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IETM Berlin Plenary Meeting 2025: Rehearsing Futures

CREATIVESUNITE

Co-funded by the European Union

The IETM Berlin Plenary Meeting 2025 will bring together performing arts professionals from across the world to explore collaborative strategies for the future.

Dates: May 15–17, 2025
Location: Berlin, Germany
Organizer: IETM (International Network for Contemporary Performing Arts)
Who It's For: Performing arts professionals, cultural policymakers, artists, producers, and academics

Register here.

About the Meeting

The IETM Plenary Meeting is the network's largest annual gathering, drawing 400–600 cultural practitioners from around the world. The 2025 edition will focus on the Berlin performing arts scene, offering immersive experiences, discussions, and workshops to equip professionals with tools to navigate today's challenges.

Host city of Berlin is renowned for its vibrant and diverse performing arts scene that has long welcomed artists from around the world - there are over 100 different venues across the city, presenting work of all scales and styles. It has also recently been grappling with some major challenges - budget cuts of over 13% this year have targeted both small and large institutions alike, and the arts scene feels an increasing sense of insecurity. The nationwide shift towards extreme right-wing politics has resulted in an atmosphere of anxiety and threatened the safety of performers working around Germany. Additionally a recent federal resolution and "anti-discrimination clause" in Berlin have been criticised for their potential to limit freedom of expression.

Programme Overview

Day 1: Exploring Berlin's Independent Performing Arts Scene
Participants will select and join a curated journey through Berlin's artistic landscape, engaging with local artists, venues, and key cultural discussions.

Limited spaces available—look out for the April sign-up email to secure your preferred session.

Days 2 & 3: Collective Strategies for the Future

Hosted at ufaFabrik, an innovative cultural hub known for its sustainability initiatives, these two days will feature:

- Workshops & Discussions on defending freedom of speech, arts advocacy, and climate-conscious practices.
- Creative Interventions addressing global shifts in policy, funding, and cultural expression.
- Networking & Artistic Showcases, highlighting Berlin-based performance makers and international collaborations.

For more information and to register please visit IETM's official website.

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