

MAPPING CIRCUS AND STREET ART IN SOUTHEAST EUROPE



INTRODUCTION



For the circus in the Balkans, it can be said to be a spontaneous growth plant that builds its way through a series of obstacles, side-tracks, and aggravating circumstances. Over the past years of persistent work and action, the plant called the circus has succeeded in roots taking and growing in a tree that is expanding its branches.

Through the years, with the development of Cirkobalkana festival, contemporary circus festival that is focused on representing regional circus scene from Balkans, artists, groups and circus organizations started to collaborate more and more. It was obvious that if we are working together, it helps us to develop new ideas and shows, to bring foreign educators in the region, international high-quality shows and also to position contemporary circus and street art in national cultural policies.

In 2018 we started the first regional platform, CPuP - Circus on the move and we got the grant from Foundation Kultura nova which gave us the wind in our sails. Through various activities (co-production of performances, residency programs, education and quest performances), program cooperation is developed as well as a greater flow of cultural work in the region. The educational program strengthens the capacity of member organizations; enable professional training of artists and artist's mobility in the field of regional contemporary art. One of the activities was mapping circus organization in the region to collect more information about organizations, spaces and performers (individuals/companies) that are working in the circus or street performing art in the Balkan Region. With this mapping, we wanted to provide the framework and create conditions for further cooperation and development, as well as the implementation of collaborative projects and empower the actors that contribute to the development of cultural policies in the region. So, this is not a real professional research that we would like to be done in the future. It's just the first step to know better the situation is in the region.

Mapping covered the countries of Southeast Europe that we call here the Balkans. These are Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Kosovo, Macedonia, Monte Negro, Romania, Serbia, and Slovenia. The questionnaire was filled by 33 respondents. Respondents argued that they are non-profit organizations, private business entities, informal groups, individual performers and independent itinerant groups. From the answer on the year of establishment we can see that the scene had a big growth after 2010. The artistic forms that are represented are: contemporary circus, street performing art, contemporary dance, social and youth circus, puppetry and most of the respondents combine different art forms.

ASSOCIATIONS AND ARTISTS

BOSNIA AND HERCEGOVINA

Banja Luka - Cirkus Banjaluka

CROATIA

Križevci - K.V.A.R.K. Association

Pula - Čarobnjakov Šešir,
Kreativni Cirkus

Rijeka - Prostor +

Samobor - Cirkuska Udruga
Cirkultura

Split - Kulturna Alternativa
Mladih - HRAM, ROOM 100

Vukomerić - Matko Šišak

Zadar - Anamarija Jurišić

Zagreb - Cirkorama,
Cirk Pozor - fictional solo
circus, Sara Šimić,
Traumatic Arts, Tricycle Trauma

GREECE

Athens - Cirko Cachivache

Thessaloniki - Dromocosmicas

MACEDONIA

Skopje - Fuzzbubble

ROMANIA

Cluj - Napoca - Circus Fairies

Sibiu - Alandala Circus Project

SERBIA

Beograd - Cirkusfera,
Inex Circus Teater

Novi Sad - Kreativni Pogon,
Nemanja Jovanović,
NS Acrobalance

SLOVENIA

Koper - Aerial Circus

Lesce - Čupakabra

Ljubljana - Društvo CIK / Cirkus
la Bulle, Društvo Gledališče Ane
Monro, EX-Teater,
Mismo Nismo, Slovensko
Združenje za Cirkuško
Pedagogiko Cirkokrog

FESTIVALS

CROATIA

Križevci - KUFER FESTIVAL
/ street art /

Novigrad/Labin - FESTIVAL
ULIČNIH ČAROBNJAKA / street art /

Rijeka - PERISKOP / in door -
contemporary dance and circus /

Samobor - CUFUS FESTIVAL
/ street art /, CHC - CROATIAN
HULA HOOP CONVENTION
/convention/

Zagreb - CIRKOBALKANA FESTIVAL
/contemporary circus in circus tent/

SERBIA

Beograd/Novi Sad -
CIRKOBALKANA FESTIVAL
/contemporary circus in circus tent/

SLOVENIA

Ljubljana - FESTIVAL ANA
DESETNICA /street art/,
CIRKUŠKA STIČIŠČA /symposium
on circus pedagogy/,
CIRKOBALKANA FESTIVAL
/contemporary circus in circus tent/



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

CIRKUS BANJALUKA

Non formal organization
Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina

www.cirkusbanjaluka.wordpress.com

f: /

e: cirkus.banjaluka@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2011

Artistic form: contemporary circus

Fields of work: festival, training space

We organize an international acrobatics convention in summer for 6 years, and some workshops of various disciplines from time to time.

Projects: Acrobatics convention in Krupa na Vrbasu (2011-2016 and 2018)
Workshops (trapeze, silk, juggling, acrobatics..) in different cities in Bosnia

Education: Workshops (trapeze, silk, juggling, acrobatics..) in different cities in Bosnia



CROATIA

ANAMARIJA JURIŠIĆ

artists, private business entity
Zadar, Croatia

w: /

f: <https://www.facebook.com/anamarija.juriscic.10>

e: anamarija.juriscic11@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2017

Artistic form: contemporary circus, street performing art, event entertainment, Actress and puppeteer

Fields of work: festival, training space, education, residency space

I'm an Actress, puppeteer and a clown. I work on street, theatre and on television. Very open minded.

Projects: Several puppet and theatre shows and many other workshops.

The shows: Puppet show "Moonlight", "Fragile", "Be my friend" and theatre shows "Before Death", "2:14", "Life isn't Cheap"

Education: workshops for children and youth / professional education for circus artists



CIRKORAMA

non profit organization (NGO)
Zagreb, Croatia

www.cirkorama.org

f: www.facebook.com/cirkorama/

e: cirkorama@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2008

Artistic form: contemporary circus, street performing art

Fields of work: festival, training space, education, company/collective, residency space

CIRKOBALKANA

Non-profit cultural organization with main goal to research, create, promote and develop performing arts-especially contemporary circus arts field in Balkans through activities such as: workshops, production, performances, trainings, residencies of regional and foreign circus artists, development of circus pedagogy, festival, organization of round tables, advocacy. Main projects of Cirkorama: Cirkobalkana, Program of Cirkorama, Laboratory of Circus Arts, CircusNext Platform as a partner in the platform.

