



UNIMA Deutschland  
c/o Theater der Nacht  
Obere Straße 1  
37154 Northeim

Name

Street

Place of residence

Telefon

E-Mail

Signature



»Big and Small Worlds«, Tineola Theatre, Photo: Michal Kofan

### CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

#### Friday 14 August 2026

- 6 p.m. **Opening of the 10th German Puppet Theatre Conference** on Northeim's Münsterplatz
- 7 p.m. Parade through the city to the Theater der Nacht venue
- 8 p.m. **'BIG AND SMALL WORLDS'**, Tineola Theatre, Czechia. As part of the **10th Festival mit Hand & Fuß** at the theatre, € 25
- 8 p.m. **Activities and small concert** in front of the theatre
- 9 p.m. **Die schrägen Vögel**, concert at the theatre - donations requested
- 10 p.m. After-show discussion at the theatre

#### Saturday 15 August 2026

- 10 a.m. **SYMPOSIUM** on the theme of 'Appearance and Reality - the Figure between Worlds' at the Alte Brauerei
- 1 p.m. Lunch at the youth hostel
- 2-6.30 p.m. **SYMPOSIUM**
- 2 p.m. **'PANTA RHEI II'**, Magisch Theatertje, Netherlands. As part of the **10th Festival mit Hand & Fuß** at the Theater der Nacht, € 25
- 3-10 p.m. **Picnic in the park** and **theatre market** at the theatre featuring Norbert Böll, Kora Tscherning, Sonja Lenneke ...
- 8-10 p.m. **Andreas Leinemann**, concert at the theatre - donations requested
- 8 p.m. **'A PAPER LIFE'**, TamTam objektentheater, Netherlands. As part of the **10th Festival mit Hand & Fuß** at the Theater der Nacht, € 25
- 8 p.m. **Walk acts** in front of the theatre

#### Sunday 16 August 2026

- 10 a.m. Closing symposium
- 1 p.m. Lunch break
- 2-6 p.m. **Picnic in the park** and **theatre market** at the theatre. As part of the **10th Festival mit Hand & Fuß** - donations requested
- 7.45 p.m. Opening of the workshop part of the conference
- 20.00 Uhr **PREMIERE** by Sofie Krog Teater, Denmark. As part of the **10th Festival mit Hand & Fuß** at the Theater der Nacht, € 25



»Panta Rhei II«, Magisch Theatertje, Photo: Etienne van Sloun

#### Monday 17 August - Friday 21 August Workshops

- 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Warm up, work in selected workshops, lunch, Meet the Master
- 8 p.m. Evening events and short workshops in the theatre

#### Friday 21 August

- 7 p.m. **The Fantastic Stories of Professor Kluck**. Film as part of the **10th Festival mit Hand & Fuß**. Cinema Neue Schauburg, € 9

#### Saturday 22 August NIGHT OF THE PUPPETS

- 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Warm up, workshops, rehearsals and set-up
- 8 p.m. 'Night of the Puppets' Presentation of all workshop results at the Theater der Nacht
- 9.30 p.m. Dance at the Theater der Nacht with South American rhythms by **Bacalao** from Göttingen

#### Sunday 23 August Closing plenary

- 9 a.m. Tidying up
- 10 a.m. Closing round in the theatre hall
- 12 noon Barbecue and networking at, in and in front of the theatre
- 2 p.m. Conclusion



»A Paper Life«, TamTam objektentheater, Photo: Femke Teussink

### COST

**Symposium** participation fee: € 80, including water, coffee/tea/cake and lunch on Saturday 15 August 2026

Participation in the **workshop week** costs € 450 for members of the VDP or UNIMA, € 500 for non-members. If you book by 31 May 2026, you will receive an early bird discount of € 50 on the participation fee.

Students can apply to UNIMA for a scholarship for the conference.

