



**Mohammad Mehdi Esmaili:  
City Theater Complex is the heart  
of Iranian art**

The 28th International Children and Youth Theater Festival: Registration deadline Extended

**Iran Theater- The deadline for submitting play and registering applications for playwriting competition section of the 28th International Children and Youth Theater Festival has been extended until December 26, 2024.**

The invitation to participate in various sections of the 28th International Children and Youth Theater Festival, which will be held in March 2024, was released. Ardakan city will be host of the 28th edition of festival.

The goals of this festival include realizing the social participation of children and teenagers, improving the level of public culture, strengthening the original foundations of the family and connecting generations, teaching citizenship and increasing responsibility by creating a platform for the active participation of children and teenagers in the production of theatrical works which is part of the rights of this dynamic and influential group of society.

Playwrights can register their participation in the festival by completing the forms on the [icy.theater.ir](http://icy.theater.ir) until December 26, 2024. The lineup of the playwriting section will be announced on January 15, 2024.

Amir Mashhadi –Abbas is the artistic director of the 28th Children and youth Theater Festival.

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## With the clear support of the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Regional Theater Festivals to get under way



**Iran Theater- With the direct support of the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, Regional Theater Festivals have started in four provinces of East Azerbaijan, Semnan, Razavi Khorasan and Fars.**

The four provinces of East Azarbaijan, Semnan, Razavi Khorasan and Fars, are holding Regional Theater Festivals, which have been prepared with the support and coordination

of the General Department of Dramatic Arts.

After a seven-year hiatus, Regional Theater festivals kick started last year with the request of artists, the emphasis

of the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, the support of the deputy director of arts and the efforts of the General Directorate of Dramatic Arts.

32 provincial theater festivals ended this year and the winners were crowned. Then the theater artists, in a rightful demand, called for more magnificent regional theater festivals, which was going under way with the support of the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance and the allocation of the required budget.

Due to the addition of the street theater section in the provincial festivals of 2023, street theater artists will performed in regional theater festivals for the first time. The best street and stage works of regional festivals will compete in the 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival.

Additional information and regional theater festivals will be announced soon.

**Iran Theater- The first edition of International Theater Film Festival will be held with the slogan "Iran, Theater, Peace and Friendship" in Ahvaz city.**

The unveiling ceremony of the official poster was held in the presence of Mohammad Mehdi Esmaili (Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance), stage director and officials and a group of artists from Khuzestan province in the office of the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance.

Majid Monadi, The Director General of Culture and Islamic Guidance of Khuzestan province said about the establishment of this festival: "Khuzestan is not only important because of the oil and steel industry, but also has famous artists who always appear successfully in all the cultural and artistic events of the country."

Majid Monadi quoted Martyr General Qasem Soleimani that our resistance and stability is to create peace in the world and explained: "This topic became the basis and focus for the establishment of this festival, which was held internationally for the first

## Official poster revealed for The First International Theater Film Festival



time in the country. "

Saeed Negravi, artistic director of the festival, said about the organization of this event: "This festival with Motto of Iran, Theater, Peace and Friendship will be held in March for one week in Ahvaz city and four cities of Khuzestan province and provincial centers and several cities in other provinces. "

He added: "A large number of Iranian and foreign directors and artists welcomed this festival and announced their readiness to attend and participate in this festival."

He emphasized that one of the other goals of this festival is to create a global theater market and expand and exchange culture with other countries. "

# A Persian Ritual Musical Concert Le Protecteur to perform in Paris



Iran Theater-Bom and Bar music group will produce Ta'ziye (Tazieh) show , Le Protecteur , composed and directed by Aria Aziminejad in Paris.

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Simultaneously with the days of martyrdom of Fatima al-Zahra , Bom and Bar music group produces "Le Protecteur" composed and directed by Aria Aziminejad in Paris Auditorium

Hall which is the(Majlis) assembly of Ta'ziye for Abbas ibn Ali.

The music group plays the main role of this concert -Ta'ziye. In this way of performance, shabihkhan performers are present on the stage in the same way as a traditional show, And the music tracks are suitable for the scenes and in the form of a dramatic and magnificent soundtrack starts

before the performance and helps in setting the atmosphere of the show.

