

# Participants profiles



**Universal  
Art Design**

# Group

## Zajkowska/Murawski



### Michał Murawski

Actor, puppeteer, singer, theater educator. He graduated from the Białystok Branch of the Theater Academy with a degree in acting in 2021. As of 2019, he has worked with theaters: Syrena in Warsaw, Baj in Warsaw, Współczesny in Wrocław, Grotowski Institute, festivals: New Epiphanies, Sopot NonFiction, Stuff and Actors Song Review. He graduated with a post-graduate degree in Cultural Management from PAN in 2022. He is the winner of the PPA in 2021. He participated in the Culture Moves Europe artistic residencies at Kvaka22 in Belgrade (2023), where he performed the author's monodrama "Bird Feeders" and in a research expedition in Corsica on the polyphonic songs of the North Corsica region. In addition, he worked as a leader on Erasmus+ projects and in the penitentiary environment.

### Weronika Zajkowska

I am a young creator of theater and performing arts, currently finishing my studies in directing and dramaturgy at the Academy of Theater Arts in Cracow. I am interested in experimentation, speculative narration and the search for new languages of theater. I work at the intersection of form, improvisation and spirituality, combining theater, film and performance. As a playwright, I have produced, among others, the play Justine&Juliette at the Słowacki Theater in Cracow or the play 400 m2 of hope with Michał Zadara at the Łódź of Many Cultures Festival. I created performance at the Volksbühne Theater in Berlin. Since November 2024 I was a resident playwright at Żeromski Theater in Kielce where I created my directorial work Żeromski backstage. Since my freshman year, I have been active as a member of AST's Dramaturgy Studio.



# Group

# NODOstage



## Yana Alekseenko

Theater and film director. She graduated from the Belarusian State University of Culture and Arts, Minsk, and postgraduate studies. Directing performances - "New Time" Anonymous author (2023, Warsaw), "Crocodile" (2024, Grotowski Institute), "Journey through the Jungle" (2023, Free Speech Zone/Universal Theater, Warsaw), "Ode to Justice" (2023, WCK, Warsaw), "Medusa syndrome" (2025, Theatre 11 Bremen). Directing performances (Belarus) - "Courage" B.Brecht, "Birthday of Summer", "Pippi - Stocking" A.Lindgren, "The Fourth Song of Poltava" A.Pushkin, "I don't want to be a dog" S.Below, "Point of no return" R.Jon, "There will be no winter" V.Olshansky - the main prize of the festival "Theater trunk- 2009".

Read more: <https://yanaalekseenkoportfoliocv.my.canva.site/>

## Nadzeya Sheibak

Actress, director and singer. I studied directing at the Academy of Arts, but the repressive education system made me leave, which meant the end of professional opportunities in my country. In 2020, I joined an independent underground theater that was formed in response to mass protests. In Poland, I collaborated with Pawel Passini and Aleksandra Kanarska, working on ancient drama and discovering butoh. This opened up new possibilities for me, leading to more residencies and the realization of Crocodile in Warsaw, a play on the subject of political prisoners. Now, as an independent theater artist, I am striving to integrate into the European community. The residency is a chance for me to develop, make new contacts and continue my artistic activities.





## Maciej Miecznikowski

Visual artist, soundart artist, instrumentalist and music producer. Graduated with a bachelor's degree from the Faculty of Media Art at the Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts in the Audiovisual Space studio of Dr. Lukasz Kosela, currently a master's student at the same faculty. Since 2024, he has been associated with the BFF Music label. In June 2024, he composed and performed live music for the performance Crocodile as part of the 3rd edition of the Festival of Theater on Facts entitled Necessary Things. Exhibitions: There Will Be No Second Spring... Children and Art in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries, 2023, Zacheta; Common Things, 2023, Warsaw Autumn; Guys, Discos and Such, 2024, PSW Foundation.

More at the link: <https://on.soundcloud.com/ageFeJTBX7tKZBnP9>

## Paweł Sheibak

I am a 22-year-old musician and composer from Belarus. I have been living in exile in Poland for over a year, where I left for political reasons. My artistic path began in Belarus, where I was a member of the protest rock band "Maksim Pank." We created music that expressed opposition to the regime and supported the resistance movement. At the same time, I was developing an electronic music project with a friend, exploring new sounds and forms of expression. I also played in contemporary music groups with Christian themes for more than seven years, which allowed me to explore the spiritual dimension of music. I also created music for theater productions, which taught me how sound can deepen the narrative and emotions of characters. Currently, as an independent artist, I am looking for new means of expression to convey the complexity of human emotions and experiences. Participation in the residency is an opportunity for me to further my artistic development and explore sound as a tool to express character emotions and build a deep relationship with the viewer. I would like to create music that not only accompanies the performance, but becomes an integral part of it, moving the viewer on many levels.