Projects: Cirkobalkana Festival, Program of Cirkorama, Laboratory of Circus Arts, partner in CircusNext Platform, CPuP - Circus platform on the move

The shows: Reciklaun-street show, The Tortures, IdoYoudo, The Muljatovići, Petroleja Štulić-Pushing Boundaries (work in progress)

Coproduction: (UN)connected- by Malinada Kolektiv (work in progress), Cirkobalkana Chaos Cabaret (Kreativni Cirkus, Cirkusfera, Cirkorama)

Education: workshops for children and youth / professional education for circus artists



CIRKUSKA UDRUGA CIRKULTURA

non profit organization (NGO)
Samobor, Croatia

www.razbibriga.hr

f: <https://www.facebook.com/Cirkultura/>

e: cirkultura@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2008

Artistic form: contemporary circus, street performing art, event entertainment

Fields of work: festival, training space, education, company/collective

Cirkultura is a voluntary, non-party organization gathering people who want to participate in organization / promotion circus arts. The goal of the association is to study, practice and promote circus skills/ arts through performing, organizing events and education.

Projects: Cu'fus – Circus street art festival in Samobor / www.cufus.net,

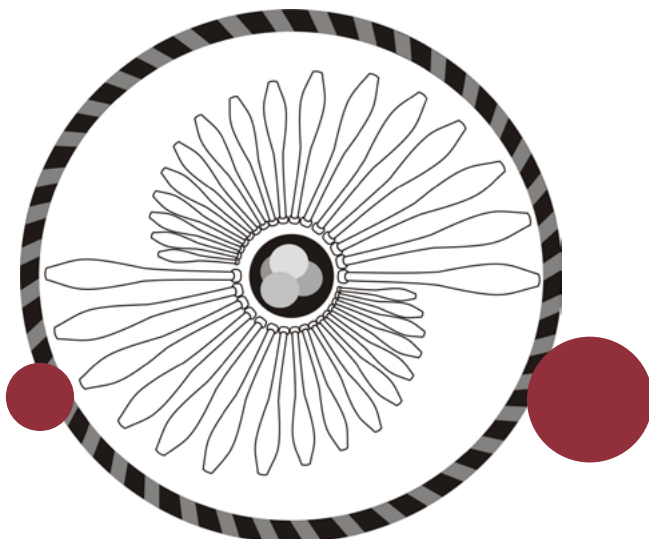
CHC – Croatian hula hoop convention

/ <https://croatianhoopconvention.weebly.com/>, Cirkuliranje – yearly educative program / <https://udrugarazbibriga.weebly.com/cirkuliranje.html>

The shows: "Street show – Kesten i Papaja , Prometheus fire show, Las Cavaleras, Vivo sportivo, Theatre show for kids – Kapetan Šeflja I Petra Panj, Contemporary circus show – "O" (work in progress), "Tubez" (work in progress)"

Education: workshops for children and youth

/ professional education for circus artists



CIRK POZOR - fictional solo circus

informal group
Zagreb, Croatia

w: /

f: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100010720246760>

e: nikolinamaj@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2017

Artistic form: street performing art, art

Fields of work: training space, education, company/collective

It's a fictive solo circus. Active in creating fictive solo shows.

Projects: /

The shows: "Tereti". "Niske pobude i visoke pete"

Education: workshops for children and youth



ČAROBNJAKOV ŠEŠIR / THE WIZARD'S HAT

non profit organization (NGO)

Pula, Croatia

www.fucfestival.com

f: <https://www.facebook.com/Udruga-Čarobnjakov-šešir>

e: c.sesir@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2004

Artistic form: contemporary circus, street performing art, event entertainment

Fields of work: festival, training space

Association Čarobnjakov šešir was established in 2004 with the aim to develop and promote street circus art. In 2005 we started to organize the international street art festival Festival uličnih čarobnjaka and still, we do it. We also run a training space where we provide educational programs and sometimes we organize artist in residence program. We produce street theatre shows and organize a lot of events in our region.

Projects: Festival uličnih čarobnjaka, Cirkobalkana festival in Pula, CPuP - circus platform on the move

The shows: /

Education: workshops for children and youth



KREATIVNI CIRKUS

private business entity
Pula, Croatia

www.kreativnicirkus.org

f: /

e: kreativni.cirkus@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2016

Artistic form: street performing art, event entertainment

Fields of work: performing arts agency

Kreativni cirkus is a performing art agency that promote and manage street circus shows and artists.

Projects: Circus in the City -Poreč Open Air / Rabac Open Air, Večeri uličnih čarobnjaka u Novigradu

The shows: Cirkobalkana Kaos cabare (coproduction)

Education: /



Kulturna Alternativa Mladih - HRAM

non profit organization (NGO)

Split, Croatia

www.kamhram.com

f: <https://web.facebook.com/pg/Kam-Hram>

e: kamhram@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2003

Artistic form: contemporary circus, street performing art, event entertainment

Fields of work: festival, training space, education, company/collectiv

Youth Cultural Alternative - HRAM is a citizen's association founded on the needs of the local and wider regional community to meet the needs and interests of young people who have affinity towards circus, music, stage, dance, literary and acting art, youth education and their artistic creativity, and identity development .We are located at the Small Scene of the Youth House in Split, in the area equipped with dance floor, tatami, stringers, trampoline, equipment for aerial skills, juggling equipment, and studio for music and video production. In addition to regular trainings, we perform, do cabarets, workshops, projects, and do festivals.

Projects: Together with other memebbers from the association, we've provided the production of Cabaret shows (children & adults), residences of 'LEFTOVER' company & Saana Leppänen, aerial, juggling & clown workshops with professional circus artists and colleagues from our country.