Therefore, the audience listen to a one-hour music concert in seven acts, where each act tells a part of the story of Abbas ibn Ali in Karbala. Before the start of each act, a summary of the story in French is shown to the audience.

It's featuring Seyyed Mohsen Hashemi as Abbas Ibn Ali and Mojtaba Hasanbeigi as Shimr ibn Dhi 'l-Jawshan. It is the first time that this type of performance has been staged abroad.

After the good reception of the French audience, this show, which was held in France with the support of Iran's cultural consultancy, will be staged again in Paris and several other European cities after a short break. Ritual dramatic art of Ta'ziye inscribed in 2010 on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity (UNESCO).

## Matei Visniec's Attention aux vieilles dames rongées par la solitude comes to Tehran

Iran Theater-The cast of the show " Attention aux vieilles dames rongées par la solitude " were introduced and the official poster was unveiled.

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This play is written by Matei Visniec, translated by Mohammad Tamadoni and designed and directed by Amir Arslan Khalawi, which is staged in the Hamon Theater. It's featuring Saeed Azimi, Yeganeh Shamsabadi, Roshana Sedighian, Sina Nadaf, Mahdis Farahani, Amir Arsham Khalili, Nariman Heydari, Abbas Khodavardian,

Mohammad Niazi, Ali Ezadi, Milad Sharif, Hamed Morbardi, Saeed Hashemi, Reza Shahi, Mohsen Jalali Rad, Dorsa Hakim.

From an early age, Matei Visniec discovered literature as a space dedicated to freedom. He draws his strengths from Kafka, Dostoevsky, Poe, Lautréamont. He loves the Surrealists, the Dadaists, absurd and grotesque theatre, surrealist poetry, fantastic literature, magical realism, even the realist Anglo-Saxon theatre. He loves everything except Socialist Realism.



Visniec studied philosophy at Bucharest University and became an active member of the so-called Eighties Generation, who left a clear stamp on the Romanian literature.

## FITF 2024: The selection committee of Television play Section announced

Iran Theater- Massoud Forootan, Bahram Ebrahimi and Asha Mehrabi tasked viewing and selecting the television play for the 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival.

Mehdi Hamedsaghayan, the artistic director of the 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival, announced

the selection committee of the television play section.

Masoud Forootan is writer and director of cinema, television and director of more than 350 television plays.

Bahram Ebrahimi is a veteran actor of cinema and television and stage director. He's had acting experience in many

stage shows such as "The name of all the crucified is Jesus", "Window to the sky", "Enemy of the people" and . . .

Asha Mehrabi is a film, theater and television actress and director who has directed shows such as "Highway", "Carlo's One Street Kids", "Aunt Iran Tehran".

## Ali Nassirian and Dariush Mo'addabian held an experience transfer meeting in Ardabil



Iran Theater-Ali Nassirian and Dariush Mo'addabian traveled to Ardabil province to attend the conference honoring 30 prominent cultural, artistic, cinematic, Quranic and media figures, and participated in the experience transfer meeting held at the Ar-

dabil Women's Cultural Center. They emphasized the role of theater in conveying concepts and direct communication with the audience and considered study and practice as the most important elements in performing different roles.

In this meeting, Ali Nassirian emphasized the importance of reading and reading drama books, especially printed plays, and called theater a valuable art and asked artists to play roles on stage and in front of the camera with constant rehearsals.

He considered expression, body, movement and motivation to be the most important factors in acting, and according to his experiences in theaters and feature films and television series, he considered the correct analysis of character, familiarity with acting techniques, mastering the role and thinking about playing the role as influential factors in the relationship with the audience.

Emphasizing that acting is never finished and actors should strengthen and improve themselves by studying and doing continuous rehearsals, this veteran actor asked the artists to master the role and be motivated to convey concepts and messages on stage and in front of the camera.

Dariush Mo'addabian emphasized the transmission of useful experiences and considered it an important factor in the progress of theater and cinema. He defined theater as an art with a high human thought and by stating that the body, expression and movement are the most important acting tools, he emphasized on reading the book.

This writer, actor and director of theater and cinema believes that continuous study can make us successful in performing roles based on the characteristics of the characters, he considered education as the most important demand of acting.