The course fee includes:

- Admission to the evening performance on Sunday, 16 August 2026
- Attendance at a workshop
- Attendance at 'Meet the Master'
- Presentation of workshop results at the 'Night of the Puppets'
- Lunch and dinner

Link: **INFOS AND REGISTRATION**

### ACCOMMODATION + TICKETS

[jugenderberge-northeim.de](http://jugenderberge-northeim.de)  
[northeim-touristik.de](http://northeim-touristik.de)  
[theater-der-nacht.de/tickets](http://theater-der-nacht.de/tickets)



### ORGANISER + VENUE

Theater der Nacht, Northeim in cooperation with UNIMA Germany and the VDP

Further information is available at:

[theater-der-nacht.de](http://theater-der-nacht.de)  
[unima.de](http://unima.de) · [vdp-ev.de](http://vdp-ev.de)

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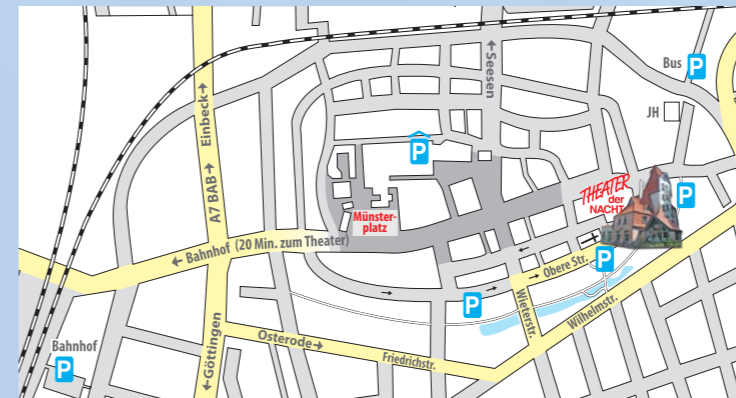
Niedersächsisches Ministerium  
für Wissenschaft und Kultur



AKB STIFTUNG  
Stiftung der Familie Götterstedt-Böhmig



KSN-Stiftung  
Kreis-Sparkasse Northeim



Cover photo: »Big and Small Worlds«, Tineola Theatre, Photo: Michal Kofan



# 10TH GERMAN PUPPET THEATRE CONFERENCE 14.-23.8.2026

Symposium · Festival · Workshops · Lectures · Discussion

## APPEARANCE AND REALITY THE PUPPET BETWEEN WORLDS



# 10th German Puppet Theatre Conference

## APPEARANCE AND REALITY - The Puppet Between Worlds

### 14 - 23 August 2026 at the Theater der Nacht in Northeim

#### Welcome to the anniversary conference!

The VDP, UNIMA, and Theater der Nacht invite you to the 10th German Puppet Theatre Conference in 2026.

The conference consists of a symposium, workshops, artist talks, theatre performances and working discussions. It offers the opportunity to discover, research and experiment on a wide variety of levels. You will meet renowned workshop leaders, puppeteers and experts from other fields from all over the world.

#### SYMPOSIUM

Sa. 15.8. von 10 - 18.30 Uhr und So. 16.8. von 10 - 12 Uhr in der Alten Brauerei  
Moderator: **Mareike Gaubitz** with the following guest speakers:

**Michaela Bartoňová**, visual artist + puppeteer, Prague [tineola.cz](http://tineola.cz)  
'Art and science are cool - puppetry as a means of popularising science'

**Stephan Wunsch**, puppeteer, Aachen [rosenfisch.de](http://rosenfisch.de)  
'How wood keeps its word'

**Sylvia Deinert**, puppeteer + researcher, Hamburg [fundus-theater.de](http://fundus-theater.de)  
'In between - on the evidence of appearance and reality in puppet theatre'

**Robert Pfaller**, researcher + philosopher, Linz [robert-pfaller.com](http://robert-pfaller.com)  
Who are the deceived here? - The joy of seeing through appearances. And their compelling power

#### CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

You can participate in the entire conference, only in the symposium or only in the workshops. The results of the workshops will be presented in the public 'Night of the Puppets' and then celebrated in style. The conference ends on Sunday, 23 August 2026, after an feedback discussion at 12 noon. Afterwards, there will be time for networking and a barbecue. Participation for the entire duration of the workshop week is mandatory.

