

Intergenerational Community Theatre –Logbook

Intergenerational Community Theatre -*Age Against The Machine*

European Network of Cities CERV, Funding ID: 101138625 (2024-26)

SESSION 14 – Structure of the scenes

Place: Sede do Sport Lisboa e Évora, Évora, PT **Date:** 17/07/2024 **Hour:** (9:30-11:30)

Members of the team present: 1 coordinator (Isabel Bezelga), 2 team members (Ana Maria Malta and Daniela Salazar).

Participants: 8 older residents

Structure of participants: all women

Total number of participants: 11 persons

Total number of team members: 3 persons



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Summary of activities developed:

The session began with the participants sharing old photos of important moments in their lives: family photos, weddings, children, portraits, etc. These memories will also be relevant to feed some dramaturgical elements.

We then moved on to discussing and deciding on some costumes to be used in some scenes of the performance, namely the gowns, scarves, dresses and swimsuits. We shared scenic work on some tableaux.

Storyline construction:

Feet scene: It starts, with them positioning behind the screen tapestry, and only their feet are visible at the bottom. They play with their feet, later their shoes appear in which people have their hands stuck and are trying to put them on: children's shoes, high heels, sneakers. After everyone puts on their sneakers, they exit through the sides of the screen tapestry;



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Scarf scene: “Don't tell me you didn't have a scarf to put on your head?”. This sentence is heard in voice off. They stop and, at the same time, take their scarfs out of their coat pockets and place them on their heads. They assume a frozen and apathetic posture. They seem to age. After a signal (still to be decided), they rebel, remove their scarves and gowns and show their colourful dresses. The gowns and scarves are scattered on the floor and serve as paths for the next dance. The song “Roda das Saias” is heard and later a “twist” song. They start to dance. The male figure appears. With this figure they will also dance or reject, having fun with each other. They invite the public to dance with them.



After this dance scene, there will be a scene of vulnerability. A scene about fear.

Couple scene: A couple leaves the party. They exchange caresses that progressively become aggressive. The remaining women are at the window watching the scene. They grab large wooden spoons while we hear the voice off: “Between husband and wife, don’t interfere” [“Entre marido e mulher não metas a colher”]. A moment of impasse is created between their decision to have an intervention in the situation or not. They end up intervening, protecting and caring for the attacked woman.

Scene of benedictions: a text will be written about violence and the importance of the collective as a structure for caring for others. Sisterhood interaction. A young woman comes in with pain, possibly a painful pregnancy or menstruation. The role of blood in a



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woman's body and life. Little red or white cloth flags with red spots come out of the woman's belly. The idea of “trousseau” [enxoval]. Tea can be served and can be shared with the public. This scene of the mothers was not tested, it was just shared and talked about with the participants.



Finally, they will collect their travel bags. They want to rest and be looked after. The hair with different colours symbolizes different ages. Braid your hair. The preparation for the trip. The return home, with a ritual and a special connection to the people with whom you are traveling.

An initial scene linked to the work in the fields was also explained, a choreography of the harvesting movements, the songs, the work clothes, possibly before the scarf scene.

Team impressions, comments and observations:

Final discussion about the structure of the scenes with the participants and gathering some ideas for the title of the performance. Some ideas for the title were:

- Old Women? Who said that?
- What's to come
- Forbidden to age
- It's never too late!
- Evening, dancing!
- Trails
- Here we are to take care of you!
- Bodies that care



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