

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.

⚠ *Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)*

PROJECT	
Participant:	NORDISK TEATERLABORATORIUM /ODIN TEATRET
PIC number:	991797938]
Project name and acronym:	[Age Against the Machine - European Solidarity Project name and acronym: Network for Older Citizens Rights] — [AgeAgainstTheMachine]

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	[7]
Event name:	[Festival in Holstebro NORDISK TEATERLABORATORIUM /ODIN TEATRET]
Type:	[Intergenerational interactive performance + flash mob]
In situ/online:	[in-situ]
Location:	[Denmark], [Holstebro]
Date(s):	[from 7.11.2024 to 9.11.2024]
Website(s) (if any):	https://en.ntl.dk/f/dokumenter/ntl-event-description-sheet_cerv_festival_p.pdf
Participants	
Female:	175
Male:	117
Non-binary:	po
From country 1 [Denmark]:	256
From country 2 [Serbia]:	11
From country 3 [Poland]:	9
From country 4 [Italy]:	7
From country 4 [Portugal]:	9
Total number of participants:	292
From total number of countries:	5

Description

Provide a short description of the event and its activities.

The "Age Against the Machine Festival" is a groundbreaking event hosted by the Nordic Theatre Lab in Holstebro, Denmark, from November 7 to 9, 2024. This unique festival celebrates intergenerational collaboration through the performing arts, fostering dialogue and understanding between young and old. The event challenges stereotypes about aging and creates a platform to address ageism while celebrating the richness of diverse perspectives across generations.

Over three days, the festival features five innovative theatre performances, each developed through collaboration between participants from Denmark, Portugal, Serbia, Poland, and Italy. These performances are rooted in the lived experiences of older individuals and enriched by the creativity and energy of younger contributors. Through this synergy, the festival demonstrates the transformative power of art in breaking down barriers, bridging gaps between generations, and inspiring a more inclusive society.

The festival is not just a celebration of creativity and culture but also a platform for raising awareness about age-related challenges, promoting solidarity, and showcasing how performing arts can tackle complex societal issues with empathy and innovation. It offers audiences a thought-provoking experience that will resonate deeply, both emotionally and intellectually, leaving a lasting impact on all who participate.

A unique festival about ageing and community

As the first of five partners, Nordic Theatre Lab has the honour of hosting the very first Age Against the Machine Festival, taking place in Holstebro. This groundbreaking project brings young and old together to create a festival that not only challenges our views on ageing, but also shows how generations can collaborate and raise awareness of challenges through performing arts and community.

Three days filled with transgressive theatre experiences

The three-day festival features no less than five theatre performances, all created in collaboration between older people and young people from countries such as Portugal, Serbia, Poland, Italy and Denmark. These performances are based on the experiences and perspectives of older people, challenging prejudices and stereotypes about age through art. At the same time, they show how theatre can be a powerful tool to build bridges between generations.

Why is it a great project?

Age Against the Machine is a project that tackles ageism in a creative and inclusive way. By involving both young and old in the creation of art, it highlights the knowledge and resources that are often overlooked in older generations, while bringing the energy and new ideas of the younger participants into play. The project is not only about giving older people a voice, but also about creating a platform for intergenerational dialogue - a dialogue that can help create a more inclusive and nuanced society.

Why you should come and experience the festival

If you're curious about how theatre can change our views on ageing, or if you want to experience artistic collaborations across cultures and generations, the Age Against the Machine Festival in Holstebro is an event not to be missed. It's a festival that's about much more than theatre - it's about people. It's about bringing people together, regardless of age, and creating art that makes us reflect on our society and our place in it. Each performance is a unique experience that offers insight into how we as a society can tackle age-related challenges with creativity and empathy.

The festival will not only be a cultural event, but also an occasion to celebrate community and solidarity across generations. Whether you're a theatre enthusiast, socially engaged or just looking for a thought-provoking experience, this festival will give you something to take home - both in your heart and mind.

Program and performances

Thursday, November 7, 2024

- **13:30–14:30** - *Ensomhed er et Monster* (NTL) (White Room)
- **19:30–20:00** - *Old Women? Who Said That? We Are Still Here!* (Évora) (Black Room)

Friday, November 8, 2024

- **13:30–14:30** - *OBLIVION* (Stuart Lynch) (White Room)
- **19:30–20:00** - *Waiting for the Rain* (Novi Sad) (Black Room)

Saturday, November 9, 2024

- **08:30–09:30** - Partner Meeting (Library)
- **13:30–14:30** - *Interwoven Rights* (Melarancio) (White Room)
- **19:30–20:00** - *Body* (Brama) (Black Room)

Ensomhed er et Monster (NTL)

"Ensomhed er et Monster" (Loneliness is a Monster) is an interactive performance that explores how societal structures, such as public spaces and transportation systems, influence loneliness and connection. The piece challenges audiences to view loneliness not as a static state but as a dynamic challenge that can be overcome by redesigning environments to foster social bonds. Developed with input from social experts and performed by a cast spanning multiple generations, this performance blends theater, community engagement, and activism. Directed by Simon Beyer-Pedersen, it encourages dialogue on isolation and societal responsibility, presenting innovative solutions through art. The production captivates with its profound emotional resonance and forward-thinking approach.

