

STAGE+T - WP2, Activity 2 – Interview Questions

Interview: ANCA ANDRONE



Initial information:

1. **Nationality:** Romanian
2. **Name:** Anca Androne
3. **Age:** 51
4. **Gender:** Female
5. **Highest finished education:** National University of Theatre and Cinematographic Arts (UNATC) – Acting Department
6. **Current employment status:**
 - ☒ Full-time employed
 - ☐ Part-time employed
 - ☐ Self-employed
 - ☐ Student
 - ☐ Retired
 - ☐ Other (please specify)
7. **Are you currently working in the theatre industry?**
 - ☒ Yes, full-time
 - ☐ Yes, part-time
 - ☐ No, but I used to

☐ No, I am involved as a volunteer/amateur

8. Employment

- a. Part time employed
- b. Full time employed ☒
- c. Self employed
- d. Student
- e. Retired
- f. Other (describe)

Interviewee's role in theatre:

1. What role do you play in theatre? (Actor, director, set designer, writer, etc)

I am an actress, and my work spans both classic and contemporary theatre. Over the years, I've had the privilege of performing in a wide range of productions, including national, independent, and even international shows. My work often requires a deep understanding of human emotions and the ability to bring various characters to life, each with their own unique story..

2. How long have you done theatre?

I've been involved in theatre for over 20 years. My career started right after I graduated from university, and since then, I've constantly been evolving, taking on more challenging roles, and expanding my horizon in different genres of theatre.

3. Approximately how many shows have you been involved in?

I've been a part of around 40 to 50 productions, including plays, readings, and experimental projects. Each experience has been unique and has contributed to my growth as an actress.

4. What type of theatre do you work in? (Commercial, independent, experimental, educational, social, other)

I have worked in both commercial and independent theatre. I enjoy the creative freedom that comes with independent and experimental theatre, but I also appreciate the large-scale productions that commercial theatre offers. I believe both types are important and provide valuable experiences for both artists and audiences.

5. What motivated you to start working in theatre?

From a young age, I was fascinated by the idea of embodying different characters and exploring the complexities of human nature. Theatre gave me a platform to express

myself and understand the world better. I was also inspired by the ability of theatre to bring people together, to provoke thought, and to spark conversation. I saw theatre as a way to connect with people on a deeper level.

6. What is the most fulfilling part of creating a performance for you?

For me, the most fulfilling part is the emotional connection between the actor and the audience. During each performance, there is a unique exchange that occurs—a shared experience that can't be replicated. This bond is what keeps me going as an actress, and every night on stage feels like a new journey. I also love the creative process that happens in rehearsals, when the piece slowly comes to life, and everyone's contributions shape the final result.

7. What are the biggest challenges you face in the theatre industry?

One of the biggest challenges is the financial instability many theatre productions face. The lack of sufficient funding, especially for experimental or independent theatre, can limit creativity and opportunities. Additionally, finding the right balance between commercial success and artistic integrity can be difficult. The pressure to constantly reinvent oneself and stay relevant in a competitive industry is another challenge.

8. What skills have you gained through your theatre experience? (Creativity, public speaking, teamwork, leadership, etc.)

Through my theatre experience, I've gained a broad set of skills, from public speaking and creative expression to working under pressure and collaborating with diverse teams. Theatre has taught me discipline, empathy, resilience, and the importance of constant self-improvement. The ability to adapt to different roles and styles of theatre has been key to my development as an actress.

9. Has theatre helped you develop social connections?

Absolutely. Theatre has provided me with numerous opportunities to form lasting friendships and professional connections. The nature of theatre is collaborative, so you are constantly interacting with others, whether it's with fellow actors, directors, or other members of the creative team. I've built strong, long-lasting relationships with many of these people. Some of my closest friendships and most significant professional collaborations have been born out of my work in theatre. These connections have been an integral part of my journey.

If yes, do you have any long-term relationships (friendships, professional collaborations) that started through theatre? How long have they lasted?

Yes, many of my most valuable friendships and professional partnerships have originated through theatre. Some of these relationships have lasted for over 15 years.

Collaborating with directors, playwrights, and fellow actors has been incredibly enriching, and the mutual respect and trust developed over time are priceless.

10. What age group do you believe benefits the most from theatre experiences, and why?

I believe that theatre benefits both young people and older adults. For younger audiences, theatre provides an opportunity for self-exploration and understanding the complexities of the human condition. For older adults, theatre offers an emotional outlet and a way to reflect on their life experiences. It can also help break down generational gaps and foster deeper connections between people from different walks of life.

