

# Odyssee project - The Underworld

*I participated in the part “the Underworld” of The Odyssee’s Journey. We made it with our group from Maastricht. When I first heard of the project I thought the goals were way to high. How to make a performance with people you’d never met before? People, who probably have a whole different theatre background. Not to speak of bonding with these strange people, in such a short while. They said it was going to be a huge project, and that a lot of European theatre schools would participate in it. Uh Uh.*

I didn’t expected it actually would work out the way it did. The PL.Eta project was eventually a lot more fulfilling than I initially thought it would be. It was awesome to see so much theatre of other European schools. And to meet people who think so different of theatre, but who are actually in the same boat as we are. Who had just the same issues with school, and just the same issues with the craft.

For the performance we worked with new technology like projectors and programs were you can make animations with, or edit filmshots on. I was not really familiar with these programs. Understanding this, and telling such an old story with this new media was a goal itself.

I also talked to a lot of new people. And now I know a lot of theatre students all over Europe. Witch I considered as really valuable. The PLETA project helped me see that you can make theatre in a lot of different ways. We used a lot of technology in our performance, merely there are many forms you can use in theatre, from classic to location theatre to political colored theatre. But I realized that in the Netherlands we are very sophisticated as it comes to modern theatre, compared to the rest of Europe. So if I am really honest: before the project I considered and thought of it as being really attractive to do an exchange program, but after the project it don’t think I am going to do that. What doesn’t mean I don’t think I wouldn’t learn anything of it. Maybe this way, as the Odyssee project was shaped, collaborating powers to make an performance together, was for me more effective to have european theatre exchange. We had a lot of good reactions on our performance, people never had seen something like it before, they always had seen theatre as something that was in line with shake-speare, but after seeing it they said there are a lot more possibility’s then they initially thought. Last week I received an picture from Helsinki, they were also playing a performance with laptops. Maybe we inspired them :).

I saw it as something that would be very hard to do, playing a performance in another country. But after the project I don’t think it is.

I found out, we have so much in common, and people of other cultures understand a lot of each other, since we are a of the same human species.

I would like to develop and to deploy more of the technology witch we worked with in our performance in theatre. And maybe make collaboration with people with technic backgrounds. I think that could be very exciting.

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