

2018
WARSAW



sound



in



the



silence



sound in the silence

Sound in the Silence is an educational project arising from the need to find an engaging way of familiarising pupils in upper secondary schools with difficult aspects of Europe's past. By combining art and history, this international interdisciplinary initiative of the European Network Remembrance and Solidarity (ENRS) in cooperation with the MOTTE cultural centre in Hamburg offers teenagers a more multidimensional perspective on the past resonating with their emotional sensitivity.

In 2018, four groups of students, each from a different European country, visited Warsaw, Poland to learn about the city's war-time past. Together

with artists representing different disciplines, participants explored the concept of fight for identity and dignity. This exchange of varying experiences and sensitivities culminated in production of the final performance: an interdisciplinary work through which the teenagers interpreted newly acquired historical knowledge and expressed their opinions and emotions.

This year, the main part of Sound in the Silence was complemented for the first time by a programme for teachers. The course focused on informal and participatory education and consisted of workshops, discussions and study visits.



idea of the 2018 edition

For the 6th edition of **Sound in the Silence**, we decided to focus on acts of protest and the struggle against the aggressor that took place in Poland's capital during the war. Our inspiration was the two Warsaw uprisings – the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising of 1943 and the Warsaw Uprising of 1944. Although these two armed acts of resistance are very distinctive and different from each other, they have both come to symbolise the fight for identity and are intricately etched in the city's

history. Our objective, however, was to transcend political and military language. In addressing the heroism of those who dared to resist, we explored the daily life of not only the insurgents, but also the defenceless civil population in the face of overwhelming violence.

The concept for this year has been developed under the guidance of the project's coordinator Weronika Kann in collaboration with the academic coordinator Małgorzata Wosińska.



PREVIOUS EDITIONS:

2011, Neuengamme Concentration Camp Memorial Site
2012, Borne Sulinowo / Groß Born and Koszalin
2013, US Tour: San Francisco and Chicago
2015, Gdańsk
2016, Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum, Žilina and Slovak mountains
2017, Ravensbrück Memorial

SCHOOLS TAKING PART IN 2018 EDITION:

Kallio Upper Secondary School, Finland
Irena Sendler Schule, Germany
Liceum Ogólnokształcące im. KEN in Przasnysz, Poland
Alytaus rajono Daugų Vlado Mirono Highschool, Lithuania



day at the Warsaw Rising Museum



The visit to the **Warsaw Rising Museum** offered participants an opportunity to learn more about the daily life of the capital's inhabitants under the occupation and during the Warsaw Rising. After an introductory lecture on the historical context of the Rising and a guided tour of the main exhibition, the students took part in workshops exploring the significance of songs written during the war as an expression of resistance. They also viewed a dramatised documentary based on original 1944 footage.



The Warsaw Rising Museum opened in 2004 on the 60th anniversary of the Rising outbreak. It is one of Poland's most modern museums and cultural institutions, also serving as a memorial site dedicated to Polish war veterans and civilians impacted by the fight. Its main exhibition, while narrative in style, features numerous multimedia and engaging visual installations. The Museum is also known for its wide range of cultural events, including concerts, theatrical performances, location-based games, film screenings and workshops.



The lead motif of the visit to the **Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute** was the memory of Jewish residents of Warsaw before and during the Second World War. It is analysed in several dimensions: individual – remembering particular persons: who they were before the war, where they lived and what they did; national – remembering Jewish residents of Warsaw; topographic – searching for traces linked to the Jewish community's daily life and its civil and armed fight. Specific topics of discussion also included the unusual history of the Oneg Shabbat group and resistance during the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.



The mission of the **Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute** is to spread knowledge about the heritage of 1,000 years of Jewish presence on Polish lands. The Institute builds a scientific and academic base for development of knowledge about the history and culture of Jews, especially Polish Jews. It popularises research results, provides access to surviving material testimony and ensures complex care for the Ringelblum Archive and other related resources.

day at the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute





creative writing workshops

” In the creative writing workshop the students learned how to activate knowledge to fuel the fire of their imagination. Together, we used meditation exercises to clear our minds and bring us to the moment. We collected concepts, ideas and themes from the first several days of our encounter in order to find words that could act as a foundation for the final performance. We used poetic language to connect our hearts and heads, our intellect and spirit, as well as our ego and soul. We created a space for personal creative expression through poetry, free writing and lyrics.



DAN WOLF

Project artistic director / creative writing workshops

Actor, rapper, playwright, director, producer and educator from the US. His work crosses artistic and cultural boundaries to combine conventional theatre styles with themes, language, music, history and aesthetics of the Hip-Hop generation. Dan is a founding member of the critically acclaimed Hip Hop music and theatre collective Felonious.



dance workshops

” In dance workshop we used the basic principles of contact improvisation to sensitise the consciousness of our bodies and their space. We revised historical information and sought to embody and feel it while finding our own way of expressing it. We used texts from creative writing workshop as the inspiration for creating movements and listened to how words “rising” and “uprising” resonated with our bodies and manifested themselves.