Old Women? Who Said That? We Are Still Here! (Évora)

This intergenerational performance celebrates the resilience and wisdom of older women through short narratives infused with vulnerability, sisterhood, and hope. Developed over seven months of collaboration, it presents personal stories and aspirations that break age-related stereotypes. By bringing together participants from various age groups, the piece highlights the strength and richness of lived experiences while challenging traditional perceptions of aging. Directed by a team from Évora, Portugal, the production is a vivid testament to the power of storytelling as a tool for empowerment and inclusion. The performance is a reflection on identity, perseverance, and community across generations.

OBLIVION (Stuart Lynch)

"OBLIVION" is a solo performance by Stuart Lynch that blends Butoh dance, poetic texts, and hauntingly beautiful existential songs. This introspective piece delves into themes of identity, aging, and human fragility, inviting audiences into a world of raw emotion and profound reflection. Developed during a residency at Nordisk Teaterlaboratorium, the production showcases Lynch's mastery of physical expression and his ability to channel deep, universal truths through minimalist movement. Collaborating with composer Peter Kyed, the performance weaves together soundscapes and visual storytelling to create a contemplative atmosphere that lingers in the minds of viewers.

Waiting for the Rain (Novi Sad)

"Waiting for the Rain" explores the pervasive impact of ageism in everyday life through six dramatized scenes. This socially engaged performance, featuring actors aged 17 to 77, examines how societal attitudes and institutional practices marginalize older individuals. Directed by Svetislav and Lazar Jovanov, the production combines storytelling with activism, challenging audiences to confront their own biases and take responsibility for combating discrimination. The performance offers a raw, honest look at the struggles faced by older generations while providing hope for change through intergenerational solidarity and empathy.

Interwoven Rights (Melarancio)

"Interwoven Rights" is a thought-provoking piece combining puppet theater, live music, and intergenerational dialogue. Inspired by a new Charter of Rights between Generations, the performance addresses themes such as dignity, autonomy, and the shared responsibility to create a sustainable future. Developed collaboratively, the production engages audiences in a dialogue on combating stereotypes and fostering mutual respect across age groups. Its powerful use of puppetry and music captivates viewers, while its message challenges societal norms and inspires reflection on our collective values. The piece is a testament to the transformative power of artistic collaboration.

Body (Brama)

"Body" is an innovative theater production by Teatr Brama that examines identity, the cult of youth, and the intersection of aging and sexuality. Performed by an intergenerational cast, the piece

Directed by Daniel Jacewicz and Dorota Porowska, " Body " challenges conventional notions of beauty and explores the societal constraints imposed by physical appearance. It combines striking visual storytelling with bold choreography to provoke thought and emotion. Through its powerful narrative and captivating performances, the piece encourages audiences to redefine their relationship with their own bodies and embrace a more inclusive perspective on identity and aging.

Logistic and organisation

Producer: Simon Beyer-Pedersen, Nathalie Jabalé

Technicians: Paul Hales, Fausto Pro

Scenography: Francesca Tesoniero

Economy: Barbara Manighetti

Creative Team

Staging and Direction: Simon Beyer-Pedersen

Directing Consultants: Jenny Crissey and Elsebeth Banke

Actors: Jeppe van Santen, Annette Heldblad, Sten Armoose, Ida Tornvig Madsen, and Ulla Lykkegård

Audience and Venue

The interactive performances and the festival events welcomed 292 participants and 265 audience (total 557). The participants from the audience included local activists, educators, psychologists, cultural animators, decision-makers, directors of public institutions, students, guests, and local artists and the international partners participating to the project.

The performances took place in the "White Room" and in the "Black Room" at the theatre.

Promotional Activities

To promote "Age Against the Machine " festival, several activities were undertaken:

1. Video animation

The promotional campaign included an original video animation with original music created to speak about intergenerational dialogue and isolation. This action was published on social media (youtube).

