



European Group of the International Federation of Actors
Groupe Européen de la Fédération Internationale des Acteurs
Europäische Gruppe des Internationalen Schauspielerverbands
Grupo Europeo de la Federación Internacional de Actores

GENDER AGENDA:

Women, Men, Age and Employment in the Performing Arts

Conference, Drill Hall, London

15-16 September 2008

“But thy eternal summer shall not fade...”

With the financial support of:



Equity UK



Dansk
Skuespillerforbund



The European
Commission



Norsk
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Teaterförbundet

Day 1, Drill Hall, 16 Chenies Street

9h00 – 9h30 **Registration** of all participants

9h30 -10h30 **Conference Opening by Chair Agnete Haaland, President of the Norwegian Performers' Union.**

Keynote speeches by:

- Words of welcome by FIA's President Tomas Bolme.
- Words of welcome and introduction from Equity's perspective by Christine Payne, director of Equity.
- Opening thoughts from Carole Tongue , Chair of the UK Coalition for Cultural Diversity and former MEP.

10h30 – 11h30 **Dr. Deborah Dean, Associate Professor of Industrial Relations**, University of Warwick, will present the research outcomes of the year-long research into gender portrayal and its impact on employment opportunities for performers across the EU.

11h30 – 12h00 **Coffee Break**

12h00-13h00 **Opening thoughts on action at European level** by Mary Honeyball, Member of the European Parliament

Open discussion and Question and Answer Session regarding the research findings presented by Deborah Dean.

13h00 – 14h00 **Buffet Lunch served in the venue**

14h00 – 15h00 **Discussion 1: Political Perspectives**

Policy-makers and other political actors discuss the political methods that have been developed to improve equal opportunities and how these can be applied to the cultural sector:

- Anna Carlson, President of the Swedish Performers' Union
- Dearbhal Murphy, project coordinator, will offer an overview of the policies and programmes at European level
- Treasa Ní Mhurchú, Deputy Chairperson of the National Women's Council of Ireland

15h00-16h00 **Discussion 2: Performers' Voices**

Performers share their views and experience regarding gender portrayal and how it impacts on employment and how they have encountered this in their own professional lives:

- Belgian Actress Camilia Blereau, involved in a campaigning action for better employment opportunities for performers in Belgium
- Rynagh O'Grady, Irish actress and board member of Women in Film and Television, Ireland.
- Pauline Moran and Kate Buffery, UK-based actresses share their experiences.

16h00-16h30 Coffee Break

16h30 - 17h15 Discussion 3: Voices from the Business

This discussion will seek to offer the views of those working in the performance sector on how to tackle the problems of stereotyped gender portrayal and improving employment opportunities:

- Richard Pulford, Society of London Theatre and Theatrical Management Association
- Luk De Koninck, actor and former casting director, commercial television, Belgium
- Valérie de Tilbourg, Screenwriter, France

17h15 - 17h30 “Three Business Cards” - Short film presentation of three women working in the film sector in Norway - introduction by Ingebjørg Torgersen, Chairman of Women in Film and Television , Norway

Day 2, Drill Hall, 16 Chenies Street, London WC1E 7EX

9h30 - 09h45 Words of welcome by Jean Rogers and brief recall of the background and evolution of the project.

09h45-10h45 Lecture and Artistic Presentation dealing with gender roles by Kristina Alstam and Lotten Roos from Swedish Theatre Group subfrau.

10h45 - 11h15 Coffee Break

11h15 - 12h45 Breakout session

The group will divide into three sub-groups, two English-language groups and one with interpretation into three languages. The breakout groups will be chaired by members of the project steering group. Each group will seek to address a number of shared questions.

12h45 - 13h15 Brief Feedback (5/10 minutes) from each breakout group: a volunteer rapporteur from among the group participants will feed back.

Concluding Remarks - “Ways Forward” by Dominick Luquer, General Secretary FIA: this final speech will seek to sum up some of the main points of the day and outline how the work should go forward in this area.

13h15 - 13h30 Closing artistic presentation by Swedish Theatre Group subfrau: *Theatre scene “Fruit Salad”:* this short scene offers a light-hearted and provocative look at gender roles and how we perceive men and women.