



## 2022 Annual report

### MEMBERSHIP

*SPID – Croatian Screenwriters and Playwrights Guild* was established in **2015**. Currently we are counting **136 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 13 newcomers.

### ACTIVITIES IN 2022

#### SCRIPTWRITING PROGRAM “ZORA DIRNBACH”

This year we had the second 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 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 documentary and experimental film workshop called "Liberated film: Film adventures for children and young people" by one of our members, Toma Zidić. The workshop took place from August 27 to September 2, 2022

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

Aside from increasing our members' visibility and organizing 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. Since then, we have organized activities to increase its visibility. During 2022, two online workshops were held as part of our "**Let's be realistic, we seek the impossible**" block of workshops. One was a "**What after college?**", led by member Ivana Vuković, and the other one was called "**What after the handbook?**" led by members Nina Gojić and Lucija Klarić.

It is important to point out 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.

## **FREE LEGAL ADVICE FOR MEMBERS**

Starting this year, we provide members with a certain number of free legal consultations with **lawyers** who are experts in the domain of copyright. We provide members with consultations with lawyers Zrinka Bojanić, Luka Kurjan or Sven Skračić who have experience in the field of copyright and related rights.



Members apply for consultations through an **online** form and choose the lawyer they want to work with, depending on their experience and background. In addition to legal consultations, we plan to provide a certain number of free accounting consultations for the membership next year.

### **RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM "WRITERS' CLUB"**

At the beginning of this year we organized "**Writers' Club**", the digital residency program in which members of the club provide each other with the necessary dramaturgical support. Club meetings took place in a horizontal dynamic, primarily serving as a place to explore one's own ideas and discuss the process of creation among male and female fellow writers. Four playwrights were selected to participate in the program - Nikolina Rafaj, Neda Jankovski, Maja Sviben and Venio Mušinović. The program was coordinated by Lucija Klarić.

### **STAGE READINGS "NEW STAGES: STAGE READINGS"**

"**New Stages: Stage Reading**" was a three-day event during which SPID, together with Goethe-Institut and KunstTeatar presented five new dramatic texts by Lucija Klarić, Ivana Vuković, Ana Perčinlić, Anita Čeko and Filip Jurjević. The texts were created during several month-long workshops of the Goethe-Institut New Stages Southeast under the mentorship of playwright and screenwriter Ivor Martinić. In the hybrid form of staged reading and conversation with the playwright, the audience got the opportunity to get to know each text and its author, and to get an insight into the author's creative process. The stage readings were directed by young directors Ivan Planinić, Kristina Grubiša, Patrik Sečen, Nika Bokić and Ivan Penović, and the authors of the texts were each other's playwrights. The event was opened by a round table "**What is a dramatic text?**" attended by Romana Brajša, founder of KunstTeatar, producer and assistant professor at the Production Department of the Academy of Dramatic Arts in Zagreb, Goran Ferčec, writer, dramatist, doc. art. at the Dramaturgy Department of the Academy of Dramatic Arts in Zagreb, and Igor Ružić, a long-time theater critic, moderated by playwright Nikolina Rafaj.

### **DISCUSSION-WORKSHOP PROGRAM "CRITICAL DRAMATURGY"**

Together with the association Kurziv, we held a discursive-workshop program "**Critical dramaturgy**", which dealt with the issue of collaborative practices in the field of performing arts and criticism.



“**Critical dramaturgy**” is conceived as a meeting place for all those who are interested in imagining and practicing an alternative to the traditionally hierarchical production in film and performing arts, as well as in their critical reflection. Working groups within the program dealt with the potential of cinema as a tool in political struggle (with the guidance of film workers Karla Crnčević and Darija Blažević), the principles of feminist dramaturgical thinking (with the guidance of dance artist Ana Dubljević) and critical writing as a collaborative and collective practice (under the leadership of the Critical Interruptions collective, which consists of artists and researchers Diana Damian Martin and Bojana Janković).

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

This year, SPID was one of the partners in the project “**Mental health as a creative process: drama workshops with young people**”, which was held in cooperation with the theater company KUFER and partners BoliMe and KunstTeatar. The project consisted of five cycles of drama workshops, with five different playwrights, a psychologist, a director and professional actors.

In addition, we organized a forum “**Fair pay and working conditions in culture**” in cooperation with the Liburnia Film Festival, and collaborated with the Unseen Film Festival, where member Lucija Klarić moderated the panel “**Unseen - Magical bodies, radical screens**”.

Jasna Žmak, president

Zagreb, 19.12.2022.