young local and international circuses.

In the African circus scene, Fekat Circus is playing an important role in strengthen cross-continental ties by initiating and organising the African Circus Arts Festival. The first edition took place in 2015. In 2018 the second edition inaugurated the first circus tent in the horn of Africa.

Website www.fekatcircus.com



Hringleikur

Hringleikur is a new Icelandic circus company that aims to promote Icelandic circus culture. The members of Hringleikur come from a variety of backgrounds, but all share a passion for the circus arts and building a diverse circus culture in Iceland.

The group run a youth circus school and are looking to expand their training program for new and experienced Icelandic circus students. The artists in Hringleikur come from various backgrounds, including gymnastics, drama and dance, as well as education in circus schools abroad, such as at the Codarts Art Academy in Rotterdam and AFUK in Copenhagen. The group has worked together for many years under the name of Sirkus Island

Website www.sirkusislands.is



L'Art d'En Faire

L'Art d'En Faire is a circus school and a non-profit organisation working on youth and social circus, and using circus as a tool for education. It was set up in 2008 in South Ardèche, France.

We have several compatible activities, in the city of Aubenas and in remote rural areas in the surroundings: Circus school for inhabitants, Circus in school (primary and secondary), Circus as educational extracurricular activities with partners. Circus and disability: workshops and trainings with special institutes, integration, mixed projects" (participants with and without disabilities)...Circus, citizenship and youth

Resources: training, educational support and content, coordination / active participation in 2 local networks : "Circus for non-professionals" and "Disability - performing arts"

Our projects aim to create social cohesion between inhabitants, in urban districts and rural areas, with circus as a bond. We work with many partners and want to be active in the local development of South Ardèche, on educational, social and cultural aspects. We do our best to offer affordable activities to everyone.

Since 2018, we experiment a new way of working, thanks to our chapter tent : we work on some projects for 2-3 months on various places in Ardèche (suburbs of a city, deep countrysides...), preparing every project with local educational - social - cultural partners, proposing all the activities named above.

Website www.lartdenfaire.com



Israel Circus School

The Israel Circus School is run by the Association for the Development of Circus Arts in Israel, a non-profit organization established in 2002, and the first to provide circus training and skills to Israeli children, youth and adults. ICS embraces a social vision that is rooted in commitment towards the community.

ICS is active as a social circus, and holds social and educational activities for youth at risk and workshops for those with special needs. Throughout the school year, ICS holds a series of sessions with Arab and Jewish participants, some of which take place on site at ICS circus center and some held at various schools, with the objective of reinforcing the relationships between them through joint artistic activities.

On an international level, ICS participated in the past in a project in Turkish and Greek Cyprus with a grant from the European Union to create a circus program for Jewish, Muslim and Christian children in Israel. The association participated for several years in summer circus workshops held at Berlin's Circus Shake.

Website www.circusschool.org.il



Metis Gwa

Metis Gwa is an association from Guadeloupe. It believes on Art not only as a tool to get to know a society but also to communicate and exchange ideas beyond borders.

It supports culture in the Caribbean, Europe and in the world since 2007.

Its actions promote the link between Art-Culture-Society through the creation, training, spreading and employment.

Website www.metisgwa.com



Mobile Mini Circus for Children

MMCC (Mobile Mini Circus for Children) is a leading social circus organization working for and with vulnerable children and youth in challenged societies. With social circus, we improve social skills and facilitate a sense of belonging to the society. The key elements of our pedagogy and works are: Children's participation, Facilitation, Local Ownership, Sustainability, and Cost Efficiency.

MMCC has reached over 3.6 million audience and workshop participants in Afghanistan since 2002. It established "Afghan Educational Children Circus" as its satellite organization which implements and carries on the activities in Afghanistan. With 15 years of experience, a very unique pedagogy, a range of developed systems of initiating, implementing, administrating, monitoring and supervisions now MMCC is reaching other countries to support similar initiatives and provide its unique capacities to the world.

Website www.afghanmmcc.org



Seoul Street Arts Creation Center

Seoul Street Arts Creation Center is the first street arts and circus base camp for production, practice, education, and distribution in Korea.

SSAC is located in Gwangjin-gu in Seoul. This facility provided water for Seoul citizens for over 40 years. In 2015, it completed its function as an industrial facility and was assigned the new role of a cultural space, enabling the creation of Seoul Street Arts Creation Center.

Among other activities, SSACC focuses on art education through programs, such as «Circus Arts Playground», «Workshop for lecturers in Circus Arts» a project aiming at introducing circus in everyday life.

