



Workshop report

## “Social Inclusion and multiculturalism in the scenography and stagecraft professions”

*Larissa, Greece – 08.01.2014*

### INTRODUCTION

The workshop report intend to provide the information on the implementation of 2<sup>nd</sup> national workshop that took place in the Municipal Cultural Centre of Larissa “Hatzigiannio”, on 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2014. The purpose of the workshop was to bring together a variety of local experts, stakeholders and freelancers to learn about and identify opportunities for supporting and expanding their business through networking.

### 1. Background

The 1<sup>st</sup> National Workshop aimed to explore the current situation of the scenography sector in Greece as well as to promote and disseminate the ONSCENE project.

The second workshop was the second delivery (the first in the premises of DIMITRA ITD, *October 2013*) of the dissemination work package. It was developed taking into consideration the need to explore the multiculturalism and the social inclusion in the scenography and stagecraft sectors in Greece.



## **2. Participants**

In total, there were ninety-one (91) participants. As the first national workshop implemented in Greece, the second workshop was open to everyone concerned with scenography, stagecraft and the creative sectors. The participants were freelancers, representatives of cultural organizations and educational institutions mainly operating in the city of Larissa. Moreover, a great number of the participants were people who are currently participate in Local Development programs for unemployed relative to scenography and creative sector.

It is worth to be mentioned that general public interested in the scenography and stagecraft sector shown huge interest in participating to the event since the workshop gave them the opportunity for networking and exchanging ideas. Local experts had the chance to get to know best-practice concepts and teaching ideas.

## **3. Activities carried out**

### *– Stagecraft Professions*

The Workshop was developed according to the model design of the Agenda. The progression steps of the ONSCENE project were presented by DIMITRA's representative to the participants, whereas special emphasis was given to the implementation of the pilot courses which will take place in Greece, between April - May 2014. The planning of the pilot courses attracted the participants' attention and characterized as the best approach to evaluate the performance and qualities of the scenography and the stagecraft sector in Greece.

It should be noted that the lecturers were actively engaged in all discussions throughout the delivery, not only in the parts they have been assigned as lead lecturer.

This encouraged a lively dialogue and made it easier for all participants to take part in the discussions.

Local Experts took the floor and presented the most popular stagecraft professions currently in Greece. By the end of the presentation there was active engagement by all participants, many of whom have years of experience on many different stagecraft professions, such as scenographers and directors. Also several questions were raised regarding the future of the stagecraft professions due to the current economic situation in Greece. All of the discussions contributed to the value of the workshop.

– *Multiculturalism & Social Inclusion*

The “Transnational and Multicultural Challenge” was the main topic of the second part of the workshop. Specifically, during the workshop it was generally claimed that the Greece is transforming from a mono-cultural to a multi-cultural society. The experts analyzed the current trend in Greece about the immigrants and refugees in modern drama and stagecraft by stressed out the limits and restrictions of the scenography and stagecraft sectors. The aim of the discussion was to examine the phenomenon of immigration in Greece and to highlight the relationship between migration and the role of theater as a mean of artistic expression and social intervention.

#### **4. Follow-up Action**

Due to the large participation in the workshop (*91 participants*), the participants instead of filling an evaluation questionnaire (*as in the 1st workshop*) reviewed and discussed jointly issues of common interest. The discussions and the feedback were extremely positive. The presentations and the range of contributions from external experts were particularly valued. Participants also enjoyed the opportunity of being able to share and discuss practical issues with experts.