

## Biographies of Mentors and Presenters

### Atelier Mentors

#### Hugo DE GREEF

General Coordinator



**Former EFA Secretary General (2004-2008)**

**General Manager Brugge European Capital of Culture 2002**

**Founder and former director Kaaiteater, Brussels, Belgium**

To mention just a few highlights, Hugo De Greef was Secretary General of EFA, as well as the Founder in 1977 Kaaiteater in Brussels, and his general manager for 20 years. He was also the General Manager of BRUGGE 2002, European Capital of Culture.

He was a Co-Founder of IETM (Informal European Theatre Meeting), of the Felix Meritis Foundation in Amsterdam, of the Flemish Theatre monthly 'ETCETERA', of the international publication 'THEATRESCHRIT', of the

'Festival of the Philosophy' and of the 'European House for Culture'.

Some international activities: co-productions with Flemish/Belgian, European and American artists organisation of the 'Flemish Arts' presentation during the Expo in Lisbon in 1998, member of the advisory board for 'Theaterformen' festival in Hannover for the Expo in 2000, initiator for the 'New Europe' festival in New York in October 1999.

Furthermore, De Greef was General Manager of the Flagey Arts Centre in centre in Brussels from 2007 until June 2010, the Artistic Advisor of the Festival of Flanders in 1998/1999, the Art Director for Brussels 2000 (January-May 1998). Since January 2003, he was the President of PARTS, a dance school in Brussels founded by Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker.

Currently, Hugo De Greef is the Advisor for International Cultural Policy towards the minister of Culture from Flanders and General Coordinator of the Atelier for Young Festival Managers.

#### Nele HERTLING



**Member Strategy Group, A Soul for Europe, Berlin, Germany**

**Former Director Hebbel-Theatre, Berlin, Germany**

**General Manager Berlin European Capital of Culture 1988**

Degree in German Philology and Theatre.

1963-1988 Research Associate at the Academy of Arts in Berlin (West). Artistic director of "Berlin - Cultural Capital of Europe, 1988". 1989-2003 Director of the Hebbel Theatre in Berlin, artistic director of the "Theater der Welt" festival (1999). 2003-2007 Head of the DAAD's Artists-in-Berlin programme.

Since 2006, she has been Vice-President of the Academy of Arts, Berlin.

[www.asoulforeurope.eu](http://www.asoulforeurope.eu)

**Rose FENTON*****Director Free Word, London, United Kingdom***

Between 1980 and 2005 Rose was co-Founder and co-Director of the London International Festival of Theatre (LIFT, a biennial summer festival producing, presenting and commissioning artists from around the world; exploring the international within London; forging connections between artists and Londoners across the city; and between London and the world). In the 90's LIFT also pioneered a number of groundbreaking, long-term learning programmes involving artists, young people, educationalists and individuals from the business, public and voluntary sectors.

Since 2005 Rose has continued to work with artists and arts organizations internationally, developing and facilitating projects across Europe and the Middle East, including FIT - Festivals in Transition - an initiative by eight Festivals to develop the role of international theatre festivals within the cultural landscape of an evolving Europe, and London World Stages, a consortium of London venues collaborating to create a series of international co-productions for a festival in 2012. Rose's current arts advisory work includes working with Lublin in Poland developing their bid to become European Capital of Culture 2016. She is now the director of Free Word, the UK's first house of literacy, literature and free-expression.

Rose is on the Advisory Board and develops projects with Tipping Point, an organisation that brings together scientists and artists internationally in responding to the challenges of climate change. She is a Mentor for the Clore Leadership Programme and sits on the Board of a number of arts organizations including Dance Umbrella and Aerowaves, and is the Chair of Without Walls.

Her book co-written with Lucy Neal, *The Turning World: Stories from the London International Festival of Theatre*, was published in 2005 by the Gulbenkian Foundation.

Rose has been awarded an Honorary Doctorate from De Montfort University and an Honorary Fellowship from Dartington College of Arts. In 2005 she received an OBE for Services to Drama.

[www.freewordonline.com](http://www.freewordonline.com)

## Atelier Presenters

### Robyn ARCHER



***Creative Director The Centenary of Canberra (2013), Australia***  
***Artistic Director The Light in Winter, Melbourne, Australia***

Robyn Archer is a singer, writer, director, artistic director and public advocate of the Arts. In all of these roles her reach is global. In 2010 she has given concerts in Honolulu, Adelaide and Port Fairy: in February 2011 she has sung Brecht in his birthplace, Augsburg, at the Brecht and Music festival. She is in demand throughout the world as a speaker on the Arts and recent destinations have been Varna (Bulgaria), Perth and all points east in Australia, Vancouver, Prague, Seoul, London, Gent: there are new invitations to Jeju (Korea) , Glasgow, Sydney, Townsville, Mackay, Yolgnu Land (NT).

Robyn is currently the Creative Director of The Centenary of Canberra (2013) and Artistic Director of The Light in Winter which she created for Federation Square in Melbourne. She is devising the program for the 5th World Summit on Arts and Culture (Melbourne October 3-6 2011) and advising on the National Gallery of Victoria's 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations in 2011. She was recently appointed as Adjunct Professor to the University of Canberra.