# Group

# Czajkowska, Starzec, Bernadowski



## Monika Czajkowska

Theater and film director, playwright, playwright, screenwriter, academic lecturer. She is pursuing a doctorate at the Department of Film and Television Directing at the PWSFTviT in Lodz. She is a graduate of the Film School in Lodz, the Faculty of "Artes Liberales" at Warsaw University and the Ivan Vrypayev School of Theater. Winner of the Pomeranian Voivodeship Marshal's Award and the 3rd Audience Award in the MONOTEATR #home competition. She is the winner of the 34th Children's and Youth Theater Play Competition, organized by the Children's Art Center in Poznań, in which she wrote the play "Physical Education," which made it to the semifinals of the 17th Gdynia Drama Award. She is a winner of the Culture on the Web Scholarship of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and the Young Poland Scholarship of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

## Milena Starzec

She has been a wheelchair-bound dancer with a disability for three years. She took her first dance steps - while still a child without a disability - at a local community center. As a teenager, she trained in ballroom dancing. She returned to dancing after a break of more than 10 years as a dancer with a disability and first trained in Bielsko-Biala at the "Pasja" Dance Theater group, and now belongs to the "Integra" group at the Rozbark Theater in Bytom. In 2023 and 2024 she participated in the "Dance and Disability" laboratories of the National Institute of Music and Dance in Ladek-Zdroj and Lodz. In 2024 she took part in the project "Inclusion in motion" at the Central Textile Museum in Lodz.





# Paweł Bernadowski

Independent theater artist and actor, graduate of the Academy of Theater Arts in Wrocław. He also studied at the Real Escuela Superior de Arte Dramático in Madrid. He has worked as a guest with many Polish theaters, including the Warsaw Theater, the W. Siemaszkowa Theater in Rzeszów, the Jerzy Grotowski Institute in Wrocław, the New Theater in Zabrze and the Capitol Theater in Warsaw. He has completed original projects both in Poland and abroad - in the Czech Republic, Germany and France. In his work he uses documentary methods of work and theater of animated form. He is fascinated by the tragicomic aspects of everyday life. He is the winner of the Main Acting Prize of the 19th Festival of Contemporary Drama "Rzeczywistość Przedstawiona" and a scholarship recipient of the Culture Moves Europe program.

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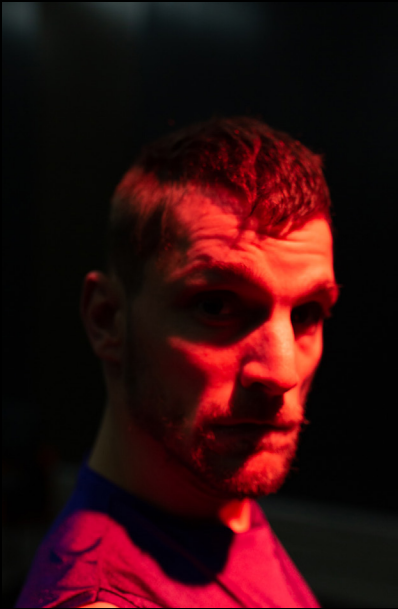
### Agnieszka Dubilewicz

Cultural studies scholar, performer, dancer, dance educator, animator and educator. Scholarship holder of the Artistic Award of the City of Poznań. For more than 10 years she has been co-creating cultural and inclusive projects. She has cooperated with, among others, Zamek Cultural Center, Estrada Poznańska, Association of Artists Kolektacz. She has implemented a number of projects leading interdisciplinary workshops at the intersection of art, education and social activism. Participant of the “Dance and Disability” laboratory. Creator of the performance “For us there will be no lack of chairs” involving non-normative dancers in the process. Collaborates with RED NOSES International as a medical clown. Scholarship holder of the international creative residency „Dancing Together, Again!” Fascinated by diversity and any difference from the norm.

