

ArtistNe(s)t



Country / region or city:

Romania / Arcus, Bacau, Sinaia, Tescani

Name of the Cooperation Project:

ArtistNe(s)t

Partner organizations:

Cultural Centre Arcus

Cultural Centre "George Apostu", Bacau

European Cultural Centre Sinaia

Cultural Centre "Rosetti Tescanu – George Enescu", Tescani

Coaching-/Monitoring Partner:

AltArt Foundation, Cluj-Napoca

Duration of the project:

April 2006 – March 2009

ArtistNe(s)t project aims to create four residence centers for artists in Romania, as creative spaces open and favorable to innovation and co-operation in contemporary arts, connected to national and international networks.

The four Cultural Centres are public cultural institutions placed under the authority of the Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs. They have a good infrastructure, material resources and a long experience in organizing various artistic activities. However, they suffer from a lack of clarity with regards to their profile and main lines of action.

As the Romanian cultural environment is currently undergoing important transformations – e.g. development of the independent sector, higher mobility of the artists, growing interest of the public for contemporary arts – the Cultural Centres feel the need to better define their profile, to reinforce their position on the national cultural scene and to get international recognition. They wish to build up a new image of very active and effective cultural institutions that have something important to offer and share with independent artists and other cultural actors.

www.artistnest.ro

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(Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC)

New competencies are required for implementing artist-in-residence programmes, as well as access to up-to-date information regarding such programmes on an international level and facilitation to the establishment of international partnership. All these can be acquired due to the co-operation with the Swiss Cultural Programme. ArtistNe(s)t project is a great opportunity for the cultural centres to become more professional, to diversify their cultural offer, to concentrate more on experiment and innovation, to better know and fulfil the cultural needs of the local communities.

Objectives of the project:

- Development of the capacity of the centres to organise residencies for artists
- Stimulate the creativity in contemporary arts, encourage cultural diversity, interdisciplinary approaches and artists' mobility
- Cultural development of the local communities due to the interaction with the resident artists
- Set up of the national network of residence centres for artists
- Promotion of the residence centres at national and international levels

For the artist-in-residence programme the centres specialise in the following artistic fields:

Theatre - Cultural Centre Arcus

Contemporary Dance - Cultural Centre "George Apostu" Bacau

Visual Arts - European Cultural Centre Sinaia

Literature - Cultural Centre "Rosetti Tescanu-George Enescu" Tescani

Activities of the project:

- Training sessions in cultural management and study trips to Switzerland for the Centres' staff with the aim to exchange experience with similar institutions
- 16 artists in residence per year (4 artists in each Centre)
- Public presentations of the artistic results of the residences
- Interaction of resident artists with the local communities through workshops, lectures and reading
- Set up of the national network of residence centres for artists and affiliation to international cultural networks
- Creating and maintaining the website of the network

The Swiss Cultural Programme South-East Europe and Ukraine is a joint initiative of the Arts Council of Switzerland PRO HELVETIA and of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC. The SCP encompasses Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Kosovo and the Ukraine.

It supports local partners, which emphasize the variety, independence and performance of cultural life. The SCP cooperation projects focus on the capacity building and institutional development processes of cultural organizations. ■