The shows: „Broken toys“ , Circus show "Montaža Trupe" and work in progress contemporary circus act "Body, Sound & Light"

Education: workshops for children and youth



K.V.A.R.K. Association

non profit organization (NGO)
Križevci, Croatia

www.udruga-kvark.hr

f: <https://www.facebook.com/kuferkz/>

e: sajo@klubkulture.org

Year of establishment: 2000

Artistic form: street performing art

Fields of work: festival, training space, education, company/collective

KUFER is the name for a juggling collective of twenty children and adolescents from the area of Križevci (Croatia) and its surroundings that regularly train in the Club of Culture and other areas under the leadership of Saša Lončarić and Dijana Čeh, the representatives of K.V.A.R.K. Association. Except juggling workshops, KUFER also marks two festivals - the three-day festival ""KUFER"" with a variety of performing arts, art/visual, educational and entertaining program that brings together about 4000 children and young people from the area of Križevci and its surroundings, and a one-day festival ""Ludorija"" - a two-hour fun festival for the children of the city Križevci and its surrounding area with the aim of providing a diverse content designed and built by children. Within two years of work we have formed an artistic performing group consisted of 20 members, which is presented as KUFER Theatre with its own performances.

Projects: KUFER Festival, Festival "Ludorija", KUFER Theatre, juggling workshops, educational partnerships with domestic and foreign artists

The shows: We have one authentic performance consisted of 4 parts: 2 individual hula hoop performances, 1 joint hula hoop performance and a clown show. The performers are children (7-13 years).

Education: workshops for children and youth / professional education for circus artists



MATKO ŠIŠAK

artist, private business entity
Vukomerić, Croatia

w: /

f: www.facebook.com/matko.sisak

e: matko.sisak@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 1999

Artistic form: street performing art, event entertainment

Fields of work: festival, company/collectiv, artistic agency

Matko is a circus performer with many years of experience in street art, juggling, clown performances, animation, medieval and roman expression.

Projects: /

The shows: *Street shows:* Traveling circus Count of Motika and faithful servant Ludek, Fakhir Kundalini and CirkoMAT show by Matkovski

Education: workshops for children and youth



PROSTOR PLUS

non profit organization (NGO)
Rijeka, Croatia

www.prostorplus.hr

f: www.facebook.com/prostor.plus.7/

e: prostorplus@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2002

Artistic form: contemporary circus, contemporary dance

Fields of work: festival, training space, education, residency space, EU projects

Prostor Plus association was established to meet and educate individuals in performance practices. Activities in the area of non-formal education, self-education, independent culture and production.

Projects: festival Periskop, regular aerial silk trainings

The shows: We produce Variete program that brings together artists and groups from the environment into a unique program that serves as a platform for their work. We have production at the end of the year with our participants of regular trainings of aerial silk.

Education: workshops for children and youth



ROOM 100

non profit organization (NGO)
Split, Croatia

www.room100.org

f: <https://www.facebook.com/ROOM100SOBA100/>

e: antonia.kuzmanic@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2008

Artistic form: contemporary circus

Fields of work: training space, education, company/collective, residency space, yearly programming of contemporary circus performances



ROOM 100 has been established by Antonia Kuzmanić and Jakov Labrović in 2010. Their first performance ""C8H11NO2"" earned them a title of ""Jeunes Talents Cirque Europe 2009-2010"" laureate and critics of being an ""exceptional example of an intelligent, accurate, deliberate and intensive work"". Since then, they performed in USA, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Denmark, Finland, Spain, Switzerland, Italy, Lithuania and Croatia and produced ""split"", ""Seed"" and ""BLINK"" performances.

Beside performing and producing contemporary circus performances, ROOM 100 is undergoing different projects of strengthening contemporary circus scene in Croatia and introducing contemporary circus arts, its history and importance to wider audience. Main activity is running HALA 100 - residency place for contemporary circus arts (first of its kind in Croatia and ex Yugoslavia) - and hosting international circus artists for creation, performances and workshops.

Projects: HALA 100 - residency center for contemporary circus arts (residencies, howcasing full performances and work-in--progress presentations, masterclasses)

Kontorcionizam 100 - contortion education for circus students
CircusNext PLaTfORM

The shows: Krug / Circle - contortion performance, Barehanded Sculptor - site-specific performance, BLINK - contemporary circus performance

Education: workshops for children and youth / professional education for circus artists

ROOM100

SARA ŠIMIĆ

performer
Zagreb, Croatia

www.sarasimic.com

i: https://www.instagram.com/aerial_sara/

e: sara.aerialdance@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2018

Artistic form: contemporary circus, event entertainment

Fields of work: festival, company/collective, artistic agency

I'm individual performer who works on different projects.

Projects: /

The shows: /

Education: workshops for children and youth



TRAUMATIC ARTS

non profit organization (NGO)
Zagreb, Croatia

www.traumaticarts.hr

f: <https://www.facebook.com/TraumaticArts/>

e: martina.svila@yahoo.com

Year of establishment: 2012

Artistic form: event entertainment

Fields of work: training space, education, artistic agency

Our organization is mostly into aerial circus (we organize aerial workshops) and we also perform on all sorts of events and festivals (fire, acrobatic and aerial shows).

Projects: Project "Poletimo zajedno" (aerial workshops)

The shows: Flying heel cabaret show, Šuma s 3 bora show

Education: workshops for children and youth / professional education for circus artists



TRICYCLE TRAUMA

non profit organization (NGO)
Zagreb, Croatia

w: /

f: www.facebook.com/tricycletrauma

e: tricycletrauma@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2017

Artistic form: contemporary circus, street performing art

Fields of work: education, company/collective

A contemporary circus collective with a focus on the dark and uncomfortable aesthetics and themes, always aiming to include a social commentary and some of the anarchistic principles in its works.

Projects: Night of the Dark Circus, Circus in the Park, Collectées of Darkness, The Little Nightmare

The shows: Collectées of Darkness, The Little Nightmare

Education: workshops for children and youth / professional education for circus artists



GREECE

CIRKO CACHIVACHE

non profit organization (NGO)
Athens, Greece

www.cirkocachivache.gr

f: Cirko Cachivache

e: cachivache.cirko@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2010

Artistic form: contemporary circus, street performing art, event entertainment,
Fields of work: festival, training space, education, company/collective, residency space

We are company of circus theater in Athens, Greece and we are working self-sufficient for more than 8 years.