### Karolina Wensierska

Kashubian, theatergoer, actress, choreographer, founder of Buried Dance Theatre. Involved in the promotion of dance theater, social, educational and scientific activities. She uses dance and movement in the process of identity development, shaping creativity, relationship with the world and another person. Builds relationships and activates various groups. In her artistic and social work, she responds to the needs of socially marginalized people. She conducts workshops for neurodiverse people. Her social attitude finds artistic expression in choreographies characterized by deep emotionality, exploration of new forms and reflection on the essence of the human body. She explores the application of butoh dance in dance and movement therapy. She studied butoh dance with Atsushi Takenouchi, Ken Mai, Yuko Kaseki, Natsuko Kono and Kei Tonetti.





# Patryk Krause

He doesn't write too much about himself, but loves to talk live. He is interested in theater and sports. On a daily basis, he participates in the Occupational Therapy Workshop. In 2019, Patrick became the World Champion in Race Running at 800 meters. He also set a world record at this distance in the RR1 group. He is also an actor. He has appeared in the plays "Concave", "I'm Running", "There Will Be No More Chairs for Us", "Perception", among others. He believes that theaters should be accessible to male and female artists with disabilities and audiences with disabilities, so that as many people as possible have a chance to fulfill their dreams. Each time she emphasizes that art does not have to be art therapy, it can be an idea for life that opens up completely new possibilities for development.



# Group

## PLEASE, NOT RICHARD III



### Giammarco Pignatiello

Theatre director, born in Foggia in 1997. He began his theatre journey with Piccola Compagnia Impertinente in 2015, where he directed, wrote, and acted in various children's theatre productions supported by Teatro Pubblico Pugliese. Specifically for young audiences, he created the project Dauni Story, winner of the regional call I Musei Raccontano la Puglia, sponsored by the Ministry of Culture. Since 2018, he has led theatre workshops for children, particularly through the project Al buio al buio! supported by the regional call Periferie al Centro. As an actor, he has taken part in several international theatre festivals, including Kestenburg in Banja Luka, FIST in Belgrade, and FITUC in Casablanca. He later graduated in Theatre Directing from the Paolo Grassi Civic School of Theatre. In 2023, he worked as assistant director on La Locandiera, directed by Antonio Latella. In 2024, he won the Testinscena call by Fondazione Claudia Lombardi per il Teatro, with the patronage of LAC Lugano Arte e Cultura, Hystrio, Campo Teatrale (Milan), and FIT Festival Internazionale del Teatro (Lugano).

### Alessandra Curia

Cosenza, 2001. Graduated in 2023 from the Accademia dei Filodrammatici in Milan and winner of the 2024 Hystrio alla Vocazione Prize. In 2023, she performed in The Trials, directed by Veronica Cruciani, and in The Prisoner's Dilemma, directed by Bruno Fornasari. In 2024, she played a supporting role in the film La versione di Giuda, directed by Giulio Base (prod. Agnus Dei). For the past two years, she has toured with the children's theatre production Favola senza Tempo (directed by Fabrizio Visconti), produced by the company Eccentrici Dadarò, with whom she also leads school workshops. She also takes part in the musical project C'era due volte Lucio, directed by Marco Pagani (prod. Eccentrici Dadarò), as a singer.





## Benedetta Pighi

Born in 2000 in Reggio Emilia, she shaped her education around two passions: the study of Japanese language and culture at the Languages, Markets and Cultures of Asia programme at the Alma Mater Studiorum, and theatre training. In 2020, she combined these interests in the project Vento dell'Est, aimed at bringing storytelling for children through the Japanese theatre technique of kamishibai. In 2021, she took part in Animateria, an advanced course in figure theatre promoted by Teatro Gioco Vita and Teatro del Drago, where she deepened her skills in puppetry and visual language. Since 2023, she has worked as a puppeteer with the Carlo Colla e Figli company as part of the exhibition Marionette all'Avanguardia, directed by James Bradburne. Also in 2023, her play 30 milligrams of Ulipristal won both the Amleto ConTest and the Tondelli Prize within the Riccione Theatre Prize. In 2024, she travelled to South Korea as dramaturg, overseeing the staging of 30 milligrams of Ulipristal with a Korean cast, in a production by the Seoul Institute of the Arts. She is currently attending the Writing for Performance course at the Paolo Grassi Civic School of Theatre.