Robyn was Artistic Director of the National Festival of Australian Theatre in Canberra for three years and of the Adelaide Festival in 1998 and 2000. She was chair of the Australia Council's Community Cultural Development Board, a consultant to the new Melbourne Museum for three years and advisor on the Australian cultural content for EXPO 2000 in Hannover, Germany. She created a new celebration of the arts for Tasmania: Ten Days on the Island . Robyn was artistic director of the Melbourne International Arts Festival 2002, 2003, 2004 and created a trilogy of festivals there : TEXT BODY VOICE. For two years Robyn has worked on Liverpool European Capital of Culture, and was adviser to the startup of Luminato, a new festival for Toronto. In 2008 she curated the Deakin Lectures, served as juror for Culture France's Danses Caribes in Cuba, went to the Australia 2020 Summit, was formal mentor to Arts Mildura, and was juror for the Victorian Premier's Literary Prize.

Robyn is an Officer of the Order of Australia, Chevalier du l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (France), Officer of the Crown (Belgium) and holds honorary doctorates from Flinders and Sydney Universities.

[www.robynarcher.com.au](http://www.robynarcher.com.au)

## Ching-Lee GOH



***Executive and Artistic Director CultureLink, Singapore  
Former Director Singapore Arts Festival***

Ching-Lee Goh is recognised as a key personality behind the arts renaissance in Singapore. She directed the Singapore Arts Festival for a decade from 2000-2009 where her innovative approaches established the Festival as one of the leading Festivals in Asia. She has been noted for her efforts in bridging artistic work and professional networks between Asian and European artists and festival producers. She initiated and co-founded the Association of Asian Performing Arts Festivals and served as its first chair from 2004 to 2009. She also developed Singapore Season, a programme showcasing Singapore's arts overseas which was first launched in London in 2005 and later in China (Beijing, Shanghai) in 2007 and Edinburgh 2009. In 2009, Ching Lee was made Officier dans l'Orde des Arts et des

Lettres and she is also the recipient of The Public Administration Medal (Silver) from the Singapore government in 2005.

In 2009, she founded the arts management and consultancy agency CultureLink. In her various capacities as programme consultant, curator, producer, and artist representative, she has collaborated with organisations and artists like Napoli Teatro Festival Italian, Edinburgh International Festival, New Visions Festival, National Museum of Singapore, National Forum of Music (Poland), European Festivals Association, La La La Human Steps, Tang Quartet, TheatreWorks, Melvyn Tan, among others.

Ching Lee is also an Associate Director at Festival and Events International, and holds a Bachelor of Arts (History Hons) from the National University of Singapore, and a Masters of Arts Management from the City University of London.

[www.culturelink.com.sg](http://www.culturelink.com.sg)

## Michał MERCZYŃSKI



***Director of the National Audiovisual Institute, Warsaw, Poland***

Michał Merczyński is a culture animator, producer, art manager and director of many cultural institutions and festivals including: the Polish Film Institute, Rozmaitości Theatre, Henryk Wieniawski Musical Society and Tzadik Poznań Festival, the Nostalgia Festival, Festival of Dialogue of Four Cultures. He is an expert within the programme Culture 2007-2013. He has been a director of the MALTA International Theatre Festival since 1991. And since 2005, he has been a director of the National Audiovisual Institute (NInA) – an institution created by the Ministry of Culture in Poland. Currently, he is the head of the Cultural Programme of the Polish EU Presidency, as well as the European Culture Congress.

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[www.malta-festival.pl/](http://www.malta-festival.pl/)

## Jonathan MILLS



### ***Festival Director and Chief Executive of the Edinburgh International Festival, Edinburgh, UK***

Jonathan Mills took up the post of Festival Director and Chief Executive of the Edinburgh International Festival in October 2006. Before this appointment, he was the Vice-Chancellor's (Professorial) Fellow at the University of Melbourne, Director of the Alfred Deakin Lectures and an Artistic Advisor to the new Melbourne Recital Centre & Elisabeth Murdoch Hall.

One of Australia's most experienced festival directors, his previous posts have included Artistic Director of the Melbourne International Arts Festival, the Melbourne Federation Festival, the Melbourne Millennium Eve celebrations and the Brisbane Biennial International Music Festival.

As a composer he is regularly commissioned in Australia and increasingly in Europe and the UK. His composition Sandakan Threnody for solo tenor, choir and orchestra won the Prix Italia in 2005.

He is a visiting Professor at both Edinburgh and Edinburgh Napier Universities, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and Chair of the British Council's Advisory Board. He was appointed Officer of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours in 2011.

[www.eif.co.uk](http://www.eif.co.uk)

## Fruzsina SZÉP



### ***Programme Director Sziget Festival, Budapest, Hungary***

She has 13 years experience as an artistic and cultural manager. She started her career of being the manager of live events and of several Hungarian groups, but mainly of the Muzsikás Ensemble and Márta Sebestyén. She was the music curator in several Hungarian Cultural Seasons representing the country abroad.

She established several national and international cultural projects such as the Hungarian Music Export Office, the Roots&Routes Talent Development program in Hungary, the RegiON live! CEE Showcase Club Festival and the RegiON Music Conference which was focused on to bring together Hungarian and European music acts and music professionals. She worked in Brussels as the director of the Hungarian Cultural Institute.

Fruzsina grew up in Germany, lived in Australia, Canada and Guatemala. Her main goal is to help to build up a well structured link between the Eastern and the Western European Cultural Market and to exchange a high level of know-how and best practice between cultural and artistic workers.

[www.sziget.hu](http://www.sziget.hu)