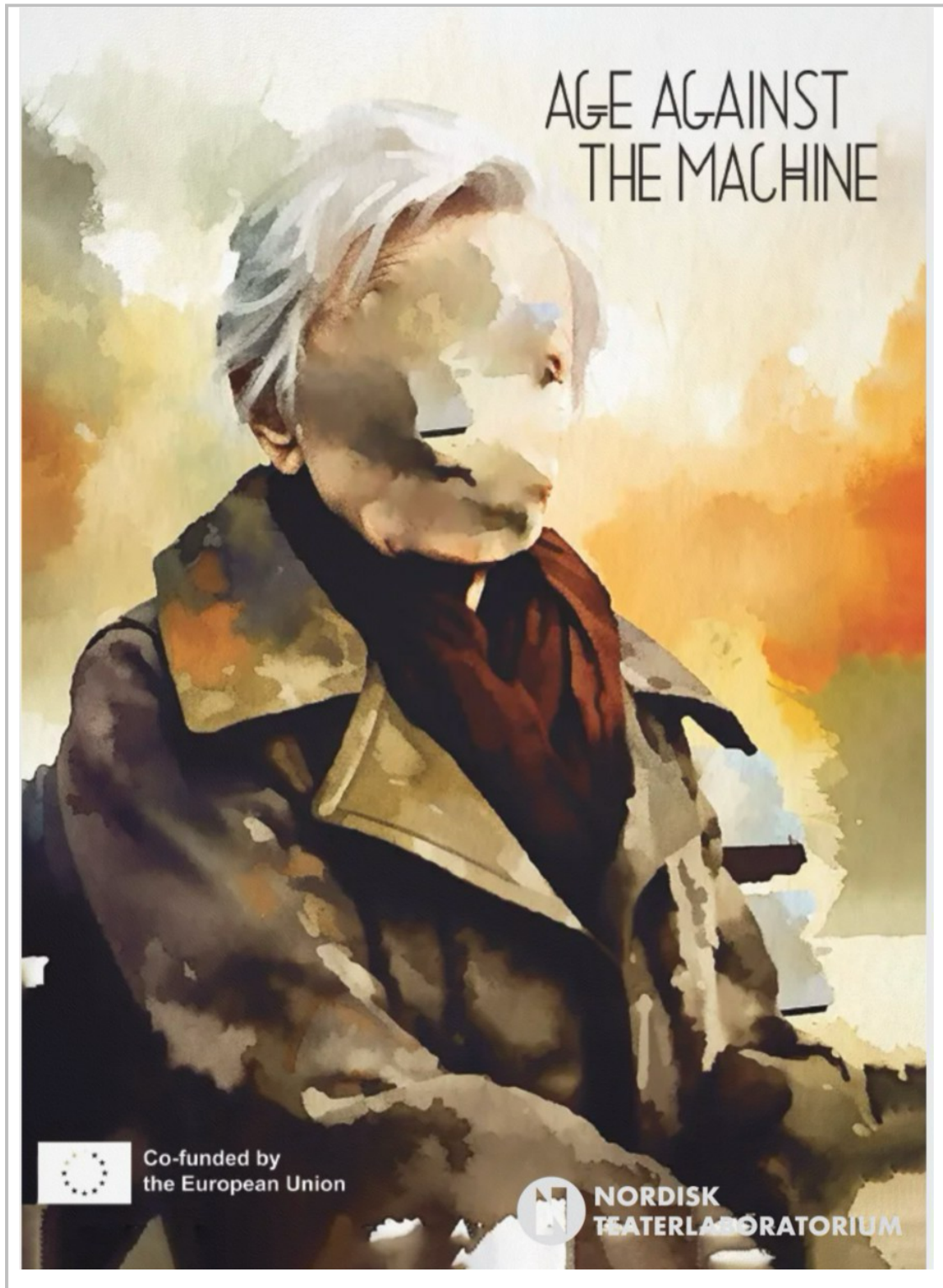
In a world that often separates generations, this short animation explores the power of intergenerational dialogue in combating loneliness among older adults. Through vivid storytelling, we highlight the experiences of both young and elderly people, showcasing how meaningful connections can transform lives and challenge ageism. A journey toward greater empathy, solidarity, and understanding across generations, together, to create a more inclusive society where everyone, regardless of age, feels valued and connected.

2. Social Media Campaign

A paid and not-paid promotional campaign on Facebook and Instagram garnered significant attention and engagement, particularly within the local community. Posts shared information about the "Age Against the Machine" project and the festival, encouraging public participation and raising awareness about ageism in collaboration with local experts and associations working in the field.