## Cristian Visione

Reggio Emilia, 1999. After attending the graphic design programme at the Blaise Pascal Institute in Reggio Emilia, he founded the association Favola Semplice in February 2020. The association promotes awareness around all forms of disability through engaging and inclusive workshops in schools. In 2020, he described his experience as a person with a disability navigating the internet in the book Cuori Connessi, co-written with journalist Luca Pagliari. In 2018, he published a provocative post on Facebook: "Looking for friends, I'll pay seven euros per hour." Within 24 hours, the post went viral, receiving over four thousand responses from people eager to meet him. He used the media attention to shed light on the loneliness many young people with disabilities experience, often due to lack of autonomy and architectural barriers.



# Group

## Another Name – Calling ourselves Juliet and Romeo



### Luce Sant'Ambrogio

My path moves between academia and the stage. I graduated with honors in Theatre and Performing Arts from IUAV University of Venice, and I earned a PhD in Gender and Performance Studies. At the same time, I trained in acting at the Quelli di Grock school and attended many workshops with contemporary artists (Motus, Società Raffaello Sanzio, Silvia Calderoni, Arkadi Zaides, Liv Ferracchiati, Dante Antonelli, Tindaro Granata). I've worked with institutions such as Teatro Stabile di Genova, AtelierSi, Marcela Serli, Simona Bertozzi, and I collaborate regularly with Giacomo AG on the Anticorpo project. I am a trans woman. In theatre, this has often meant being considered "out of role," out of place, out of time. My master's thesis, *Who Can Play Juliet?*, explores exactly these topics, and it was awarded and published. I chose to bring theory into practice, because the stage is one of the spaces where the marginalization of trans bodies manifests most strongly—through explicit exclusions and narrative stereotypes. I have experienced many forms of marginalization: from academic transphobia to online insults, from the constant pressure to justify my body to the spectacle made of my identity. Visibility often means exposure. But I remain. Because my presence on stage is a political act. I want to build imaginaries that include, that harm less, that open up new possibilities. I take part in this project because it's a collective response to systemic exclusion. Because Romeo and Juliet is a terrain to be tenderly dismantled. Because we, too, can love with the same intensity as the great classics—without having to justify the bodies we inhabit.

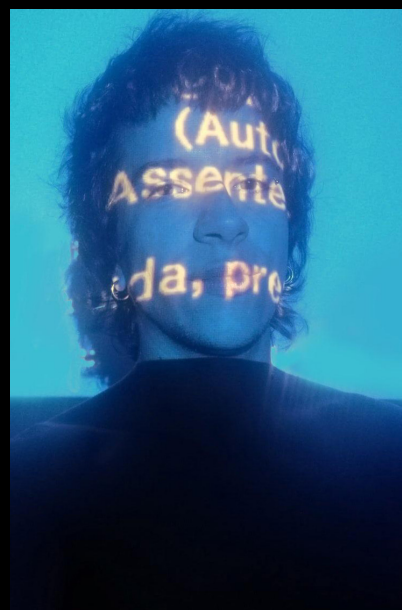


## Giacomo AG

I am a trans, feminist, and queer person with Italo-Brazilian roots. My artistic practice began in 2015 in contexts of independent training, starting from a workshop dedicated to masculine gender identities (Figli Maschi). Since then, I've moved through experimental theatre environments and hybrid performance practices, collaborating and training with groups such as Atopos, ATIR Teatro Ringhiera, Fattoria Vittadini, the Santarcangelo Festival, the Orlando Festival, and the performance *The Present is Not Enough* by Silvia Calderoni and Ilenia Caleo. Since 2019, I've been developing *Anticorpo*, a theatrical and political project created to carve out a self-determined trans space within the Italian theatre landscape. Being a trans person has deeply shaped my artistic path. In Italy, theatre continues to pretend there's a kind of neutrality in bodies on stage, but that neutrality is often just adherence to a cis, white, able-bodied norm. Non-conforming bodies struggle to access spaces of training, visibility, and recognition. To this, I add my migratory background: I was born in Brazil to a Brazilian family and raised in Italy, where I've experienced marginalization in linguistic and cultural terms as well. My work stems from these wounds and travels through them, searching for utopian spaces where the trans body can be seen, heard, desired—not only narrated. I take part in this project to reclaim the possibility of embodying roles that have historically been denied to us, and to contribute to the construction of new imaginaries. I see theatre as a transformative device, where the stage becomes a space for poetic justice.

