



WPIC 2012 - An opportunity to meet, to build networks, to create genuine, lasting contacts between women playwrights and theatre professionals. Our aim is to have a supporting impact on cooperations and to build bridges between people from different parts of the world.

**More info, go to
wpic.riksteatern.se**

Mail adress wpic@riksteatern.se

Contact Mireille Bergenström, project manager

Homepage for WPI, www.wpinternational.com.



**Feel free to spread this news letter
among your colleagues!**

9th Women Playwrights International Conference Stockholm - Sweden 15-21 august 2012 Theme: THE DEMOCRATIC STAGE Newsletter #2-2011

The submission is closed!

1 October we closed the web site for submitting synopsis for the conference. We were a bit optimistic from the beginning and promised you to submit more than one play each. In September it went "ka-boom" in the WPIC inbox - totally more than 550 submissions were sent from different parts of the world. We realised that only one play each could be read by the Swedish and International committees.

This process will be finished in mid-November. Then we will mail everybody and tell if your play has passed and we want the complete manuscript or not.

The idea is that most of the submissions will be read by one Swedish and one international member of the jury. If the two members make different judgments, a third member will make the final decision. We try to spread the submissions between different countries. The Swedish submissions will be read only by the international jurymembers.

The international reading group or jury consists of **Marcia Jonson** - Jamaica-born playwright from Canada, **Van Badham** in Australia, **Karen Jeynes** in South Africa, **Alka** in India, **Lene Therese Teigen** - Norwegian playwright and the president of WPI. Al Harah theatre in Palestine will be represented by two readers.

The Swedish dramaturges and playwrights who make decisions are **Lena Fridell, Sofia Fredén, Marie Hedenius, Mia Törnqvist, Ninna Tersman, Sigrid Herrault, Camilla Vd Meer, Eva Maria Dahlin** and **Jenny Andreasson**.

The playwrights will get an answer about their submissions by 11 November.

Deadline for the whole scripts: 15 January.

Important! This is NOT a competition! The selection will be done in the perspective of different aspects, for example we want representatives from different parts of the world. We'll be looking for different artistic form and context. The question of quality is also something interesting to discuss - maybe at a seminar at the conference!

Registration for the conference will open later this autumn - keep an eye on the web site!

Have you any questions, suggestions or want to encourage us in the planning group, mail us!

wpic@riksteatern.se

All the best,

Mireille Bergenström

project manager for the Stockholm WPIC 2012

Sigrid Herrault

Administrator/dramaturge/playwright



Hello all WPI-members – and you who are about to join us!

Stockholm next!

Now there is less than a year left until we meet in Stockholm/Sweden! I look forward to a week filled with many interesting activities, being the result of preparations which have taken place since we met in Mumbai/India in november 2009. It is a pleasure to collaborate with project manager Mireille Bergenström and her WPIC group at the National Touring Theatre in Sweden, and I am sure our 2012 Conference really will be worth visiting!

WPI was founded in 1988 and held its first conference in Buffalo, New York, USA. Two hundred women from over 30 countries were in attendance. Since then, women playwrights have gathered in Canada, Ireland, Greece, Australia, the Philippines, Indonesia and India. The 9th conference will be held 2012 in Stockholm, Sweden.

The Management Committee

At every WPI Conference we elect the WPI Management Committee for the next three years. In Mumbai I was elected along with **Malou Jacob**, The Phillipines, **Linda Parris-Bailey**, USA, **Karen Jaynes**, South Africa, and **Marcia Johnson**, Canada. **Catherine Fitzgerald**, Australia, is head of our web-group.

Being from Norway, the neighbour country of Sweden, I'm deeply involved in the planning of the Stockholm Conference. Last spring I was appointed President of WPI. I thank my good colleagues in the Management Committee for their confidence.

Call for proposals for the 2015 WPIC closed

We had a fantastic time in Mumbai. Conference director Jyoti Mhapsekar and her helpers made the Conference 2009 unforgettable – so the expectations are high for Sweden! We have now closed the call for proposals for the conference in 2015. We did receive a very interesting proposal from South Africa, Cape Town. Karen Jaynes, member of the Management Committee, is working towards 2015, and I hope we will be able to announce South Africa.