KATARINA RAMPACKOVA
Dance workshops

Choreographer, performer, teacher and dance activist born in Košice, Slovakia. She resides in Barcelona, where she is currently working on a dance project for and with children together with Laura Alcala Freudenthal. In Košice, she runs a project called “A space of Contemporary Dance”, integrating contemporary dance into public life. Katarina also works on different performance projects with Slovak and foreign artists.





theatre workshops

” Inspired by literary, cinematic and historical sources, the students traced their personal metaphorical maps of signs, gestures and memories connected to the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and Warsaw Uprising of 1944. This served as our starting point for transforming remembrance into motion and sound as well as reflection on its meaning through improvisation. The workshops combined physical training (kinetic movement, techniques of release, work with a partner) and creative research (dynamic use of space, composition exercises, improvisation in public space).



DAWID ŻAKOWSKI
Drama workshops

Actor, director and theatre educator. He is a co-founder of the Association Sztuka Nowa for which he explores theatre techniques and practices in the area of international theatre exchange. He is also the artistic director of Pracownia TF – a structure based in Warsaw dedicated to physical theatre. In his creative work he focuses on interdisciplinary projects, often combining art with cultural education.



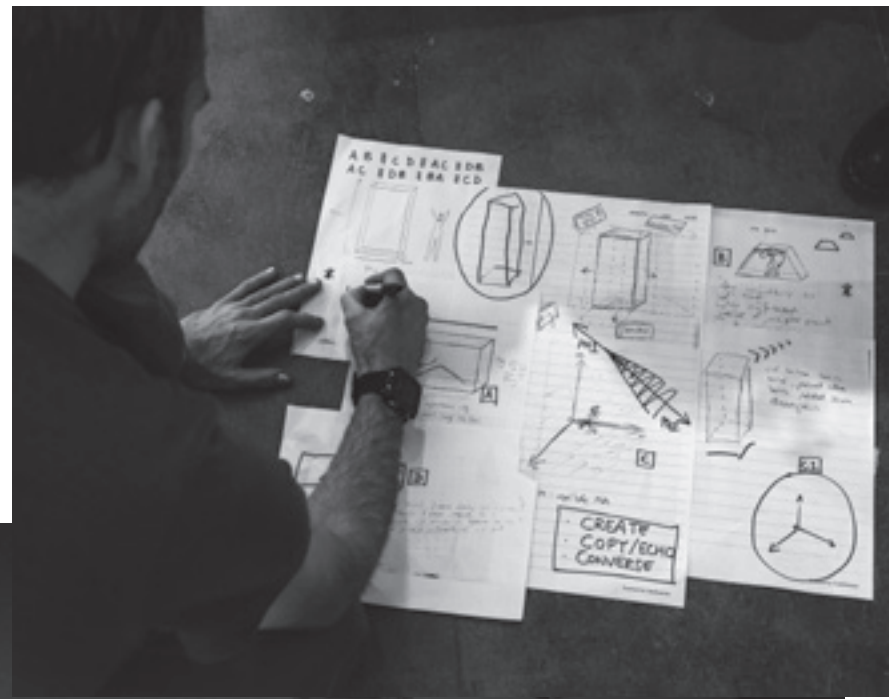
music workshops

” We focused on sounds in us – not just songs, but also voices and rhythms. We playfully explored a turning of texts, pictures and places into sound-spaces and looked at how our ‘body music’ can unify, manipulate, support or conflict with performers. Speaking/singing voice, oral/body percussion and vocal improvisation were just some of the many tools we employed to create a visceral soundscape for the final performance this year.



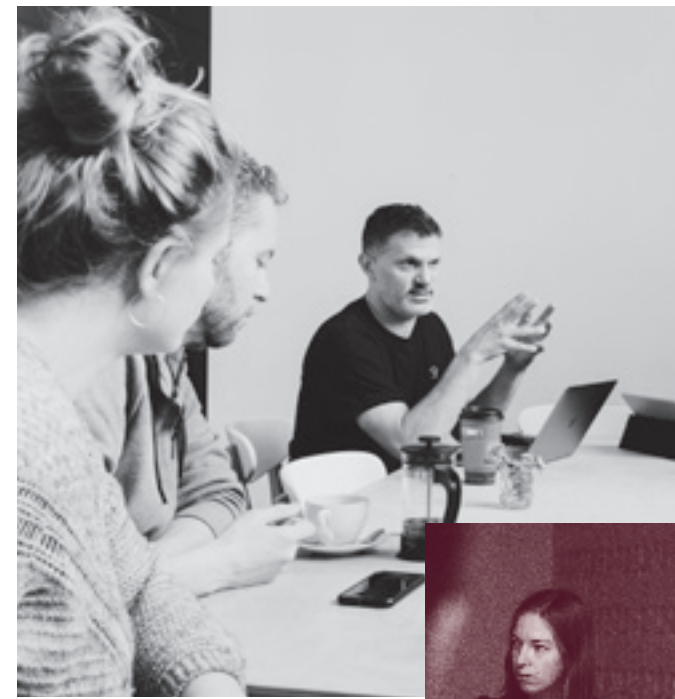
SEAN PALMER
Music workshops

Singer, an active creator, collaborator and educator. Trained in theatre and arts in Manchester Metropolitan University, UK. He has been a part of the Warsaw theatre and performance scene since 2000, transforming night clubs to national museums, Ancient Greek musical reconstruction to Broken Beat MC, fringe experiments to opera, solo shows and television, evangelist concerts to vocal improvisation and avant-garde to mainstream.