#### MEET THE MASTER + EVENING EVENTS AT THE THEATRE

**Mo. 17.8.** 2.15 pm in the theatre hall: Fabrizio Montecchi, Italy  
8.00 pm City tour and guided tour of the theatre

**Tu. 18.8.** 2.15 p.m. in the theatre hall: Svein Gundersen, Norway  
8.00 p.m. Contact juggling - short workshop with Beatrice Baumann

**We. 19.8.** 2.15 p.m. in the theatre hall: Tristan Vogt, Germany  
8.00 p.m. 'Radikal dinglich!' ('Radically urgent!') - A documentary film by the KomplexX Figurentheater alliance & Alexander Hector

**Th. 20.8.** 2.15 p.m. in the theatre hall: Kathy Foley, USA  
8.00 p.m. Short workshop with Svein Gundersen, Norway

**Fr. 21.8.** 2.15 p.m. in the theatre hall: Jürgen Maaßen, Germany  
7.00 p.m. 'The Fantastic Stories of Professor Kluck', feature film as part of the 10th Festival 'with hands and feet, Neue Schauburg cinema, € 9



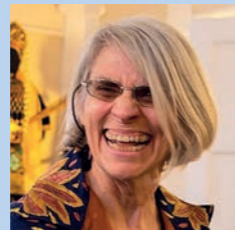
#### WORKSHOP 1: The Alphabet of Shadow Theatre **SOLD OUT!**

Led by: Fabrizio Montecchi, Italy  
(Maximum 12 workshop participants, course language: English/Italian)

Fabrizio Montecchi takes us on a short journey into the world of contemporary shadow theatre and shows us its extraordinary theatrical possibilities. A journey into a world where shadows share the stage with light, objects and performers, entering into dialogue with music and words, and opening the hearts and minds of today's audiences. A form of theatre that, due to its interdisciplinary nature, is an integral part of the modern stage landscape.

#### Fabrizio Montecchi

is a director and set designer for shadow theatre. Since 1985, he has staged around 70 shadow plays for theatres and ensembles worldwide, which have won numerous national and international awards. For over thirty years, he has been holding conferences and workshops on contemporary shadow theatre at universities, academies and theatre institutions, always at an international level. [unima.org](http://unima.org)



#### WORKSHOP 2: Wayang - Indonesian puppetry

Led by: Kathy Foley, USA  
(Maximum 12 workshop participants, course language: English)

As a scroll theatre, shadow theatre, rod puppet theatre or dance drama, Wayang offers puppeteers adaptable ideas on dramaturgy, manipulation techniques, principles of puppet movement, voice guidance and character types, enabling solo artists to embody the cosmos. Welcome to the world of Wayang, where puppetry is the primordial art that human theatre attempts to emulate and whose ritual and mythical dimensions it seeks to capture.

#### Kathy Foley

is a multi-award-winning research professor of performance/play/design (theatre arts) at UCSC and former president of UNIMA-USA. She was editor of the Asian Theatre Journal and one of the first non-Indonesian dalangs to perform at the Indonesia National Wayang Festival. She has received support from Fulbright, the Asian Cultural Council, the Institute of Sacred Music/Yale and the East-West Center Grants. [ari.ucsc.edu](http://ari.ucsc.edu)



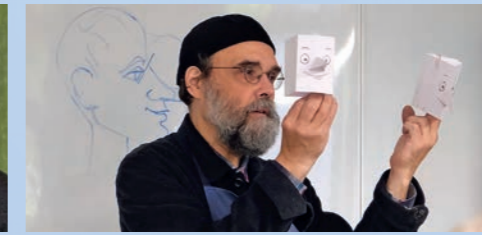
#### WORKSHOP 3: What things do - Object theatre workshop

Led by: Tristan Vogt, Germany **SOLD OUT!**  
(Maximum 12 workshop participants, course language: German)

In this workshop, we will explore the magical world of things through simple performance exercises: What does an object 'feel', what is its problem, what does it dream of? How can we 'bring things to life' in theatre and create little stories?