### Vahid Nafar:

## Theater should be a mirror for the audience



**Iran Theater- Vahid Nafar, the playwright and director of the "Away", stated that the theater should be a mirror for the audience, and the audience left the hall satisfied and with a different thought and it is one of the success factors of a show.**

The show "Away" written and directed by Vahid Nafar is going on stage from November 28 to December 28 in the Qashghai hall of the City Theater Complex.

The story is about a soldier who stepped on a mine and his people around him are trying to send him to his wedding party by neutralizing the mine.

The author and director of this work presents the audience with a tragedy-comedy situation.

Vahid Nafar said about the theme of this show: "Away" refers to the people who lived during the war and their lives were affected by this event. People who try to have hope in life under any circumstances."

He continued: It is more important for me to deal with people who have hope in the midst of war than to deal with war issues. Showing people with their human qualities in difficult situations is more evident.

The artist stated that the story is based on reality: The idea of a play came to my mind after watching a movie. In fact, the theater was based on a one-line idea, and after several rewrites and workshop studies, we proceeded to achieve an acceptable form of dramatizing a situation.

The playwright and director of the show said: "Personally, I consider Tragicomedy to be effective in expressing concepts and communicating with the audience. Tragicomedy is neither pure comedy nor pure tragedy, and the audience can relate to it better.

## Mohammad Mehdi Esmaili: City Theater Complex is the heart of Iranian Art

Iran Theater- The Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance introduced this large Complex as the beating heart of art in Tehran and Iran at the opening ceremony of frontage construction for City Theater Complex.

The opening ceremony of construction of frontage for City Theater Complex was held in the Hall of Fame of the Complex with the presence of a group of artists and stage veterans and directors of the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance.

At the beginning of this ceremony, Seyed Mohammad Javad Taheri, director of City Theater Complex, said: "After a year and a half, this project was approved and designed by discussing with the managers of the



Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Tehran City Council. This project is only for the protection of the artists and audience of the Complex and it is not supposed to be a barrier for people and passers-by."

Mahmoud Salari, artistic deputy of the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, spoke at the event: "The attention of the Minister of Guidance

made this project possible, and I am happy that today a long-standing demand of theater artists has been fulfilled." Dariush Arjmand, a veteran actor of cinema, theater and television, said: "I am grateful to the designer of frontage. This design is done very well is influenced by the architecture of the City Theater Complex, so that it is not possible to

distinguish whether the design is from the original designer or not."

Iraj Rad, a member of the board of directors of Theater Forum, was present at the ceremony: " We were looking for a frontage for the city theater complex to be worthy of the artists and the complex. For years, there was no safety and security for artists in this place. Today, I am happy that this work is being done; This will make theater people happy."

Mohammad Mehdi Esmaili, the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance, also said: "Since I have come to the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance, I have been faced with a very serious demand from artist to create the frontage for this unique art complex."

## Hossein Tofangdar on Tahmineh called him Sohrab



Iran Theater- Hossein Tofangdar, the director and writer of the show " Tahmineh called him Sohrab", said that we all have an obligation to pay attention to women; Throughout the history of Iran, men have been treat-

ed sufficiently. In the shows I have directed, the presence of women is serious and bold, Also my latest show. The show " Tahmineh called him Sohrab " written and directed by Hossein Tafangdar was performed in the 18th Festival of Ritual and Traditional Shows in 2016, and Cologne, Germany in 2017 and The Hague, Netherlands in 2018, and It has been restaged at the shadow hall of City Theater Complex .

This show is about a woman who comes out of the ground and claims that the story of Sohrab's death at the hands of Rostam is not as we have read and heard so far. She knows the secrets of that fateful day better than anyone, she is now obliged by the spirit of Gordafarid to reveal that great secret...Hossein Tofangdar, the director and writer of " Tahmineh called him Sohrab " said about the writing of this play: "One day I was studying and writing in my office when Mohsen Kabirenejad (producer of the show) came and played with

his instrument ; At the same time as he was improvising, words and the ideas were coming to my mind, which after a few minutes I started to write and then I came up with this play.

He continued: "The title of this show was very important for me to be approved by Hakim Ferdowsi. "

The director of the ritual and traditional show explained: "Since the show has four acts, I told myself that instead of one person playing four roles, I would invite four actors to perform for each role. I need to say that Mohsen Zarabadi, who acted all the roles in this show before, is now busy and acts in the show "Faraway" at the same time as our performance in the Qashghai Hall of the City Theater Complex, and he was not able to be with us."