3. Promotional materials

Banner, program and posters were created for the promotional material for the performance. The premiere was announced and promoted with the flash mob and with social media campaign, in the Nordisk Teaterlaboratorium newsletter and with a personal invitation. The creative team participated to several meeting with different community groups, to present the project and invite them personally to the premiere. Gadget printed (shopping bag, stickers and pens) was made available for the audience.



07. nov.

kl. 13.30 - Ensomhed er et monster
 Nordisk Teaterlaboratorium (DK)
 En interaktiv forestilling, der udforsker, hvordan rum og transport kan være nøglen til at nedbryde barriererne mellem os.

kl. 19.30 - Old Women? Who said that? We are still here!
 University of Évora (PT)
 Gennem en samling af fælles minder og udtryk for ønsker for fremtiden gennemgår vi, hvad vi har fået ud af den tid, vi har levet indtil nu.

08. nov.

kl. 13.30 - Oblivion
 Stuart Lynch (DK)
 Lynch kanaliserer rå følelser gennem langsomme, udtryksfulde bevægelser, mens det talte ord og melodierne skaber en dybt introspektiv atmosfære.

kl. 19.30 - Waiting for the Rain
 Novi Sad (RS)
 Forestillingen stiller direkte spørgsmål ved forskellige former for aldersdiskrimination, fra interpersonel til strukturel og institutionel.

09. nov.

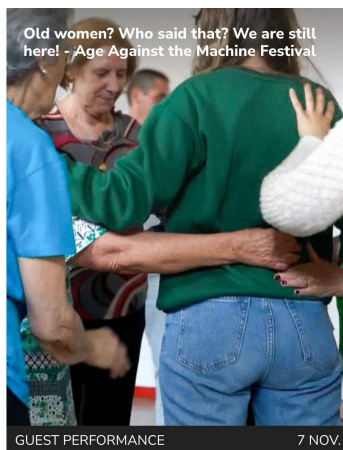
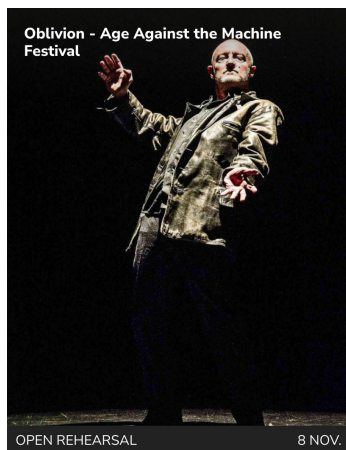
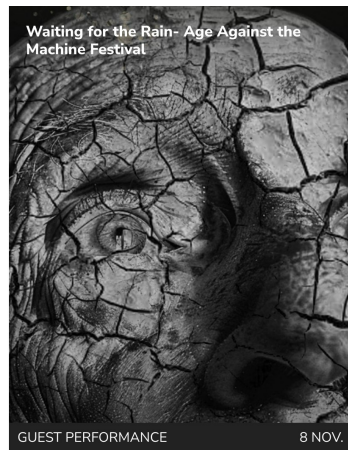
kl. 13.30 - Inter Wovenrights
 Il Melarancio (IT)
 dialog og læring mellem generationer og overførsel af mening og værdier baseret på respekt, deltagelse og samvær mellem forskellige generationer.

kl. 19.30 - Body
 Brama (PL)
 Forestillingen stiller grundlæggende spørgsmål: Definerer kroppen os, eller er den blot en skal, som vi gemmer os bag?

På NTL
 Særkærparken 144
 7500 Holstebro
 Gratis adgang
 Bestil på ntl.dk

These initiatives formed part of a larger effort to make the event visible and spark conversations about combating loneliness and age-based discrimination.

Links:
 Website: https://en.ntl.dk/f/dokumenter/ntl-event-description-sheet_cerv_festival_p.pdf
<https://en.ntl.dk/c/calender/age-against-the-machine-festival-in-holstebro>
 Performances : <https://en.ntl.dk/p/calendar/past-events>



Body - Age Against the Machine Festival
GUEST PERFORMANCE 9 NOV.

Interwoven Rights - Age Against the Machine Festival
GUEST PERFORMANCE 9 NOV.

Waiting for the Rain- Age Against the Machine Festival
GUEST PERFORMANCE 8 NOV.

Oblivion - Age Against the Machine Festival
OPEN REHEARSAL 8 NOV.

Old women? Who said that? We are still here! - Age Against the Machine Festival
GUEST PERFORMANCE 7 NOV.

Loneliness is a Monster - Age Against the Machine Festival
PERFORMANCE 7 NOV.

Videoanimation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dpu00aPeRVY>

HISTORY OF CHANGES			
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE	
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).	