11. Has theatre influenced your personal development in any way? How?

Theatre has had a profound influence on my personal development. It has helped me become more self-aware, emotionally intelligent, and open-minded. It has taught me how to channel my emotions and experiences into my work, making me a more empathetic and understanding individual. Theatre has also given me the courage to step outside of my comfort zone and embrace new challenges both on and off the stage.

12. Do you think theatre has been inclusive in your experience? If not, what barriers exist?

Overall, I have had a positive and inclusive experience within the theatre world. However, I recognize that barriers do exist, especially for those from marginalized communities. Accessibility to theatre education and opportunities is still a challenge for many. While there have been significant improvements, there is still work to be done in terms of diversity and inclusion, particularly in leadership positions within theatre organizations.

13. Would you like to add anything about your personal journey in theatre?

My journey in theatre has been one of constant learning and growth. It has shaped me both as an artist and as a person. Each role I've played, each production I've been part of, has left a mark on me, and I continue to be inspired by the transformative power of theatre.

14. Why did you start doing theatre?

I started doing theatre because I was drawn to the emotional and intellectual challenge of portraying different characters. It was a way for me to express myself and understand the world around me. Theatre allowed me to explore human emotions and experiences

in a way that no other art form could. It gave me the opportunity to communicate with people in a way that was raw, honest, and impactful.

15. What is your favorite part of creating a show?

My favorite part is the rehearsal process. The way each rehearsal brings new discoveries, and the excitement of watching a show evolve, is something I cherish. It's also a time when you form close bonds with your cast and crew, and these relationships often become like family. There's something magical about seeing a performance come to life on stage.

16. Do you think you have learned any skills while doing theatre?

Yes, absolutely. I have learned a great deal about discipline, teamwork, creative expression, and how to manage stress. Theatre has taught me how to be present in the moment, to connect with others deeply, and to be adaptable to new situations. It has also sharpened my ability to think critically and solve problems quickly.

17. If yes, what skills in particular do you think you have gained from doing theatre?

I've gained invaluable skills like communication, leadership, time management, empathy, and creativity. These skills not only help me on stage but also in everyday life.

18. Do you think you have gained social skills and/or relations while doing theatre?

Yes, theatre has been one of the most important platforms for building both personal and professional relationships. It has allowed me to meet people from all walks of life and form meaningful connections. The collaborative nature of theatre fosters a strong sense of community and helps to develop deep, lasting bonds.

19. If yes, do you have any long-time relationships because of theatre? How long?

Yes, I have lasting friendships and professional collaborations that have continued for more than 10 years. These relationships have been pivotal in my career and have provided me with a sense of stability and trust within the theatre community.

20. What age group do you think especially should go watch theatres, and why?

I think people of all ages should watch theatre, but especially young adults and seniors. Young adults benefit from seeing different perspectives and reflecting on the world around them, while seniors can find solace and a sense of connection through theatre. It provides a space for both groups to explore emotions and reflect on life's complexities.

21. What do you think theatre has done for your personal development?

Theatre has helped me become a more introspective and compassionate person. It has given me the tools to understand others better, to see the world from multiple

viewpoints, and to express my emotions in a healthy and productive way. It's been a catalyst for my growth, both professionally and personally.

22. Anything you would like to add about our personal experience with theatre?

Theatre has been my life's greatest teacher. It has shaped me in ways I never imagined and continues to challenge me. It's an art form that constantly evolves, and I'm proud to be a part of it.

General questions (for each question, ask WHY, WHAT or HOW to get a detailed answer):

1. Do you think that theatre can help improve skills in adults?

Yes

- a. If yes, then what skills come to mind
 - Communication, empathy, creativity, critical thinking, public speaking, and leadership.
- b. How would you make sure that those skills were taught during the creation of the show?
 - Through exercises in improvisation, script analysis, group collaboration, and regular feedback sessions.
- c. Are there any skills that you think could be good to start learning/teaching while creating theatre?
 - Yes, resilience, adaptability, and emotional intelligence are important skills for adults, especially for navigating life's challenges.

2. Do you think theatre can help adults develop socially?

Yes.

- a. How would you make sure that the adults get to develop socially?
 - By encouraging group activities, discussions, and creating a supportive environment where every voice is heard.
- b. Are there any ways where theatre could be having a negative effect socially?
 - If the environment becomes overly competitive or toxic, it can lead to stress or feelings of inadequacy.
- c. Do you think theatre can help with boredom in adults?
 - Absolutely, theatre provides an engaging and meaningful outlet for expression and creativity
- d. Do you think theatre can help with general life satisfaction in adults?
 - Yes, it offers a sense of purpose and fulfillment, allowing people to reflect, connect, and grow.