He said: "Mitra Shojaei, Danial Tafreshi, Mohsen Mirhashemi, Mahtab Bajlan and Fereshteh Shams are performers who act in Tahmineh called him Sohrab ."

## Mehdi Hamedsaghaian: The opening ceremony of the 42nd FITF will be held on January 2

Iran Theater-The artistic director of the 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival explained that the stage and Street section of 2024 FITF will be held from January 2 through January 14.

Mehdi Hamedsaghaian, The artistic director of the 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival, said about the date of holding the festival: "2024 FITF is not held at the same time as the Fajr Film Festival, and the 42nd FITF will be held from January 2 through January 14, 2024."

He explained: "The three sections of the 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival: radio drama, television show, and research section, will be held from January 16."

About the opening ceremony, Hamed Saghaian also said: "The opening ceremony of the 42nd Fajr Theater Festival will be held on January 2 in a closed space."

"We have had discussions with Tehran Municipality, Metro and also some other institutions for urban and environmental advertising of Fajr Theater Festival, and we have some plan. Some meeting have also been held with television to cover the festival news, and we are also negotiating with radio."



Iran Theater- "When we have Sufficiently Tortured Each Other" by Martin Crimp, a well-known British playwright will be performed for the first time in Iran Theater Forum by Mojtaba Jedi. Martin Crimp's play – subtitled "12 Variations on Samuel Richardson's Pamela" was translated

by Khatereh Kordkari and Martin Crimp adopted Pamela; or, Virtue Rewarded by Samuel Richardson. Considered one of the first true English novels, it serves as Richardson's version of conduct literature about marriage. Martin Crimp was born in 1956. His play Attempts on Her Life (1997) estab-

## Martin Crimp's When We Have Sufficiently Tortured Each Other comes to Iran

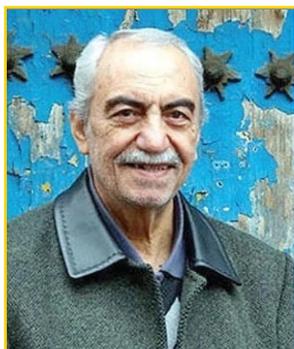
lished his international reputation. Literary critics consider him as one of the postmodern and aggressive theater writer. Some other critics have also compared Crimp's plays with David Lynch's films and believe that the stubborn and cruel characters of Crimp's works are reminiscent of the stubborn, violent and complex characters of David Lynch's works. And Martin Crimp's satire calls to mind the work of David Lynch.

Form and language are the most important features of his plays, which

can be seen in the style of Samuel Beckett, Harold Pinter and Sarah Kane's plays.

Nothing is certain in Crimp's plays. He has a dark and bitter view of human relationships. None of the characters in his works experience love and pleasure deeply and live in a bitter world. Some critics consider him an experimental playwright.

Mojtaba Jedi had directed the play "Attempts on her life" by Martin Crimp for the first time in Iran and in Kashan city as well.



**Iran Theater-Davood Kianian, a researcher and theater artist, emphasizes that "Creative Performance" has a good condition in Iran, "Creative Theater" has been ignored.**

Davood Kianian, a veteran artist, is one of the researchers and activists on creative theater and drama, who has published valuable works in this field. Iran Theater has a brief interview with this researcher, actor, director and writer on creative performance and creative theater. About the concept of "creative performance", Kianian said: "If "theatrical performance" and "theater games" are carried out under the supervision of a teacher who knows the techniques and knows the audience

with predetermined goals, an activity will be formed in which everything is created by the audience; This performance activity is "creative performance". A "process-oriented" show whose audience is the actors themselves.

He also explained about the definition of "creative theater": "Creative theater, unlike creative show, is "result-oriented" and is produced for the audience; It has a play and a director, and it usually uses the "participatory" technique to have a greater impact on the audience. Street theaters and performances that are performed with Boal's Methods are mostly known as creative theater."