## Yele Canali Ferrari

Yele Canali Ferrari is a gender deserter, actor and performer. He trained at Teatro delle Briciole in Parma and with choreographer Daniele Albanese/Compagnia Stalker. He collaborates with the production centre La Piccionaia in Vicenza and with the association MicroMacro ETS. For the association Malerba, he works on the project MuSeMu – Musei Senza Mura, organizing soundwalks through city neighbourhoods. Together with Riccardo Reina and in collaboration with the historical archive Centro Studi Movimenti, he created the format *Scorribanda Antifascista*, which blends itinerant performances with protest marches. Since 2024, he has collaborated with the theatre company *Hombre Collettivo* on the play *Alle armi*. With AZ Theatre, he took part in the project *Gaza ora – messages from a dear friend* for the performance at Teatri di Vita. In 2024, together with Ale Festa and with the complicity of Giacomo AG/Mistura Queer, he launched the artistic project *Temporary Blooming Zone* — a space of temporary autonomous creation rooted in a transfeminist and queer perspective. He is currently attending the advanced training course for multiskilled technicians run by Santarcangelo Festival and Cronopios.







# Federica Lorenzoni

I was born in 2001 in Carrara. I am currently completing my degree in Foreign Languages and Literatures at the University of Milan, with a specialization in English and Russian. I have a strong passion for theatre, which I have pursued both academically and practically. Throughout my studies, I focused in particular on 20th-century English and European playwriting, participated in university theatre workshops, and completed an internship at Teatro Elfo Puccini, where I engaged with the contemporary theatre scene. I speak English fluently (C2 level) and continue to improve my Russian. I am especially interested in the intersection between language, literature, and performance, and in how theatre can serve as a vehicle for cultural and linguistic expression.



# Group

## To be Young, Gifted and Black



### Gaja Aurora Ebere Ikeagwuana

I was born in Milan in 2000 to an Italian mother and a Nigerian father. I am a queer and neurodivergent performer. I have been studying acting since 2006, from amateur schools to professional and self-managed paths from 2017 to the present. My artistic path has developed between theatre, performance, contemporary arts studies, and community work. I have attended acting workshops such as Piccola Università Teatrale, vocal training with Netflix scholarships for voiceover work, and artistic projects with a strong social impact, such as the Milan Mediterranean participatory arts center and festivals like Short Theatre and Twiza. My approach is deeply influenced by intersectionality: I relate body, identity, gender, and class with hybrid artistic languages. As a neurodivergent, racialized, and queer woman, I feel I belong to systematically underrepresented and discriminated groups in Italy. I have always moved in spaces that were not designed for bodies and minds like mine. In fact, access to artistic education has often been hindered by structural barriers. These barriers are not just physical: they are often economic, systemic, and narrative. However, these barriers are also the engine of my artistic work: I do not seek to adapt to imposed narratives, but to dismantle them from within, bringing to the stage the complexity of existing on the margins. I believe in the power of collective creation as a form of care, resistance, and possibility. Being part of the UAD project means for me to move in a space that values complexity and heterogeneity. A context where art doesn't ask to adapt but transforms to include.



## Mat Diouf

I am a Senegalese DJ and producer, 27 years old, and I have lived in Italy for 12 years. My music blends deep bass, electro, dub, and Afro-futuristic influences, creating an immersive sonic experience that connects tradition and innovation. For me, sound is a tool to imagine new worlds: through my selections and productions, I try to evoke possible futures, where African roots coexist with present-day technologies and desires. As a black migrant, I have encountered many difficulties accessing artistic and professional spaces. Language barriers, systemic racism, and the lack of real representation in cultural institutions have often excluded or made me invisible. However, these experiences have shaped my sound: an electronic language that also speaks of identity and diaspora. With every track I play, I try to create a bridge between memories and dreams, a place where even those on the margins can recognize themselves, dance, and feel part of it. Participating in the UAD project means for me entering an international dialogue that does not demand assimilation but offers differences the opportunity to shine.