workshops for teachers

In 2018, **Sound in the Silence** was for the first time complemented by workshops for teachers on informal education. Activities included interactive presentations, group work, creative tasks and discussions with experts. The main goals were to encourage reflection on possible uses of informal educational tools in teachers' day-to-day practice, as well as to create networking opportunities for educators from different European countries. The programme for teachers was organised in cooperation with the History Meeting House in Warsaw.



1. Niina Vääntänen, Finland
2. Olga Mikulska, Poland
3. Julian Fernandez, Germany
4. Stasė Vitkauskienė, Lithuania



The History Meeting House is a municipal cultural institution founded at the initiative of the KARTA Centre. It focuses on the history of Poland and Central and Eastern Europe in the 20th century with emphasis on Nazism and Communism. HMH organises exhibitions, film screenings, discussions, conferences, educational workshops, walks, bike tours, art installations, happenings, location-based games and para-theatrical events. Together with the KARTA Centre it maintains the Oral History archive, the largest collection of records of 20th century history witnesses.

final performance

Final performance serves to combine the ideas of all artistic workshop groups into a coherent whole and to present the work of students to the public. Feelings related to visits to memorial places and museums – at times hard to express in words – become externalised through an artistic message.



final

performance



“The goal of the performance is to encapsulate the program’s primary objectives, which can be summed up as: empower young people to engage in an active pursuit of transferring knowledge of the past to the present, with the hope of creating a better future. This is about real feeling and understanding. It is about young people finding their way in the world.”

Dan Wolf



participants



Alica Balle
GERMANY



Eeti Berg
FINLAND



Karolina Jakubavičiūtė
LITHUANIA



Julita Głodkowska
POLAND



Sara Diekmann
GERMANY



Olivia Ikonen
FINLAND



Greta Jarmalavičiūtė
LITHUANIA



Gabriel Kublik
POLAND



Leonid Duell
GERMANY



Paavo Leppäkoski
FINLAND



Alvita Kelmelytė
LITHUANIA



Iga Pocztowska
POLAND



Leyla Sylvana Fischer
GERMANY



Elli Malinen
FINLAND



Elonas Sabandirovas
LITHUANIA



Anna Spizarska
POLAND



Lili Love Köster
GERMANY



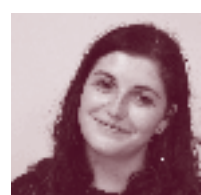
Taika Marttinen
FINLAND



Aldas Strobeika
LITHUANIA



Mateusz Szypulski
POLAND



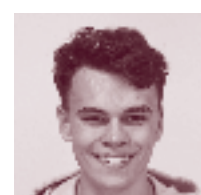
Johanna Mauer
GERMANY



Alli Paajanen
FINLAND



Miglė Venckutė
LITHUANIA



Maksymilian Wesoły
POLAND



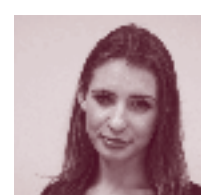
Vanessa Schlegel
GERMANY



Julia Sivonen
FINLAND



Arnas Žemaitis
LITHUANIA



Natalia Żoźnowska
POLAND

ORGANISERS:



European Network Remembrance and Solidarity (ENRS) was founded by the ministers of culture of Germany, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia. In 2014, Romania joined the Network. Austria, the Czech Republic and Albania are observer countries. The purpose of ENRS is to document and promote the study of 20th-century history and how it is remembered. Our areas of interest centre on dictatorial regimes, wars and resistance to oppression. We implement our own projects and support, in terms of content and financing, actions of institutions, non-governmental organisations and research centres that focus on memory studies. The Network's activities contribute to building of better relations between European societies through discussion of our common past. Since 2012, we have co-organised Sound in the Silence, further developing its educational component and broadening the project's scope.

MOTTE

MOTTE is a cultural centre established in 1976 and based in Hamburg, Germany. It offers activities, courses and workshops to children, young people and adults. Also, MOTTE sees itself as a driving-force and intermediary in the development of the local community in the Altona/Ottensen district, actively accompanying and shaping its transformation. Its main focus is to promote media expertise, cultural education and projects focusing on career orientation. Interdisciplinary and international projects are implemented through various cooperative structures. MOTTE develops formats for new forms of remembrance. MOTTE initiated Sound in the Silence in 2011 with artists Jens Huckeriede and Dan Wolf.

PARTNERS OF THE 2018 EDITION:



FUNDED BY:



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