Projects: We have a training space where we bring a professional approach to circus disciplines and we play in the biggest theater of Athens for a full winter season.

The shows: 3D, oniro tis Molly & Joker

Education: workshops for children and youth / professional education for circus artists



DROMOCOSMICAS

independent itinerant group
Thessaloniki, Greece

www.dromocosmicas.com

f: www.facebook.com/Dromocósmicas-535501716479063/

e: dromocosmicas@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2010

Artistic form: street performing art, circus-theater

Fields of work: company/collective

Dromocósmicas is an itinerant group that presents performances and workshops around the world, bringing their work in different kind of situation as festivals, schools, theater, squares, social project in cities and villages.

Projects:

- "Tsirko-Theatro Dromocósmicas", a one month artistic programme (55 performances) among circus, theater, puppets and music, under the circus tent of the group, in the space of the cultural center "Moni Lazariston" in Thessaloniki (GREECE), 2016

- "Geiassou Festival", an independent busker festival in collaboration with "Fix in art" cultural space , Thessaloniki (Greece), 2016

- "Vagor & Bellavita around Paraná" a tour project around the state of Paraná in Brazil with the performance "Vagor & Bellavita" with the support of the Cultural Department of Paraná (Brazil), 2017

- "The caravan in the woods", a meeting to share knowledge and participate in different workshops, under the circus tent of the group. It took place in a wood close to the city of Xanthi (Greece) in the border with Bulgaria, 2018

The shows: "Vagor & Bellavita"

Education: workshops for children and youth



MACEDONIA

FUZZBUBBLE

non profit organization (NGO)
Skopje, Macedonia

www.jaacfuzzbubble.wix.com/fuzzbubble

f: <http://www.facebook.com/fuzzbubble.jaac>

e: dzuljo@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 1999

Artistic form: contemporary circus, street performing art, event entertainment

Fields of work: festival, training space, education, company/collective, artistic agency, residency space

Juggling acrobatic association of citizen.

Projects: Festival of light Zagreb

The shows: /

Education: workshops for children and youth



ROMANIA

ALANDALA CIRCUS PROJECT

non profit organization (NGO)

Sibiu, Romania

www.alandalacircus.ro

f: <https://www.facebook.com/scoaladecirc.alandala/>

e: alandalacircusproject@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2018

Artistic form: contemporary circus, street performing art

Fields of work: festival, education, company/collective

We are two circus teachers (France and Romania) who after studying abroad and working at Ecole de cirque de Bruxelles, Galway Community Circus and Le plus petit cirque du Monde establish circus School in Sibiu. The Alandala Circus Project offers children, young and adult activities. Workshops, shows, animations and more. Recreational activity, pedagogical tool, sport, art ... the circus has everything.

Projects: Circ de 2 lei - An itinerary social circus project that makes circus workshops accessible to children from rural areas, Roma communities and children and adults with disabilities.

The shows: "Prolog" - a 30 min show that explores the theme of books, with circus, dance and puppet elements

Education: workshops for children and youth



alandala

CIRCUS PROJECT

CIRCUS FAIRIES

non profit organization (NGO)
Cluj-Napoca, Romania

w: /

f: www.facebook.com/circusfairies

e: circussfairiess@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2018

Artistic form: contemporary circus

Fields of work: festival, training space, education

We promote contemporary circus through workshops, shows, cultural events and social projects. We want to build the circus community in Cluj-Romania in order to make these activities possible. We also want to organize a circus convention in Cluj.

Projects: Workshops for adults and for kids of different ages for cultural events and places in Cluj.

The shows: /

Education: workshops for children and youth / professional education for circus artists



SERBIA

CIRKUSFERA

Belgrade, Serbia

www.cirkusfera.org

f: <https://www.facebook.com/cirkusfera.org/>

e: cirkusfera@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2008

Artistic form: contemporary circus and street performing art

Fields of work: festival, training space, education, company/collective, training and residency space



CIRKUSFERA

Cirkusfera is an organization for the development of contemporary circus, animation art, contemporary and street theater. It brings together dedicated to young artists who know the art of juggling, object manipulation, acrobatics, equilibrium, clown technique, acting.

We are committed to promoting the development of culture and art, the affirmation of the performing arts (contemporary circus and street theater) and the independent art scene dreams, education of children and youth, environmental initiatives, raising awareness of the physical and mental health and lifelong learning.

Projects: Regional contemporary circus festival Cirkobalkana, Circus Next, Cirkobalkana platform, Laboratory of circus arts, Factory of new circus, Contemporary circus week

The shows: Unpacked, Not the right leg, Demagogue, Hat full of colours

Coproduction: Cirkobalkana Chaos Cabaret (Cirkorama, Cirkusfera, Kreativni cirkus)

Education: workshops for children and youth



INEX CIRCUS TEATER

non profit organization (NGO)
Belgrade, Serbia

w: /

f: www.facebook.com/InexTeatar/

e: inexteatar@gmail.com

i: [inexcirkusteatar](#)

Year of establishment: 2013

Artistic form: contemporary circus, street performing art, event entertainment

Fields of work: education, company/collective, artistic agency

ICT is an organization that is engaged in the improvement and development of a modern circus in Serbia. By studying and applying circus skills, by educating children and young people. The organization consists of artists from the field of circus, visual, dramatic and musical arts.

Gathered around the common need for theater outside the theater buildings and institutions, Inex Theater was built in the building of former Inex film, as a unique, independent space intended for alternative theater expression and a new circus. From June 2013 to October 2015, this space existed as the only space in Belgrade adapted to the needs of performing aerial acrobatics and other skills of the new circus. In the space we created two theatrical performances, and a couple of cabarets, a lot of workshops.

After leaving the space we are more based on performances at festivals, street performances, clubs, less in theaters. We also based on circus workshops for children, supported by the Secretariat for Culture of the City of Belgrade.