The submitted Plays

In the next few months a Swedish reading group and an WPI/international reading group will work with selecting the plays which will be presented at the confrence. 1st of october was the last chance to submit a synopsis. We've got some 500!

WPIC support

We will work as fast as possible with the selection of plays, as we all know the need for time to apply for travel grants – for those of us who live in countries where we actually can apply for support.

The writers Guild of Norway has generously donated USD 35 800 to a travel fund for WPI-members in underrepresented regions with no possibility to apply for travel grants. We hope for more money in the fund by the time we can announce these travel grants!

I also want to express my gratefulness to The Writers Guild of Norway for sponsoring my trips to Stockholm.

All the best,

Lene Therese Teigen

WPI President



The Etel Adnan Award for Women Playwrights aspires to increase the number of plays penned by women writers residing in the Arabic-speaking countries.
Submission Deadline for the 2011 Award:
19:00 pm, 15 November 2011.
Read more on the next page.

Etel Adnan Award 2011

The Al-Madina Theatre of Beirut and Riksteatern, the Swedish National Touring Theatre, announce an open call for women playwrights for the 2011 Etel Adnan Award for Women Playwrights.

Purpose

The Etel Adnan Award for Women Playwrights aspires to increase the number of plays penned by women writers residing in the Arabic-speaking countries. The mission is to disseminate submitted plays in the Arab-speaking region, also elsewhere, particularly in Sweden, which hosts a wide-spread Diaspora from the Middle East.

Recurrence of the competition

The Etel Adnan Award will recur on annual basis during the coming three years, starting from 2010. The last award will be announced during WPIC 2012.

Prize

One play will be selected by a jury each year. Each laureate will be rewarded the sum of USD 5000, as well as the opportunity to be translated into English. Each play will be presented at a reading during the 2012 WPI Conference.

After the 2012 ceremony, one of the three awarded plays will be co-produced by the Swedish National Touring Theatre and the Al-Madina Theatre, and staged in Lebanon as well as Sweden.

Jury

A jury comprising of scholars, professional playwrights and other artists from the Arabic-speaking region and Sweden will select three plays during 2010 and 2012 (one play for each year).

Where to send the play:

Name: Masrah Al Madina

Address: Saroula BLDG, Hamra Street, Beirut, Lebanon

e-mail: eteladnanawards@gmail.com

Web: <http://www.almadinatheatre.com/#news>

Submission Deadline for the 2011 Award:

19:00 pm, 15 November 2011.

Submission guidelines

- The play must be written by a woman residing in an Arabic-speaking country.
- Do NOT send the entire play. Please, send an excerpt that is 10 pages long (please, send an excerpt/passage, not an abstract).
- Each playwright may only submit one play on annual basis.
- The play may not entail more than six actors on stage (the number of characters in the play is unlimited)
- The play must be submitted in Arabic, or French or English (or a combination of the two or three listed languages), in digital and hard copy using standard script formatting, with cover or title sheet.
- Do NOT include your name on the play.
- The play must be accompanied by a letter containing playwright's name, address, telephone number, email address, and a short biography (one paragraph).
- Enclose an email address and a self-addressed, stamped envelope with adequate postage for return of play. Plays received without return envelope and adequate postage will be recycled.



Etel Adnan

is a Lebanese-American poet, essayist, and visual artist born in Beirut in 1925. She is the daughter of a Greek mother and a Syrian father. She grew up speaking Greek and Turkish in her home, in a primarily Arabic-speaking society. Yet, she was educated at French convent schools, thus French became the language of her early work. Most of her later work has been written in English.

At the age of 24, Adnan traveled to Paris where she received a degree in philosophy from the Sorbonne University. She continued her graduate studies in the United States, where she has taught philosophy of art at the universities throughout the country.

Etel Adnan as an author is significant and appealing since she confronts complex matters, such as identity, migration and globalization without simplifying and without pushing an agenda in the hands of the reader. Yet, her clear and highly personal opinions illustrate a strong ethos, and her presence is ever clear and much appreciated. ■