Besides, SSACC also contributes to the evaluation and the dissemination of the impact of social circus through the participation in international exchanges and conferences, as well as through a wide range of training of trainers, among which teachers but also public employees receive this formation in order to provide them with creative thinking abilities.

Website www.ssacc.or.kr/en



Sirkhane

Sirkhane is a Social Circus School founded by Art Anywhere Association in 2012 in South Eastern Anatolia, in a region where it's hard to be a child. Sirkhane mission is to provide safe, friendly and embracing environment for children, who are effected by conflicts.

Replace their damaged childhood with happiness and to enrich the children's imagination with colors of social circus pedagogy. Sirkhane Social Circus School is carrying out activities continuously in Turkey and Iraq. Students are playing, learning and teaching each other.

Website www.heryerdesanat.org



Sirkus Magenta

Sirkus Magenta is a non-profit social circus association based in Helsinki, Finland. We use circus as a tool to promote mental and physical well-being, social inclusion, equality and involvement. We work with special needs children, youth at risk, families in crisis, the disabled, the elderly, refugees and anyone at risk of social exclusion.

In addition, we teach circus for families, adults and kids in 25 hobby groups every week. In 2013 Magenta established a circus school with Finn Church Aid to Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan. Young Syrian trainers educated by Magenta are now teaching circus for large groups of girls and boys living in the camp.

Magenta reaches about 200 special needs customers and 400 hobbyists weekly. Yearly over 9000 people participate in Magenta's circus activities.

Website sirkusmagenta.fi

Palestinian Circus School



PCS teaches circus to children and youth between 6 and 20 years old (some older students). We have an average of 300 students per year in all the weekly circus clubs in different locations and for different groups in the country: Ramallah, Birzeit, Al Jalazon refugee camp, Al Fara refugee camp, Jenin, Star Mountain and Red Crescent centre for people with disabilities and Jenin girl's rehabilitation centre.

Next to weekly circus clubs we organize yearly summer camps for our students and we teach in other summer camps where we reach around 400 children per year. For PCS, circus is a strong tool to address the many challenges children and youth face while growing up under military occupation and in a society where freedom is being curbed more and more. Through circus we work hard to create a more inclusive society. At the same time some of our students dream of becoming circus trainers or artists, in which we want to accompany them as far as we can.

PCS also creates and performs. We have a student show group that creates a show every 1 or 2 years and tours the show in Palestine. We also create productions with our professional team which we tour in Palestine and, when possible, abroad.

We are also founding member, together with 11 other Palestinian organisations, of the Palestinian Performing Arts Network with as main aim to raise awareness and support for performing arts among the Palestinian Society and to lobby the Palestinian Authority and international donors to support a genuine independent performing arts movement.

Website www.palcircus.ps/en/content/home



Skala, Fuskabo

The first activity of the project started in 2013 on the streets of Ljubljana as a circus workshop in the educational street program Minibus of Joy. Due to its increased interest, the project very fast moved to closed indoor structured activities regular every week. The target groups are children and youths from 6 to 18 years who come from different parts of Ljubljana, each with their own needs, depending on their family, social and economic environment. Most of them are users with less opportunity. Most of our activities are free of charge for our users. We also include volunteers who are coming from different fields such as social pedagogy, sport, culture, etc.

In the next school year 2019/2020 we are planning to establish a circus school that will offer a unique, high-quality and structured educational program to the local environment.

Fuskabo is part of the non-governmental organization Skala, which has been working for 24 years in the field of youth street education. In addition to Fuskabo, the organization carries out a street program through its Minibus of joy, sports activities, music group, daily center, summer camps etc. It has over 200 users in mentioned activities above.

Website www.facebook.com/fuskabo



Zip Zap Circus School

Zip Zap was founded in Cape Town in 1992, to inspire young people and help build a new culture of peaceful coexistence in South Africa. Working with a diverse community of children from all backgrounds, Zip Zap helps kids to 'dare to dream' and learn to make those dreams a reality. Zip Zap's 10 different programs are all free to participants (between 1'500 and 2'000 each year), with financial and material support coming from individuals, organization, corporations and foundations.

The Zip Zap children have performed for presidents and world leaders. They have done 35 international tours and numerous international media showcases. Young people who grew up on the streets are now skilled and valued artists and technicians in the entertainment and film industries. Best of all, these kids have become teachers themselves. They are ambassadors and role models for others, demonstrating dramatically to young people and the wider public the possibility of a new way of treating each other.

Website www.zip-zap.co.za

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