Projects: "Today's Contemporary Circus for Children, Circus Game", 2016

"Sunday of Contemporary Circus for Children, Circus Game Room ", 2016

"CIRKUSARIJE" - workshops of the circular circuit for children, 2017

The shows: "Sandman" - theater show, "Psihoza" - theater show, "Velikan" - theater show, Prolečni kabare - cabaret

Education: workshops for children and youth



KREATIVNI POGON

non profit organization (NGO)
Novi Sad, Serbia

www.kreativnipogon.com

f: www.facebook.com/cirkus3000/

e: kreativnipogon3000@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2010

Artistic form: contemporary circus

Fields of work: education, circus school

Promoting contemporary theater and contemporary circus as an artistic, engaged form. Education of future artists, pedagogues, audiences and institutions about the importance of modern circus. Our vision is to establish circus school with educated and professional personnel in a space that meets world standards. Circus as an elective subject in elementary and secondary schools.

Projects: Circus for all; partner in Cirkobalkana festival in Novi Sad, 2018.

The shows: Progres

Education: workshops for children and youth



NEMANJA JOVANOVIĆ

artist

Novi Sad, Serbia

w: /

i: <https://www.instagram.com/princolio/>

e: nemanja.prince@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 1989

Artistic form: contemporary circus, street performing art

Fields of work: company/collective

Nemanja did a 3 year circus formation in Academie Fratellini in Paris, France. During this period he worked with many circus directors and choreographers like Antoine Rigot, Mourad Mearzuki, Jeanne Mordoj, Pateick de Valette and others. He is specialized in floor acrobatics, but is always looking for new ways of developing his movement.

Projects: /

The shows: Fil-Fil - Jeanne Mordoj,

Le Petit Prince - Anne Tournie - Sokol Entertainment

Education: /



NS ACROBALANCE

private business entity
Novi Sad, Serbia

w: /

i: <https://www.instagram.com/nsacrobalance/>

e: nsacrobalance@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2016

Artistic form: street performing art, event entertainment, classes of partner acrobatics

Fields of work: festival, training space, education

Formed in 2016 as a result of mutual work and interest of Jelena and Nenad. As a relatively new and unknown activity in our region our goal is to develop interest in partner acrobatics and workouts spreading appreciation for this healthy and entertaining activity.

We teach regular classes of acrobalance and encourage performances on different occasions.

Projects: We held 25 successful weekend workshops during 2017-2018 and performed at Exit festival 2018, Piano City 2018 and Cirkobalkana Open stage 2018.

The shows: "Flow with the keys" performed at Piano City and Open Stage Cirkobalkana , "Freedom flow performed" at Exit Festival and "Flow into Spring" and various street performances.

Education: workshops for children and youth



SLOVENIA

AERIAL CIRCUS

artist, private business entity
Koper, Slovenia

www.aerialcircus.si / www.danaaugustin.com

f: <https://www.facebook.com/aerialcircus/>; <https://www.facebook.com/augustindanaaerialcircus/>; <https://www.instagram.com/danaaugustinaerial/>
e: aerialcircus@danaaugustin.com

Year of establishment: 2009

Artistic form: contemporary circus, street performing art, event entertainment

Fields of work: training space, education, company/collective

Aerial Circus' main activities are education in the field of movement (on the ground providing basics for acrobatic movement) and in the air (on aerial silks, aerial hammocks and aerial rope); shows and performances. It collaborates with different organizations and groups worldwide with the aim of developing and promoting contemporary circus, as well as contemporary street performances and events.

Projects: 2018 awards of municipality Nova Gorica, SNG Nova Gorica; choreography and interpretation on aerial silks and aerial hammock; Slovenia. 2018 40th anniversary of company Kolpa in KCJT Novo Mesto; choreography and interpretation on aerial silks; Slovenia.

2018 Aerial Circus' workshops on Aerial silks, Aerial rope, Aerial hammock & Floor flexibility, balance and strength programs in circus schools: Helios Escuela de Artes Escénico Circenses, Mexico City; Circo de Mente, Mexico City; Calembur es Danza aerea, Mexico City; Academia Abriendo Caminos, St Isidro, Costa Rica; Danzaire, Escuela de Danza Aérea, St Jose, Costa Rica and Vol'Air Danza Aérea Puerto Viejo, Costa Rica.

2018 and 2017 – Aerial Circus workshops (Aerial Silks, Aerial rope, Aerial Hammocks and FBS program); Aerial Convention Riada; Italy.

The shows: Aerial Circus and Rogor Cirkus's show ""Somiru""

2018 Aerial Circus' show ""Aquarium""

2018 Aerial Circus and music group Histrio (Tinkara Kovač, Stefano Bembi, Tomaž Nedoh) ""Site Specific""

2016 Aerial Circus & Življenje na nitki's ""OrOr""

Education: workshops for children and youth / professional education for circus artists



ČUPAKABRA

žonglerska in ognjena skupina
Lesce, Slovenia

www.cupakabra.si

f: <https://www.facebook.com/cirkuscupakabra/>

e: info@cupakabra.si

Year of establishment: 2006

Artistic form: contemporary circus, street performing art, event entertainment

Fields of work: festival, training space, education, company/collective

Very flexible circus team. We spread the magic of the circus, where it is possible and beyond.

Projects: /

The shows: Unga (fire performance), Kufrband (street show), Dragonelija (stilts walking street show)

Education: workshops for children and youth



DRUŠTVO CIK / CIRKUS LA BULLE

Ljubljana, Slovenia

w: /

f: /

e: cirkuslabulle@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2015

Artistic form: contemporary circus, circus pedagogy

Fields of work: education, trainings and workshops

Association CIK organizes local and international circus pedagogy trainings for youth workers.

Projects: Implemented international training course Circus pedagogy for youth workers in Finland and Hungary.

