



2021 Annual report

MEMBERSHIP

SPID – Croatian Screenwriters and Playwrights Guild was established in **2015**. Currently we are counting **116 members** which include playwrights, dramaturgs, gaming writers and screenwriters for **TV and film**. Although many of our members pursue parallel careers we estimate that about half of them are actively involved in the audiovisual sector. We estimate that the number of members will rise steadily, at the rate of about **10-15 new** members per year. This year alone we gained a total of 21 newcomers.

ACTIVITIES IN 2021

PUBLIC TALKS “PROFESSION: DRAMATURGE”

After last year's “New Generations” series, in which we introduced our younger members, this year, in collaboration with the Booksa Literary Club, we organised the series “**Profession: Dramaturge**”. Members of SPID took part in three panels which addressed the **specific types and conditions of labour** in the field of dramaturgy, its invisible aspects, and the positioning of that work in relation to institutions of culture and education.

The themes were: 1. The Precarious Life of Dramaturges, 2. The work of Dramaturges Employed in Institutional Theaters, and 3. Dance Dramaturgy. This series also announced the release of the first fair pay document in the field, under the title “Handbook on Copyright, Fair Pay and Workers’ Rights in the Field of Screenwriting, Dramaturgy, and Performance Writing”.

SCRIPTWRITING PROGRAM “ZORA DIRNBACH”

This year we launched the first edition of this new program - called after a very important, but often forgotten **female Croatian** scriptwriter and editor who died a few years ago.



Aimed at development of feature length scripts, this program is different from other script development programs because its mentors are not scriptdoctors or film producers, but local female theoreticians, activists and scientists dealing with various topics related to the **social sphere** - like human and women's rights, migration, climate change, LGBTQA issues and so on.

During the three month period the two selected authors will have the chance to work on their scripts from the perspective of their social impact and meaning, not only their formal aspect - which we find crucial for the overall development of the film industry.

INTERNAL CALL FOR PROJECTS BY MEMBERS "CRISIS IN CRISIS"

We have developed this project as one of the measures to help members face the COVID-19 crisis - by setting apart a sum of the financial support we get for the realisation of small scale projects by members. We are open for different kinds of projects - workshops, round tables, exchange formats, talks, experimental formats, and so on. This year, the project we selected was a scriptwriting workshop called "Scriptwriting in Dialect" by one of our young members Mateja Posedi. The workshop took place over Zoom and had 7 participants.

THE GUILD'S HANDBOOK ON COPYRIGHT, FAIR PAY AND WORKERS' RIGHTS

Aside from increasing our members' visibility and organising educational programmes, in October of 2021 SPID published **the first fair pay document** in the field of performing arts and audiovisual culture in Croatia, i.e. the comprehensive document "**Handbook on Copyright, Fair Pay and Workers' Rights in the Field of Screenwriting, Dramaturgy, and Performance Writing**", which – in terms of scope – represents a unique document in the field of culture and the arts in Croatia. In addition to the release, we organized the first panel to promote the document, with guests from related initiatives, and we hope to continue working on its distribution in other Croatian cities in 2022.



It is equally important to emphasize that the publication of the fair pay document has already been met with positive reactions from cultural workers, and encouraged by its publication, a range of other associations have announced making their own fair pay documents. Thus we tend to see this document as an important element in the empowerment of the local cultural scene and in connecting diverse guilds. Additionally, by cooperating with the platform Za K.R.U.H. and the Croatian Dancers Association we are participating in the creation and implementation of fair pay protocols, in an attempt to have our guild's fair pay document put into effect as efficiently as possible, in all areas of work of our members.

OTHER EVENTS

In June of 2021 we collaborated with the **Goethe Institute** and HC ITI, with whom we co-organized the round table “**Contemporary Playwriting: Positive Practices**”, which was held within the framework of the project New Stages Southeast, a project by the Goethe Institute that aims to support the creation of new plays and that connects young playwrights from Southeast Europe and Germany.

During the same month, on June 17 2021, SPID collaborated with **ZagrebDox** in &TD Theater and held a masterclass by the Swiss film and theater director Milo Rau: “**Milo Rau and Paths of Justice: Between Political Theater and the Documentary**”, where the director spoke about his own work and art concepts through which he examines some of the most painful contemporary global issues.

Jasna Žmak, president

Zagreb, 11.11.2021.