'By trying to take the place of things and their perspective, we put ourselves in a position to discover the world we think we know as an unknown.'  
(Hansjürgen Bulkowski, Liebe zur Sache)

**Tristan Vogt** is one of the representatives of theatre for children that not only claims to create great art with 'small' means. His precise minimalism, as in 'Was Sachen so machen' (What Things Do) or 'Daheim in der Welt' (At Home in the World), is touching not least because of the appreciation inherent in each of his gestures with and towards the simple objects of the unpretentious scenarios. A theatre that is the antithesis of any aesthetic designed to impress or dramatically overwhelm - and yet leaves a deep impression precisely because of this, bringing the inconspicuous to light, both aesthetically and in terms of content. (Anke Meyer) [thalias-kompagnons.de](http://thalias-kompagnons.de)



#### WORKSHOP 4: In search of characteristics - basics of form finding

Led by: Jürgen Maaßen, Germany **SOLD OUT!**  
(Maximum 12 workshop participants, course language: German)

Drawing and sculpting exercises in clay and other malleable materials with a special focus on sculptural principles.

#### Jürgen Maaßen

has been a puppet builder, scenographer and set designer for 50 years. In his courses, he teaches skills in designing, carving and creating theatre figures. [ambrella.de](http://ambrella.de)



#### WORKSHOP 5: Training with large paper puppets

Led by: Svein Gundersen, Norway  
(Maximum 12 workshop participants, course language: English)

In this workshop, we will work with simple, large paper puppets (approx. 1.50 m). Each puppet is operated by three puppeteers, in a style similar to Bunraku. Svein learned how to work with these puppets at the Handspring Puppet Theatre and has used them in training puppeteers and theatre students. This work offers excellent opportunities to practise cooperation, attention and improvisation.

#### Svein Gundersen

has worked as a director and playwright for many years and has also been active as an actor and stage designer. He has been involved in the work of Unima, both in Unima Norway and in Unima International. Svein Gundersen is deputy artistic director of the Kulturproduksjoner theatre, a member of the Norwegian Writers' Association and professor emeritus at Oslo Metropolitan University. [fb.com/kulturprod.no](http://fb.com/kulturprod.no)



I would like to register for:

**Participation in the symposium (15-16 August 2026)**  
Participation fee € 80, including water, coffee/tea/cake and lunch on Saturday, 15 August 2026

**Participation in the workshop week (17-23 August 2026)**  
I would like to participate in the following workshop at a price of (€ 500 / € 450):

- WS 1** The alphabet of shadow play
- WS 2** Wayang - Indonesian puppet theatre
- WS 3** What things do
- WS 4** In search of characteristics
- WS 5** Training with large paper puppets

I am a UNIMA member  I am a VDP member

Discounts apply to members. If you book by 31 May 2026, you will receive an early bird discount of € 50 on the course fee. Students can apply to UNIMA for a scholarship for the conference.

**Link: [INFOS AND REGISTRATION](#)**

When you register, you will receive a confirmation from us. This confirms your registration and the participant is obliged to pay the seminar fees even in the event of illness or absence. After we have invoiced you, the entire participation fee is due within 14 days. A refund of the fee is only possible if the conference or a workshop is cancelled for unforeseen reasons.

All workshops are suitable for both amateurs and professionals.  
Organiser: Theater der Nacht e.V., Obere Straße 1, 37154 Northeim

Seminar insurance

To save yourself hassle and costs, we recommend taking out seminar insurance. This does not cost much and will cover any costs incurred. Ask your insurance partner or search for yourself on the internet, e.g. using the search term 'seminar insurance'.