Implemented circus pedagogy training for students in University of Ljubljana

The shows: Cirkus picnic - children play

Education: workshops for children and youth



DRUŠTVO GLEDALIŠČE ANE MONRO

non profit organization (NGO)

Ljubljana, Slovenia

www.anamonro.si

f: <https://www.facebook.com/ana.monro.9>

e: goro.anamonro@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 1982

Artistic form: street performing art

Fields of work: festival, education, company/collective

Ana Monroe Theater is the oldest independent theatre group in Slovenia. In over 30 years of existence it has importantly influenced the development of the cultural landscape of Slovenia. Ana Monroe members introduced street theatre and improvisational theatre to the artistic and general community in Slovenia. For 18 years, it has been running the world renown international street theatre festival - Ana Desetnica. This festival connects 15 different communities in Slovenia.

Ana Monroe also runs ŠUGLA – a street theatre school for young artists offering a two-year training program that helps them produce and emerge in the professional street arts environment. From 2011, with the help of the members of the international street theatre festivals network called MERIDIANS, it started the EWO – East West Opportunity initiative that connects and promotes collaboration between artists, professionals and organizers on the East West axis. It is engaged in development and promotion of community engaged program.

Projects: Street theatre festival Ana Desetnica, ŠUGLA (school of contemporary performance and street theatre), Kultura po meri (cultural program for schools).

The shows: Kar nosimo / Things we carry (2017); Ulične igre / Street games (2017); Proslava po meri (2018).

Education: workshops for children and youth



EX-TEATER

non profit organization (NGO)
Ljubljana, Slovenia

www.ex-teater.org

f: <https://www.facebook.com/exteater/>

e: contact@ex-teater.org

Year of establishment: 2017

Artistic form: contemporary circus

Fields of work: training space, education, company/collective, residency space

A performing arts company, a residency space and a space for artistic formation and exchange.

Projects: #Manifesto (show); opening our own studio in Ljubljana

The shows: #Manifesto, Ethereal, Ringside (WIP)

Education: professional education for circus artists



MISMO NISMO

non profit organization (NGO)
Ljubljana, Slovenia

w: /

f: <https://www.facebook.com/mismonismoart>

e: mismonismo72@gmail.com

Year of establishment: 2018

Artistic form: contemporary circus, performing arts (interdisciplinary)

Fields of work: company/collective

Mismo Nismo [eng. WeAre WeAren't) is a new alt-art circus collective based in Slovenia. We are pessimists who want to embrace the uncertainty of the future through experiences of the present. Our aesthetic is raw, experimental and full of flaws. To us Form is Experiment and the Idea is everything.

Projects: Circus next (Jeunes Talents Cirque Europe and supported by the European Union),

The shows: work in progress NOise Circus- laureated by Circus Next edition 2018/2019 (we are freelance artists and we all have few shows outside of Mismo Nismo)

Education: workshops for children and youth



SLOVENSKO ZDRUŽENJE ZA CIRKUŠKO PEDAGOGIKO CIRKOKROG

non profit organization (NGO)
Ljubljana, Slovenia

www.cirkokrog.com

f: <https://www.facebook.com/Cirkokrog/>

e: cirkokrog@cirkokrog.com

Year of establishment: 2005

Artistic form: Social and youth circus

Fields of work: festival, training space, education, social activism

Since 2005, we have been developing and implementing various projects and programs for the youth, social, children's and community circus and other forms of use of the circus in pedagogical, youth and social pedagogical contexts. Most of our activities are taking place in Ljubljana, but we like to host and carry out projects and workshops also in other Slovenian towns and villages. International connections and projects also do not get out!

Projects: The circus goes to the world (2014-2017), Circus in town (2015 - today), Social circus, Circus at the asylum home, Street circus (2016-today)

The shows: Kabare inštituta za varovanje varnosti

Education: workshops for children and youth



FESTIVALS

CIRKOBALKANA FESTIVAL

organized by Cirkorama and Cirkusfera /
Zagreb, Croatia & Belgrade, Serbia
www.cirkobalkana.org

Cirkobalkana is traveling regional festival of contemporary circus in a circus tent. Festival's goal is to offer an independent circus space for creation, education, performance, and training to the local regional artists, as well as programming of most interesting contemporary shows at the moment- from abroad. The core of the festival's organization is 6 artists from Cirkorama and Cirkusfera. Festival in Zagreb is usually on the beginning of May, in Ljubljana on the end of June / beginning of July, and in Belgrade or Novi Sad in September. Festival gathers around 50 artists from Region and rest of the world.



CUFUS FESTIVAL

organized by Cirkultura / Samobor, Croatia

www.cufus.net

CU'FUS (Circus street festival in Samobor) is dedicated to circus or street art performance. The mission of the festival is to promote circus, circus groups and artist, support domestic artist and artists from the region, audience, and public education. CU'FUS also explores all the spheres of the new circus, which includes experiments with all kinds of media (music, contemporary dance, miming, physical theatre, digital art, etc.) Its goal is to complete cultural, tourist, entertaining and even gastronomic offer of Samobor, and at the same time to revive the spirit of humor and to promote healthy and creative ways of spending the free time. In 2011 this festival put Samobor on the European circus map, and the following year the festival confirms its wish to continue with its work. We expect around 5 000 visitors during the festival, who will follow the events and take part in the program. The festival hosts around 100 artists/performers Cu'fus is the international festival and put Samobor in a circle of European cities which offer circus art as a new kind of cultural offer for their fellow-citizens and their guests.



CHC / CROATIAN HULA HOOP CONVENTION

organized by Cirkultura, Croatia

www.croatianhoopconvention.weebly.com

CHC / Croatian hula hoop convention CHC is an international event that gathers hula hoop enthusiasts and professionals from all over the world with a mission to learn different circus skills that could improve one's performance with the hula hoop. First CHC was held in Samobor, 2014.; the goal was to unite people from the same interest group and to provide the program that would help artists and enthusiasts to improve their skills. Artists that teach on the convention come from different types of art and collaborate to combine various circus skills and dance with the hula hoop. Most of the teachers come from Croatia, and every year we have the guest professional teacher from abroad. CHC is held every other year last week of August, beginning of September (next one in 2020.); 10-15 artists come to teach in the program and perform on CHC Gala show.

FESTIVAL PERISKOP

organized by Prostor Plus / Rijeka, Croatia

www.periskopfestival.com/hr

We founded festival Periskop 3 years ago. It is happening at the end of September-beginning of December. Festival goal is to keep it alive because is the only one in Rijeka focusing on contemporary dance and circus.