Comparing the techniques of "creative performance" and "creative theater", this researcher said: "Techniques are common in production of creative show and creative theater and they operate on the same principles, but sometimes they differ in "features". Their common prin-

## Davood Kianian on Theater: He talked about creative drama and performance in Iran

ciples can be listed in seven principles: simplification, acting, improvisation, distancing, participation, process-oriented and symbolic. »

Regarding the history and roots of "creative performance" and "creative theater" in Iran, Kianian said: "Creative performance in Iran has more development than creative theater. Nearly a hundred years ago, Jabar Baghcheban's started off creative performance in "Children's Kindergarten" in Tabriz. Then it is forgotten until 1970, it is once again organized in a new form in the center of intellectual development of children and teenagers. This activity will start in 2011 in the textbook compilation office for pre-schools and kindergartens as well. The Academic Center for Education, Culture and Research also pursues this activity for primary schools. Many books have

been written and translated on the subject, and classroom drama, which can be influenced by creative drama, is growing. But creative theater did not have a place in Iran before 1970. Form that time it is formed in Kanoon. He said about the current situation of "creative performance" and "creative theater" in the Iran: "Creative performance and creative theater has never been academically in Iran, and like the children's and teenagers' theater, it has been experimental form, but fortunately There are schools for "Creative performance " and we have experienced and creative teachers who are worked in this activity; It is the opposite of creative theater, where the few people who are interested in working in this field encountered a lot of trouble and are leaving."

## FITF: the selection committee for new Iranian theater section to announce

**Iran Theater- The selection committee of the new Iranian theater section consists of Tohid Masoumi, Mohammad Mehdi Khatami and Mehrdad Koroushnia.**

The artistic director

of the 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival introduced Tohid Masoumi, Mohammad Mahdi Khatami and Mehrdad Kureshnia as members of the selection committee for new Iran theater section.



This committee will start reviewing 48 plays that have submitted for the new Iranian theater section from December 6 through 21.

The shows are from Tehran and different provinces of the

country, which are reviewed and selected as live performances. The lineup will be announced on December 26, 2023.

The 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival will be held in February, 2024.

## Performances of 5719 stage artists in the Provincial festivals of Iran

Iran Theater-All of Theater festivals in 32 provinces of Iran ended with the participation of 480 theater troupes. And the 35th Theatre Festival Of Provinces lineup were determined.

Fajr International Theater Festival is undoubtedly the most important theatrical event of the country, which has its roots in provincial theater festivals.

The 35th Theatre Festival Of Provinces was held from October 28 to November 26 ,2023.

The feature of this edition of festivals was the street section that was added . The festivals were held in 32 provinces, and were welcomed by the audience and artists, and the winners of the street and stage sections will compete at the Fajr Regional Theater Festival.

The participation of a large number of artists in this edition was very impressive and the statistics show the progress and prosperity of the country's theater.

Many applicants requested to participate in the 35th provincial theater festivals of Iran, and 5719 artists made it to this artistic event and competed all over the country.

After open call for festivals, 1331 drama groups registered their applications, 869 were stage shows and 462 were street shows. After review-



ing , 480 plays made it to the festivals. 283 were stage plays and 197 were street plays.

The jury in the provinces reviewed the works and finally 130 shows were announced as the winners of this great national event, which include 75 stage shows and 55 street shows.

After the participation of these works in the region festival, the winners will compete in the 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival.

The 42nd Fajr Theater Festival will be held in Tehran from 21st to 31th of January 2024.



### "The Maids" come to Tehran

Iran Theater-The stage reading performance "The Maids" directed by Maryam Abdoli will be on stage in Ostad Entezami Theater Hall.

Jean Genet 's "The Maids" translated by Farzaneh Sokoti and directed by Maryam Abdoli, will be perform on Friday, December 1 at 17:00 for 60 minutes in the Ostad Entezami Hall.

It's featuring Moazameh Yahyai, Maryam Abdoli and Baharak Tavassoli and Farhnaz Asadi is narrator.Maryam Abdoli is an Iranian actress and stage who studied directing and acting .

Jean Genet , a French criminal and social out-cast turned writer who, as a novelist, transformed obscene subject matter into a poetic vision of the universe and, as a dramatist, became a leading figure in the avant-garde theatre, especially the Theatre of the Absurd.

