

Press release

IMPRO 2018: *Our Lives*

17-25 March | 28 European Improv Artists | 21 Shows

IMPRO, the international Festival of Improvised Theatre organised by Berlin's Gorillas, will celebrate a cultural encounter the size of which has not been seen before in its 2018 edition. Artists from all 28 (current) EU countries will meet in Berlin to improvise together on five Berlin stages.

Imbedded in *Our Lives*, the biennial international theatre project, producers Gorilla Theater e. V. will be promoting the idea of a European understanding with the means of its art form, i.e. improvisational theatre. The festival constitutes the climax of *Our Lives*: IMPRO 2018 combines the energy and vivacity of improvised theatre with the wealth of the artists' biographies and experiences as they use their own lives as the basis for what happens on stage. In interaction with the audience members, we'll create evenings of theatre made extraordinary by the immediacy and power of authenticity combined with the wealth of cultural differences. Locations are the English Theatre Berlin | IPAC, Ratibor Theater, Mehringhoftheater, Bühnenrausch and Pfefferberg.



The four *Our Lives* shows, titled Walls, Milestones, Places, and Community form the heart of IMPRO. They were developed in advance of the Berlin festival under the direction of one artistic director each in groups of seven, and deal with very personal lives in the 28 countries from different perspectives. What is it that makes us? In how far do our country of origin, our language, our environment determine our lives, our identities? How do we communicate life's missions beyond cultural differences? Is there more separating us than connecting us? Or is it maybe hard to feel Europe's cultural diversity in those life images on stage?

What's more, IMPRO's artists will play a total of over 20 shows, like they will compete at The Improvisation Song Contest or explore the explosive character of language in Spranguage, and all 28 performers will be together on the English Theater Berlin | IPAC's stage for the grand finale on 24 March. It's a unique European theatre experience celebrating the diversity of the cultures as well as the equality of the nations. We only draw one line: at the narrow-mindedness of nationalism.

The overall biennial project *Our Lives*, co-financed by the European Commission (EACEA), is produced by Gorilla Theater e. V. in co-operation with the three partner organisations Kolektiv Narobov/Zavod Federacija (Slovenia), Combats Absurdes (France) and Česká improvizační Liga (Czech Republic).

For more information, visit: www.ourlives.eu

**Our
lives**



DIE
GORILLAS
IMPROVISATION
BERLIN

Venues:

Ratibor Theater
English Theatre
Berlin | IPAC
Mehringhoftheater
Pfefferbergtheater
Bühnenrausch

Press Contact:

Barbara Wallace
barbara@culturalis.de
Phone:
+49-30-83037504
+49-177-2328577

www.ourlives-festival.de



Kofinanziert durch das
Programm Kreatives Europa
der Europäischen Union