FESTIVAL ULIČNIH ČAROBNJAKA - FUČ

organized by Čarobnjakov šešir / Istria, Croatia

www.fucfestival.com

International Festival of Street Wizards - FUČ is a festival of professional artists and groups operating outside of institutionalized/commercial theaters and circuses that focus on street performances. It started in 2005 in Pula but now it's held in 2 towns in the region of Istria, Novigrad and Labin in the middle of June. Usually, we host 10 groups (international and national). The goal of the festival is to promote and develop street circus performances.



FESTIVAL ANA DESETNICA

organized by Gledališče Ane Monro / Ljubljana, Slovenia

www.anamonro.si/steber/ana-desetnica

Annually held at the beginning of summer in over 10 cities across Slovenia, the festival offers different street art genres and other performances by renowned and emerging practitioners. In 2018 around 100 artists participated (35 companies). The festival goal is to bring street theatre all around the country and to give the opportunity of performing also to emerging artists (we offer them coaching). Our aim is also to connect artists/professionals/public.



CIRKUŠKA STIČIŠČA

Symposium on Circus Pedagogy in collaboration with Festival Klovnbuř, Ljubljana

organized by Cirkokrog

www.cirkokrog.com/cirkuska-sticisca

It's a meeting about circus pedagogy - Cirkuška Stičišča. It was held in June but next time it's probably going to be January. Some 10-15 circus pedagogs attend the meeting. The goal is to establish a space where circus pedagogy is being discussed and good practices from the field are being shared.

KUFER FESTIVAL

organized by K.V.A.R.K. Association / Križevci, Croatia

www.udruga-kvark.hr/#portfolio

The KUFER Festival gathers around 4000 children and young people who spend their leisure time in artistic and cultural work, and some of them join the project through long-term work on workshops. In three days of the festival around 10 shows are performed, with a variety of art/visual, educational and entertaining program. Children and young people actively participate in artistic and cultural work through the design of program activities and preparation of their own performances. The goal is to create a new generation of art, urban and cultural scene in the city and the region, to identify new artists, leaders and young people.

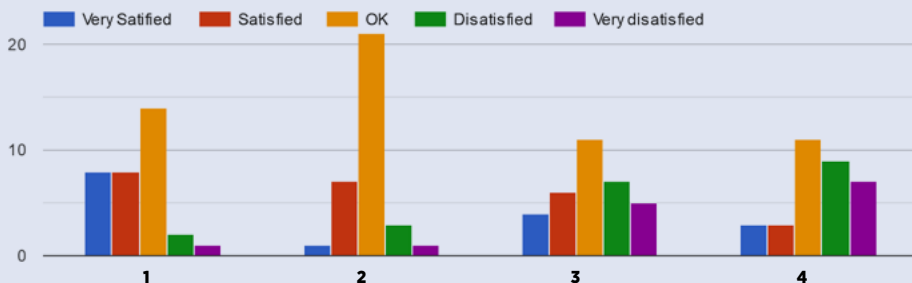


THE SITUATION IN THE BALKANS

SPACES

The spaces that are used in Balkans for practicing circus skills are mostly within a social-cultural centers or institutions (66,7%), rented private or public spaces (51,5%), own spaces (18,2%), circus tents (9,1%). Space size varies from 60m2 to 300m2 and is usually used just for practicing circus skills, not for performing. Most of the respondents answered that the spaces they are using are suitable for training the circus skills but not also for full preparation and presentation of the circus shows. Although the respondents are satisfied with the spaces, they have pointed out various space problems, such as the height or anchor point for some disciplines as well as lack of technical equipment (sound and lights).

Chart 1. How satisfied are you with the space in which you work and the resources you have: (rate 1 to 5)



1 size of space

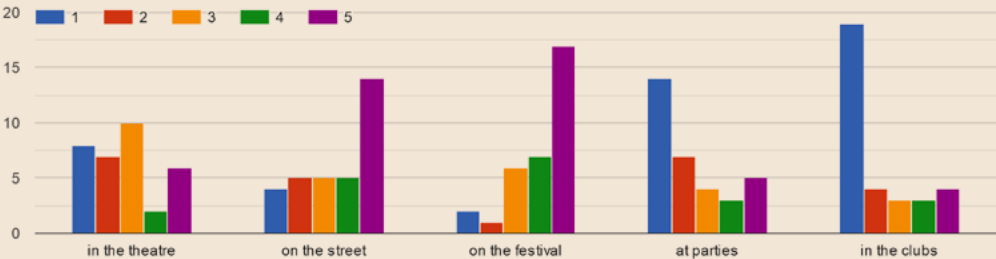
2 the number of circus props and exercise equipment

3 technical equipment related to performances of performances / programs (sound, light, technicians)

4 tehnnical equipment related...

From Chart 2 we can conclude that the shows are usually performed on the streets or within the festivals. That's why street art performances are more developed and performed in Balkans (also because they are the financial source for the artists). The theaters still do not recognize contemporary circus as performing art and are not open to hosting this kind of shows. This shows us that the artists who already developed their circus skill, don't have space where they could create or perform shows.

Chart 2. The shows are most often performed



ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAMS

On the question “Do you provide artists in residencies program?” 66,66% of respondents answered negative, 3,03% sometimes, 30,30% positive.

The ones who answered positive pointed out that the spaces they provide, do not have the conditions for all circus disciplines, especially for those who require height. To artists in residency is usually offered free use of space and sometimes free accommodation.

Yes, we provide. The one in the independent cultural center we use for artists in residency that doesn't need height. We offer to the artists space and all technical equipment that is in the space, technician's services, possibility to perform a work in progress presentation, promotional activities connected to their residency and presentation, artistic help (outside eye..)

***Cirkorama, Zagreb, Croatia**

HALA 100 is a residency center for contemporary circus arts. We invite different international and domestic artists for residencies for 7 and more days. During the residencies they have access to the residency place, they can use all of our technical equipment and props and we help them with technical needs and give them artistic advice. Every residency finishes with the work-in-progress presentation.