## Laura Amponsah

Born in Ghana in 1996 and residing in Italy for twenty years. I define myself as Italian, even though not by law nor citizenship. I study Communication Sciences and have been active as a slam poetry performer since 2019. My poetic research is rooted in the body and develops at the intersection between language and identity: I am interested in words as a tool for resistance, and the stage as a place to claim visibility. My entry into the artistic world happened independently, on the margins. My voice found space in the queer and underground contexts of spoken word and poetry slam, from the Bergamasco province to the Italian peninsula, where stories like mine are not only accepted but celebrated. I belong to multiple underrepresented categories: I am a young, black, trans woman and precarious. I have lived experiences of exclusion both bureaucratic and cultural, which are reflected in the impossibility of fully accessing official artistic paths. However, these barriers have nourished my creative practice: I write and perform to overturn the sense of absence, to build a language that belongs to me and speaks of me and our communities, in my own words. Participating in UAD represents for me a precious opportunity to expand my work within a context that recognizes the politics of the body, language, and inclusion as central elements of artistic creation.





# Val Wandja

I was born in Rome in 1998 to an Italian mother and a Cameroonian father. At the age of eight, I convinced my mother to let me skip the last hour of school on Fridays so I could attend a theatre workshop, and for years I took part in theatre labs—first in Italy and then in Australia. In 2020, I graduated from Centro Studi Acting in Rome. During the first lockdown, I took a play-writing course that led me to write, direct, and perform my first theatre piece, *Prossima Puntata*, winner of the “Dominio Pubblico Under 25” call, which premiered at Spazio Rossellini. That same year, together with Yonas Aregay, I created *Anatomia di un fiore*, a study that won the “Powered by REF” grant and was presented at RomaEuropa Festival and *Direction Under 30* in 2022. In 2023, I was invited as a poet by Fondazione Sozzani x MQBM-BQ and by Palazzo Delle Esposizioni x Spazio Griot. That same year, I took part in *Solinas Experimenta* with Rebecca Ricci, Jonas Davì, and Michael Campisano with Nathan K., a winning project produced by RaiPlay; at the same time, I was a finalist in *Solinas Netflix – Bottega della Sceneggiatura*. Together with Raffaele Iaccarino and Giacomo Zibardi, I participated in *Milano Pitch 2023*, winning in the Cinema section with *Il mio primo school shooting*, currently in production. In 2024, I am part of the cast of *African American Drama* on The Italian Stage at Teatro Torlonia; of *Le Bakkanti* by Didi Diaz, winner of the Leo De Berardinis grant; and of *30 Milligrammi di Ulipristal*, produced by Teatro Stabile di Bolzano. I decided to take part in UAD because I am interested in projects that support the development and research phase, offering artists space and time free from production rhythms and national boundaries. A space that encourages the conversations necessary for experimentation and critical questioning—especially for a project that requires time for linguistic exploration; a time that, in my view, is essential to translate, transform, and resemanticize the words of a fundamental author like Audre Lorde.

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## Kulturanova artists



### Aleksandar Ćirić

I am an award winning art photographer, journalist and awarded documentary movie creator. My latest project about famous artist – sculptor, Zoran Mojsilov, who lives in the USA, was selected on 20 international documentary movie festivals all over the World, won 9 awards so far. World premiere was held in the USA, Minnesota, Saint Paul, Main Cinema, European premiere on Martovski festival, Belgrade. Fluent in English, Russian, Bulgarian, basic German. An Economist by education. President of Photo club Focus Pirot, lead a numerous Schools of photography for youngsters, art photo exhibitions etc.

### Andela Zec

I hold a Master's degree in German and English language, literature, and culture. Currently, I work as a freelance journalist, editor, and entrepreneur in the non-governmental sector. Six years ago, I received an award as a journalist committed to the social inclusion of persons with disabilities in all areas of society, including the arts. The award was presented at the 24th International Festival of Reportage and Media – Interfer in Belgrade. Last year, through Kulturanova, I participated as a candidate for a Visegrad Fund grant at an academy focused on activism, organized by the NGO Pro Progressione from Budapest. I am applying for this project specifically because I have two ideas in the field of performing arts that I would like to develop in terms of production within the framework of this initiative. The first idea involves using storytelling as a methodology of activism, presented in the form of a stage performance focused on ecology. The second idea is to create a theatre production based on a play by British Nobel laureate Harold Pinter. As someone with a background in literature and theatre, I've noticed that Pinter's work is unfortunately underrepresented in Serbian theatre. This is especially disappointing given that he was a public supporter of the Serbian people and openly opposed the UK's involvement in the NATO bombing of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.





