

Host the 15th International Festival for improvisational Theater

## IMPRO 2016 - Borders, Limits, Liberty

From 11<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of March the Gorillas host the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of the IMPRO – the festival for international improvisational theater. Artists from 13 different countries improvise on several stages in Berlin and show the genre of improv theatre in all its exciting, experimental and most of all also political facets. The main theme of this years festival are borders.

The topic of refugees is the dominating one in these days. Therefore the IMPRO 2016 stands as a token for all those who hope for a better life far away from home. One main focus of the festival will be the borders and limits that we reach in every aspect of life. Limits that are set to us or that we set ourselves. In a several days lasting workshop according to this topic Farah Shaer and Lucien Bourjeily (both from Lebanon), Tarek Kannish (Syria) as well as Raouf Khelifa (Algeria) will share their experiences with borders, limits and censorship. Together with the festival players they develop how these experiences with political and societal structures can be artistically tranferred. The results of this workshop will be performed in the show series "A Place to be" at the English Theatre Berlin | IPAC.

"Improv without Bordes" is the motto on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> not only on the five stages in Berlin, but also around the globe. The Gorillas invited the international improv community to perfom on that day, on their stage, in their city, and to donate the proceeds of these evenings to an organisation that represents the interests of refugees – in Berlin the money will be donated in equal parts to "Pro Asyl" and "Asyl in der Kirche".

The Gorillas always try to show new improv colleagues next to well known players at the IMPRO. With Yelena Taimatova there is an actress from Kazakhstan a member of the festival for the first time, as well as colleagues from Norway, Greece and Columbia. Also Tarek Kannish (Syria) and Raouf Khelifa (Algeria) will have their Berlin premiere.

Next to "Improv without Borders" also the improv classics will be in the schedule: Women's and Men's Show, Barbara's Bar and the Improvision Song Contest. And again the Munich ensemble La Triviata, that delighted the audience already twice with their improvised operas, will be at the festival for a new guest performance.

We appreciate reports and announcements and are available to answer your questions. Of course you are heartly invited to the shows.

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