***ROOM 100, Split, Croatia**

Resident artists get free rehearsal space for 6 hours a day. Depending on the requirements of their creation, we provide equipment, mats and everything else needed. The downside is that space is used by many people so resident artists can't leave their scenography or any other equipment, they must assemble it each day. In the near future, we are planning some rearrangements to space so there is a possibility to have a private residential area that is not going to be used by other regular day-to-day activities.

***Kulturna alternativa mladih - Hram**

We use space for artist in residencies or for educational workshops. We provide 300 m² of space with full technical equipment related to performances, technical conditions of space and diverse equipment.

***K.V.A.R.K. Association, Križevci, Croatia**

Space (cultural center) is not high enough for aerial acrobatics, nor for high-quality juggling. Space is good to be used in the initial stage of research on creation and is used on the principle of an open calendar. The second space (circus tent) corresponds to all conditions for the creation of circus performances. For now, it is used on the principle of personal agreements.

***Cirkusfera, Belgrade, Serbia**

LIST OF THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM:

Cirkorama, Zagreb, Croatia

Čarobnjakov šešir, Pula, Croatia

Kulturna alternativa mladih - Hram, Split, Croatia

K.V.A.R.K. Association, Križevci, Croatia

ROOM 100, Split, Croatia

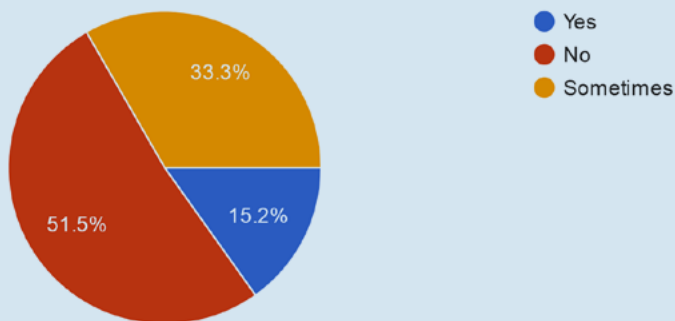
Traumatic arts, Zagreb, Croatia

Cirko Cachivache, Athens, Greece

EX- teater, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Cirkusfera, Belgrade, Serbia

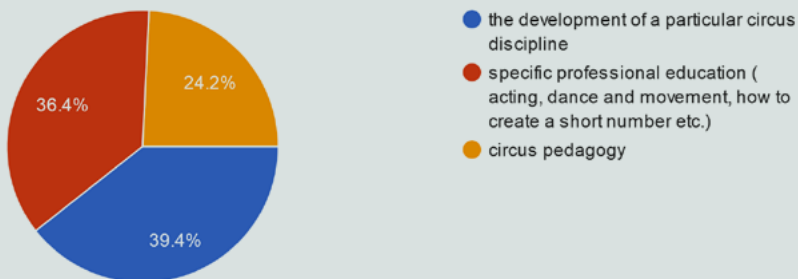
Chart 3. Do you use artistic residencies during the period of preparation of the show?



EDUCATION

Professional education on Balkans is mainly related to the development of circus skills. Often are organized workshops with foreign experts and the leaders are paid by the fees from participants. In Balkans there are no circus choreographers or directors, so artists don't have someone to learn from about creation processes. Many shows are deeply influenced by mainstream theater, especially children's plays and there is a lack of circus directors and choreographers who are sufficiently familiar with the artistic movements in the contemporary circus. To have this kind of help, it would improve the way the shows are built.

Chart 4. Your professional education is mainly related to Organizations also provide workshops and training for children and youth. Social circus pedagogy started to develop in the region, especially because there are grants for this kind of activities. There are some collaboration projects on this topic that are already done. Many organizations work with children with special needs, immigrants, marginalized social groups. Usually, they offer free shows and workshop. They also collaborate with Clowns without borders or Red Noses Clown doctors international.



FUNDING

On the question “How do you fund the production of your shows?” almost all respondents answered by our own money or our own resources that are earned thru commercial activities (mostly gigs). In Balkan countries, there are no national grants or tenders for production of contemporary circus or street art show, just for theatrical plays. So sometimes it needs to be called by this name to be able to get the financial support for production. Some organizations answered that their productions are funded by co-producers.

On the other hand, activities of the organization are funded by subventions from the tenders on the national or local level or through foreign cultural institutes, international funds, EU projects. Some incomes are coming from membership fees for classes that are organized or from festivals where they perform, private events, the audience - funded projects, commercial gigs, event entertainment and engagements in the business sector.

Employment in the circus and street art organization is quite low and varies in different countries of the region. Most of the organization employs 1 person full-time and 1 person half-time. Some organizations are based on voluntary work. Artists are usually freelancers but without the artistic status that it's recognized/ approved by the state.

NETWORKING AND COLLABORATIONS

Organizations that filled the mapping mostly claimed to be the members of some European networks. Mainly were listed: Circostrada network, CircusNext PlaTForM, EYCO- European youth circus organization, Caravan circus network, CITI- Centre International pour le Theatres Itinerants.

Cooperation among organizations in the Balkans exists, usually informal and mostly through the exchange of performances at festivals and events in the region. They would also like to start collaboration on common regional projects that could be financed by EU or Erasmus+.



IMPRESSUM

Publisher:

Cirkorama

Teslina 15

10 000 Zagreb, Croatia

Mapping provided: **Irena Boljunčić Gracin & Nikola Mijatović**

Text written: **Irena Boljunčić Gracin**

Design: **Rina Barbarić**

Zagreb, 2018.

The online publication is available on the webpage **www.cirkobalkana.org**

Mapping of circus and street art organization in Balkans is part of the CPuP - Circus on the move project that is financed by Foundation Kultura nova.

Partners in the CPuP platform: Cirkorama (Zg/HR), Čarobnjakov šešir (Pu/HR), Cirkusfera (Bg/SRB), Gledališće Ane Monro /LJ/SLO), Anazitites theatrou (/Thes/GR)

CIRKORAMA



Zaklada
Kultura nova