

PRACTICS - See Mobile See Practical

PRACTICS is a 3-year project coordinated by the Finnish Theatre Information Centre which joined forces with ten other cultural organisations from six EU-countries with the aim to facilitate the provision of information about EU cross-border mobility in the cultural sector.

The project will develop so-called "EU Cultural Mobility Contact Points" (CMCPs) which it will pilot in four EU-countries: Belgium, Spain, Wales and the Netherlands. Their task will be to offer relevant and user-friendly information to:

- a) foreign cultural workers who want to work in the country in which the CMCP is based.
- b) national cultural workers who want to work in another EU-country.

The objective of the CMCPs is to offer cultural professionals concrete administrative support in order to help them overcome obstacles in pursuing an international career. This involves answering questions, providing handbooks and advising on legal, fiscal and social issues. The CMCPs offer concrete toolkits to artists and cultural workers wanting to be mobile. By doing so the CMCPs aim to stimulate mobility between EU countries.

The partners piloting the CMCPs are Kunstenloket from Belgium, SICA from the Netherlands, the Arts Council of Wales / Wales Arts International and Interarts from Spain. The other partners support setting up the CMCP-network and contribute to the project actions with their own expertise.

In addition, the project will conduct research in Finland and Italy to find out how such a CMCP could be set up there in the future. It will offer training in issues related to mobility and promote coordination and networking within the cultural sector. The project partners will engage in the exchange of staff and thus enhance their capacity to support mobility beyond the duration of the project.

On the basis of the concrete piloting and mapping cases the project will identify key mobility stimulators and formulate recommendations for overcoming obstacles to mobility and for continuing the CMCP-network in the future.

The project partners are:

- The Finnish Theatre Information Centre, Finland
- Het Kunstenloket, Belgium
- Stichting Internationale Culturele Activiteiten SICA, Netherlands
- The Arts Council of Wales ACW/WAI, Wales
- Interarts Foundation for International Cultural Cooperation, Spain
- Fondazione Fitzcarraldo, Italy
- Performing Arts Employers Associations League Europe Pearle*, Belgium
- Association Européenne des Conservatoires AEC, European League of Institutes of the Arts (ELIA), Netherlands
- European Citizen Action Service (ECAS), Belgium
- IETM, Belgium

Associated Partners

- The Network of European Museum Organisations NEMO, Germany
- Romanian Museum Network, Romania

Cross-border mobility of artists and other cultural professionals is not only one of the objectives of the European Union's Culture programme but also a priority on the European Commission's agenda. Therefore, in June 2008, the European Commission published a call for proposals for "Networking of existing structures supporting mobility in the cultural sectors". Four projects were selected under this call, one of which is PRACTICS – See Mobile See Practical. PRACTICS follows on from the project Mobile.Home which was carried out in 2006 and resulted in a study on "Impediments to Mobility in the EU Live Performances Sector and Possible Solutions".

The three other projects selected under this call are:

- **E-Mobility** by Pépinières Européennes pour Jeunes Artistes
- **SPACE – Supporting Performing Art Circulation in Europe** by ONDA – Office National de Diffusion Artistique
- **Changing Room** by Trans Europe Halles



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.
This communication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.