

Closing Conference

of the Erasmus+ project

Interdisciplinary Puppetry Modules for Art Universities (iPmau)

Fr, 23. January 2026, 10:00 – 18:00 Uhr

Academy of Fine Arts, Schillerplatz 3, 1010 Vienna

Room S15a | Anatomiesaal

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

Host: Alexandru Cosarca

Morning session

09:30 Check-In / Arrival

10:00 Official Opening

Mag.a Dr.in Ingeborg Erhart | Vice-Rector for Art and Teaching, Academy of fine arts

Mag. Ernst Gesselbauer | Head of Department and Erasmus+ & ESC Director

10:30 The performance of the project

Andreas Moritz | General project manager iPmau; Puppet Theatre LILARUM, Vienna

Dr.phil. Ruby Jana Sircar | Lecturer (Contextual painting) & PM iPmau; Academy of fine arts, Vienna

11:00 Animated keynotes

Inside out and outside in

Comments on the puppeteer-puppet relationship, transformation of movement and emotion towards the puppet, and my specific conclusion from this.

Christoph Bochdansky | Puppeteer, puppet designer; Vienna

Don't Open Debt Inside

Based on the plasticine film by students of the Spatial Strategies programme at the Weissensee Academy of Art (2018)

Andreas Siekmann | Artist & Lecturer Academy of fine arts Vienna (Contextual painting)

12:30 Lunch Break

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Afternoon session

13:30 Keynotes

Puppet design - a practice-oriented approach

Approaches to designing and building puppets for their own worlds versus sharing a stage with actors.

Rebekah Wild | Puppet designer, puppeteer; NZ/UK/Austria

Breathing Life into the Streets: Why Puppetry is the Secret Language of 2026

In a world that feels increasingly digital and divided, the raw, tactile magic of a puppet on a street corner is doing something radical: it's bringing us back together.

Ger Glancy, MA, BA | Lecturer Institute of Art, Design + Technology Dún Laoghaire, Dublin (Design for Film); Creative Director of ArtFX

15:00 Coffee break

15:30 Re-animation - Follow-Up Projects, Practices, and Activities

Vivien Virág | Lecturer University of fine arts, Budapest (Puppet Design)

Patrícia Pajor | Assistant lecturer University of fine arts, Budapest (Puppet Design)

Dr. Saša Došen | Lecturer Academy of Arts and Culture, Osijek (Puppet Design)

Prof.ssa Porziana Maria Catalano (requested) | Lecturer Accademy of fine arts, Bari (Scenography)

Dr.phil. Ruby Jana Sircar | Lecturer (Contextual painting) & PM iPmau; Academy of fine arts, Vienna

Andreas Moritz | General project manager iPmau; Puppet Theatre LILARUM

17:00 Learning by Doing

Works from the project modules and from the everyday artistic work of students involved in the project and puppeteers. Presented in the auditorium.

18:00 Final curtain

Networking & drinks | Individual opportunity to visit the *Rundgang* (annual student festival of the Academy of fine arts)