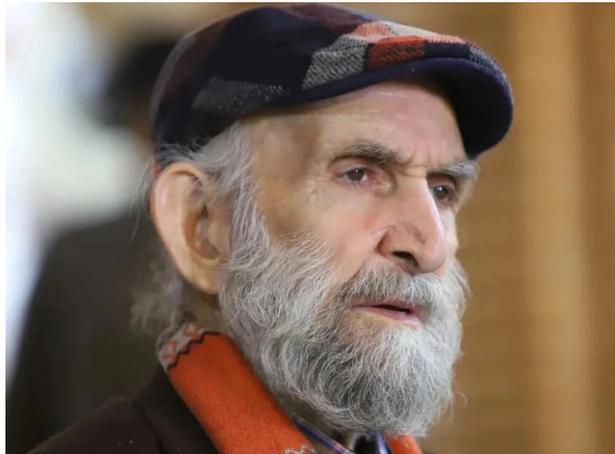
The Maids is a 1947 play by the French dramatist Jean Genet. It was first performed at the Théâtre de l'Athénée in Paris in a production that opened on 17 April 1947, which Louis Jouvet directed. Genet loosely based his play on the infamous sisters Christine and Léa Papin, who brutally murdered their employer and her daughter in Le Mans, France, in 1933. In an introduction written for The Maids, Jean-Paul Sartre quotes a line from Genet's novel Our Lady of the Flowers in which a character muses that if he had a play written for women he'd cast adolescent boys in the parts. Sartre then speculates on having this idea applied to The Maids.

## Esmaeel Khalaj on theater and performance

Iran Theater- Ismaeel Khalaj, a veteran theater artist, considered the language of most of his plays to be inspired from the south of Tehran, which are narrated in different places such as houses, markets, streets, coffee houses, etc.

Esmaeel Khalaj is an Iranian playwright and film and television writer, director and actor. He was born in Astara, but went to Tehran and studied acting under the Iranian acting teacher and director, Abdolhossein Nooshin. He started to write plays in the 1970s. He is a jury members of the playwriting section at the second cultural heritage festival, which is being held from November 30 through December 1 at city of Qazvin.

The combination of the language and literature of street and bazaar people in Khalaj's writings made his works famous as "Ghahveh khane/coffee house" plays; Literature that has inspired from the popular language of the



people. Khalaj said about the beginning of his theatrical activity: "I was in the fourth grade of primary school and I was 11 years old when one of my friends and I used to go to Noor Cinema and Dariush Cinema on Amirieh St. We were sitting and telling the story to the children. This was perhaps the first spark of acting in me." The artist added: "Actually, I have been writing and performing theater since I was a teenager until I entered the theater workshop in 1968 and formed

a group with my friends and theater became more serious for us. Before that time, we followed the show seriously in Kakh-e-Javanan. But participating in the drama workshop gave us another form of being in the theater field." Khalaj has started writing Iranian plays since 1968: "Since then, I have written nearly 50 plays and directed 40 theaters." Khalaj explained about his plays: "My plays are not all written in coffee-house Language, but the language of most of them is the language of

the southern city and includes different spaces of home, market, street, etc. From the early days of the formation of our drama group, sometimes I sent the members of the group to the street and asked them to write two pages of the dialogue of people in the street and the market for me, exactly what they heard, and bring them to the rehearsal. I remember, one day I tore up all the notes that I got and reminded my colleagues that I only wanted to teach you, how the atmosphere, the way people talk and express themselves with each other, and what kind of acting and directing I think about on stage."

The artist said: "With this perspective and paying attention to the environment around you, watching every event in society, it is as if you are watching a show. This is a preparation for you to master directing, acting and writing well; This is the way I used to write plays and direct my plays."

## Mehdi Ashna gets award at Zhuhai International Photography Exhibition



Iran Theater-Mehdi Ashna, an Iranian photographer, won the gold medal of the 6th Zhuhai International Photography Exhibition in China for a photo of the

show "Homework".

The selected photo is from the show "Homework" directed by Amir Najafi, which was staged in 2018.

Mehdi Ashna, an experienced photographer, is a member of the Iranian Press Photographers Association, Theater Photographers Association and FIAP International Photography Federation and is one of the well-known photographers in the field of theater photography.