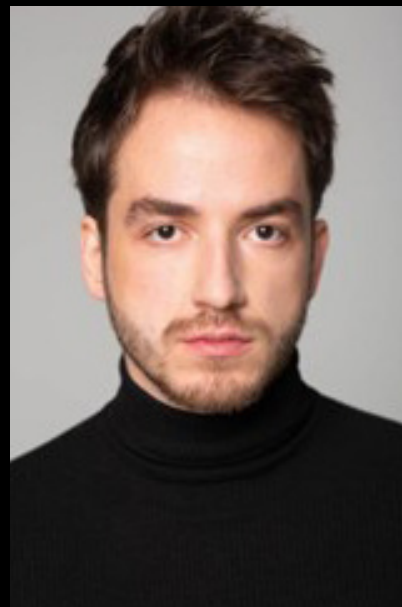


## Jovan Pantovic

Jovan is a Serbian filmmaker born in 1985. He has been a very passionate animal lover as a child, and together with his brother Uros, he was learning about ornithology. Then he entered the world of music and had his own band, but finally decided to study film production. It was all so very confusing to him until 2005 when he was introduced to a documentary where he worked as a PA on a Channel 4 British production of GUCA documentary: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1123383/>. After that, he was a permanent member of the most influential documentary workshop in Serbia within Magnificent 7 film festival (<https://magnificent7festival.org/en/index.php>), led by Svetlana and Zoran Popovic. It is here where he decided he would work with documentaries forever. And he still does.

## Tanisije Ćakić

Tanasije Ćakić is a graduate actor with experience in theatre directing, drama pedagogy, and casting education, having also worked as a casting director. Through his artistic work, he also creates original projects inspired by personal experiences and perspectives, focusing on themes such as men's mental health, the demonization of queer relationships, life in micro-communities, and the nightlife culture in Belgrade. These topics are explored through various forms — from writing a TV series script, developing a one-man show “After”, to directing theatre productions such as “Crime on goat island” (exploring the demonization of queer love), “Monstrum” (addressing victim-blaming in cases of sexual abuse, inspired by Lady Gaga's The Fame Monster album), and “Marriage Play” (a critique of toxic marital dynamics presented through a fictional TV show format). He is particularly interested in formal experimentation and shaping the artistic form to best communicate the theme in a coherent and impactful way. Through his work, Ćakić aims to challenge and dismantle latent or explicit homophobia within the Serbian performing arts scene, advocating for equal access to creative expression for LGBT+ individuals — even when their work is not directly related to sexual identity. He has also acted in both domestic and international film and TV productions, including “The Ark” and “The Librarians: The Next Chapter”.







## Milica Dukic

Milica Dukic (b. 1989, Serbia) holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees in painting, as well as a Master's degree in drawing, from the Academy of Fine Arts in Novi Sad. With a wide artistic practice encompassing embroidery, photography, and textile art, she has showcased her work in 16 solo exhibitions and over 100 collective projects. Passionate about promoting inclusivity through art, she has volunteered at 'Milan Petrović' School in Novi Sad and 'AKIM' in Jerusalem, conceptualizing and leading collaborative projects such as 'Textile Newspapers'. As an active member of MMC 'LedArt', Milica has been deeply involved in the local art scene for many years. In 2018, Milica achieved the status of an independent visual artist. Drawing from her experience as an artist-in-residence at Ecole d'Humanité (2017/2018) in Switzerland and at the Art Cube Artists' Studios in Jerusalem (2023), she brings a rich and varied perspective to her artistic practice. Milica's work pushes boundaries in contemporary embroidery, often aiming to represent both sides of the image (object), reflecting her commitment to exploring complex social themes. In 2024, she was chosen as a finalist for the Mangelos Award, a prestigious award for Serbian conceptual young artists. She took also part in the 60th October Salon in Belgrade, where she received a Special Prize for her series of works, 'Textile Newspapers', as an example of socially engaged art practice.

## Dejana Mihajlović

Born in Vrbas, Serbia on the 5th of July 2003. Finished elementary school with honors as the best in the generation. Finished four years of High-school for Electrical engineering "Mihajlo Pupin" in Novi Sad, Serbia, specializing in informational technologies with honors. Enrolled at the Faculty of Philosophy, Novi Sad in 2023 and currently studying at the Department of Philosophy. Volunteered at the Red Cross of Serbia over the span of 10 years, active in many NGOs in Novi Sad focused on education of the youth and human rights.





