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## Theatre Therapy Seminar 2011

For the 6<sup>th</sup> time euro-TC organized an International Theatre Therapy Seminar, this time in Reichenau an der Rax, Austria, within the facilities of its member Knappenhof. The seminar took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> at 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2011. The beautiful facilities of Knappenhof, surrounded by mountains and nature provided the perfect background to a successful Therapy Seminar.

Groups from 5 euro-TC members from 3 different countries took part:

CEIS Mestre – Italy

Villa Renata – Italy

Leo Amici – Hungary

Megallo - Hungary

Knappenhof – Austria

During a first get-together on the evening of the 8<sup>th</sup> of December the participants were welcomed and briefed ,workshop leaders presented themselves. On the 9<sup>th</sup> of December in the very morning, the groups were formed and the work was started right away.



For this year we chose the title “A dark desire”, the idea arising from the German title of the

new released David Cronenberg film about Freud and Jung, providing the connection to local history as Freud was very active in the region and “invented” psychoanalysis between Rax mountain refuge and Knappenhof.

Jacques Lacan's *désir* follows Freud's concept of *Wunsch* and it is central to Lacanian theories. For the aim of the talking cure—psychoanalysis—is precisely to lead the analysand to uncover the truth about their desire, but this is only possible if that desire is articulated, or spoken. Lacan said that "it is only once it is formulated, named in the presence of the other, that desire appears in the full sense of the term."



Given the topic of “dark desire” as a guideline, all trainers developed very creative structures integrating the topic combining theatre work and self -experience in a therapeutic way..

The second day started as the day before with the groups splitting up , working and coming to final rehearsals for their performances. At the end of the second workshop day all groups took part in the final performance at the big seminar room of Knappenhof, which was open to the public as well.

The first part consisted of the presentation of the four workshops, developed with the participants of the five institutions.

- Workshop/Music performance by Oliver Pernhaupt
- Theatre performance by Giuliano Morasco
- Theatre performance by Vincenzo Miodragovits
- Theatre performance by Katalin Kopeczny and Sandro Ács

Some of the treatment facilities work with theatre therapy on a regular basis , and thus had already prepared short plays which formed



the second part of the show. three more short plays were presented:

- Sceneggiata by Villa Renata
- Maldoror by Megallo
- Animal Farm by Leo Amici

In order to spice up the event even more, Euro-TC member Megallo from Budapest had offered to invite their music therapy group “Zörgö” to the event . A short live concert continued the theatre work. The lively songs were strongly animating the audience to dance and join in .

The theatre therapy seminar was in its entirety very successful. The patients who were not familiar with theatre therapy as a form of treatment discovered it as very useful tool and benefited from the group dynamics during the workshop which they identified as very valuable for their therapeutic process. They took profit from lively interaction with colleagues from other countries overcoming barriers of language .

The audience was highly entertained and touched by the amazing skills of the amateur actors.

An evaluation tool was handed out to all participants finalising the event.

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