He has been the artistic director of many artistic events. He was the jury member of the photo section and the executive director of the 36th, 37th and 40th Fajr Theater Festivals, the director of the poster and photo section of the International University Theater Festival, the director of the photo

and poster section of the 3rd City Theater Festival and the director of the artist's view section of the 3rd Film Festival.

He has won various international and national awards: the first place in the photo section of the 18th Mubarak International Puppet Show Festival in 2019, the winner of the 12th Taichung Festival 2023 (Taiwan), the winner of the someone Festival 2023 Tajikistan, the winner of the Canada Ontario Festival 2023, the winner of the othello circuit festival 2023, the winner of CAMPINA 2023 International Exhibition of Photography.

The exhibition is organized every year in collaboration with the Federation Internationale de l'Art Photographique (FIAP), the Photographic Society of America (PSA) and Euro Foto Art (EFA).

The special section of Gaza will be held in the 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival



**Iran Theater- The special section of Gaza will be added in the 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival, and the works produced with the focus of the resistance of the Palestinian nation present in different sections of this event will be performed in this section as well.**

Mehdi Hamedsagaian, the artistic director of the 42nd Fajr International Theater Festival, gave explanations about the sections in 2024 FITF.

He said: "Due to the importance of the issue of Palestinian resistance and the recent events in Gaza, special attention will be paid to the various works that have submitted for different section of the festival with this theme."

He continued: "In various sections of this year's festival, including the stage, street, student, playwriting, and radio drama sections, works on the subject of Palestine and Gaza have been submitted, and if they will pass the selection process of the festival, they will also be present in the special section of Gaza."

For more information, you can contact Fajr Theater Festival Secretariat, Tel: 00982166700820.

The lineup for different sections will be announced on December.

## 7th International Street Theater of Darbandikhan crowns Iranian production *Insomnia*



**Iran Theater- The play "Insomnia" directed by Shima Poursahmoudin, from Shirazi city, represented Iran in the 7th international street Theater Festival of Darbandikhan, Iraq, and name runner-up for the best show in the international section.**

The 7th International Street Theater of Darbandikhan, was held from November 27 to first of December in the city of Darbandikhan, Sulaymaniyah, Iraq, in two section: the Kurdistan region of Iraq and the international.

There were production from Spain, Italy, Chile, Tunisia, France, Egypt, Iraq and Iran in international section.

A production of Shirzai artist, "Insomnia" is written by Massoud Ahmadi, directed by Shima Poursahmoudin and produced by Mohammad Shokravai. It's featuring Shima Poursahmoudin and Ghazal Rafiei as actress, Omid Vamegh as technical advisor, Mehrdad Sahami as music selector and Hanieh Behzadi as photographer.

Massoud Ahmadi, the writer of the show "Insomnia" said about the process of the writing : "The idea of the show "Insomnia" started from the idea that some people all over of the

world have put themselves to sleep in order not to see many topics and the other are trying to wake them up."

He further added: "We examine the lost peace in today's world. A peace that we may never see again."

The writer also said about the performance of this show at the DarbandiKhan International Festival in Iraq: "This was the third time that our show performed in an international Festival and we had a very good feedback from the culture and art authorities of Iraqi Kurdistan, as well as critics and people; So that There were offers to perform in other nearby cities were."

Shima Poursahmoudin explained that "Insomnia" is a physical show based on body movements: "This show is considered a performance to some level and non-verbal show."

She added: "The choice of this performance method is because most of the shows that are performed these days depend on dialogue and are somewhat far from the general concept of performing arts; Therefore, we tried to convey the general concept of the work to the audience with various illustrations and body movements in Insomnia."

The director went on to say that environmental and street performances have been linked to the activist artist and some protest against society at any point in history: "Street show is an art that communicates directly with the street people and should be taken more seriously. The street show can change the culture of a society due to the wide audience and the possibility of easy access to the audience if it continues."

Dear Artist,  
Please accept my congratulations in advance on the birth of Jesus Christ.  
I hope the new year (2024) will be a year full of blessings, health and success for all artists in the field of performing arts around the world.  
Let's help each other to elevate the art of performing arts in the world and reach peace and friendship with each other with the language of art in this broad horizon of performing arts.  
Kindest regards,

Kazem Nazari  
General Director  
Dramatic Arts Center of Iran &  
President of Iran Center of ITI



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