## Marijana Jakobac

I am a journalism graduate and a journalist with a moderate interest in culture. In 2012, I graduated from the Secondary Ballet School in Novi Sad, specializing in contemporary dance. I have been an amateur actor for seven years. I write poetry, dance the traditional flamenco of Spanish gypsies from Andalusia, and engage in performance art.

## Tanja Đurić

In over the last ten years I've been working as an actress in performing arts and professor of philosophy in a high school. First, I've graduated philosophy and as a person born with a disability, all that got me interested in a physical theater where I could explore the possibilities of my own body, movement and relationships towards other and different bodies as such and as a form of communication. I became a member of the former theater organization „Chamber Music Theatre Mirror - Novi Sad”, where I participated in anthropological theater workshops and participated in several performances and alternative plays. After that, on the master program of Applied theater at the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad, I gained experience in interactive theater methods (forum theatre, teacher in roll, drama in education, etc), site-specific, also in contemporary dance and voice technique where we worked with a strong relation to the body and movement. I've participated in and directed plays and performances that require different techniques and the main research topics and issues I work on are concerning people with disabilities, women, teenagers, students, seniors and other marginalized groups.





## Novak Josić

In the last 5 years I have worked (freelance) as a performer, self-taught painter and gallerist of the Association of dystrophists of the South-Bač district. Together with my wife I've worked on performances, video-performances that deal with physical appearance as something that is transcended by another kind of compatibility between two people. After that, we continued to explore movement and relationship of the body in space.

## Teodora Junozović

I hold a Bachelor's degree in Scene Architecture, Technique, and Design, with a focus on the design and realization of stage sets for theatre productions, as well as spatial design for festivals and exhibitions. My practice encompasses the artistic, technical, and organizational aspects of creating stage and exhibition spaces. I am particularly interested in event production and management, both in physical and digital environments. This professional engagement involves detailed planning, team coordination, and the technical execution of conceptual ideas—from the initial sketch to final realization. During my studies, I participated in group student exhibitions, took on the role of catalogue coordinator, and have continued working as a designer and scenographer. Over the past three years, I have created scenography and costume designs for two exam and three graduate performances at the Academy of Arts in Novi Sad. In my work, I aim to merge stage art, design, and production, while exploring contemporary cultural and media phenomena. I find my greatest inspiration in theatre and collaborative creative processes.





## Srdan Kner

I am an professional actor from Novi Sad, graduated on Academy of Art in Novi Sad, I am working in two drama schools with 3 groups, kids from 7 to 10 and two groups with students and older people. I have several plays in several theatres and I directed web series named "Sex, drugs, violence and fear". 13 episodes (20 mins per episode). That's web series for young adults.

## Konstantinos Petrović

Konstantinos Petrović was born in Valjevo (Serbia) in 1995. He is currently in his masters studies at the Academy of Art in Novi Sad, in the painting department. He finished his bachelors studies at the Faculty of Art and Philology majoring in the wall painting department. Until now, he has realized twenty one solo exhibitions, of which he singled out his master exhibition "Come on, God Be my friend" in the gallery of the Association of Fine Artists of Vojvodina, as well as a series of solo exhibitions named #FFFFFF, from which he singled out #FFFFFF rev realized in Belgrade Youth Center. He took part in several group exhibitions. He is active in the implementation of numerous art projects( Code in Art 2021, Gallery of Union of Association of Fine Artists of Vojvodina; On the same task, Shock Cooperative...) As well he is taking part in numerous art workshops. He has been part of Shock Cooperative since 2020. and he is one of the founders of the citizen association of "Graficka mreža". He lives and studies in Novi Sad. In the last few years, they have also been involved in the production of inclusive artworks. The first project was Sound of Color - interactive tactile graphics that have a colored segment that emits a specific sound upon touch. Then, Lego print workshops where students from a special education school created tactile matrices using Lego bricks, which they used to print their graphics. In the last 2 years, he has been developing the Tactile Hero installation, through which blind and visually impaired people can create their own melody using tactile colored patterns and sensors that emit sound based on the color.



The Universal Art Design project has received funding from the European Union under the Creative Europe project. The views and opinions expressed are solely those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Executive Agency for Education and Culture (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor the EACEA is responsible for them.



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