3. What initiative do you think could be effective in teaching more people development and social skills through theatre?

Community-based theatre projects, workshops for personal development, and collaborations between different organizations to promote theatre as a tool for growth.

4. Do you think more people should go watch shows at the theatre?

Yes, more people should experience the magic of live theatre. It's an art form that transcends boundaries and creates unforgettable moments of connection.

5. Do you think more people should be a part of creating theatre shows?

Yes.

- a. Do you think that there is anything holding people back from doing theatre?
 - Lack of access to training or opportunities, or fear of failure.
- b. What do you think can be done to engage more people?
 - By offering open workshops, educational programs, and partnerships with schools and community centers to make theatre more accessible.

6. Can you explain what you think the difference is between amateur and professional theatre?

Both are important. Amateur theatre provides a space for experimentation, while professional theatre sets higher standards and offers more opportunities.

- a. Do you think that there should be more professional or amateur shows available in your local area?
 - A balance is essential, as both serve different purposes and reach different audiences.
- b. Do you think it's easy to access information about the local shows, and do you think enough people see the information?
 - Sometimes, the promotion of local productions could be better. Greater visibility and outreach would encourage more people to attend.

7. Are you worried about technology and its impact on theatre?

• I'm not overly concerned, as technology can enhance the experience when used wisely. However, it should never overshadow the live, human connection at the heart of theatre.

- a. Are you worried about AI and its impact on the entertainment industry?
 - AI could help with production aspects, but it can never replace the emotional depth that live actors bring to the stage.

b. Is there something you think theatre can do that watching a digital movie can't do?

- The immediacy and shared energy between the audience and performers create an experience that film cannot replicate.

8. Do you have a fun fact about theatre that you would like to share?

The most memorable moments often come from unplanned, spontaneous occurrences that create a unique experience each time.

9. Any other comments about theatre that you would like to mention?

Theatre is an essential part of human culture. It connects us, challenges us, and allows us to reflect on our lives and society. It is a platform where we can find meaning, express emotions, and experience the world in ways that no other medium can offer.

STAGE+T - WP2, Activity 2 - Interview Questions

Interview: CHRIS SIMION MERCURIAN



Initial information:

1. **Nationality:** Romanian
2. **Name:** Chris Simion Mercurian
3. **Age:** 47
4. **Gender:** F
5. **Highest finished education:** Graduate of the National University of Theatre and Film "Ion Luca Caragiale"
6. **Current employment status:**
 - ☒ Full-time employed
 - ☐ Part-time employed
 - ☐ Self-employed
 - ☐ Student
 - ☐ Retired
 - ☐ Other (please specify)
7. **Are you currently working in the theatre industry?**
 - ☒ Yes, full-time
 - ☐ Yes, part-time
 - ☐ No, but I used to
 - ☐ No, I am involved as a volunteer/amateur
8. **Employment**

- a. Part time employed
- b. Full time employed ✓
- c. Self employed
- d. Student
- e. Retired
- f. Other (describe)

1. What role do you play in theatre? (Actor, director, set designer, writer, etc)

I am primarily a writer and director. Occasionally, I also mentor young actors and collaborate on dramaturgy.

2. How long have you done theatre?

I've been working in theatre for over 25 years now.

3. Approximately how many shows have you been involved in?

Roughly 40, both as a writer and director. Some were small independent productions, others were staged in national theatres.

4. What type of theatre do you work in? (Commercial, independent, experimental, educational, social, other)

Mostly independent and experimental theatre, though I've also worked on educational and social projects.

5. What motivated you to start working in theatre?

It was the emotional intensity and human connection theatre allows. I saw my first play at 12 and was deeply moved—it felt like magic that I wanted to understand and be part of.

6. What is the most fulfilling part of creating a performance for you?

When a scene finally “clicks” emotionally in rehearsal—when it moves the actors, the audience, and even me. That's when I know it's alive.

7. What are the biggest challenges you face in the theatre industry?

Funding, sustainability, and a lack of infrastructure for independent artists. Also, the constant competition for visibility.

8. What skills have you gained through your theatre experience? (Creativity, public speaking, teamwork, leadership, etc.)

Definitely leadership, empathy, adaptability, storytelling, and how to listen deeply—to words, silences, and what's between them.

9. Has theatre helped you develop social connections?

Yes, absolutely.

- Do you have any long-term relationships (friendships, professional collaborations) that started through theatre? How long have they lasted?

I've collaborated with some actors and designers for over 15 years. These bonds go beyond the stage.

10. What age group do you believe benefits the most from theatre experiences, and why?

Teenagers and young adults—they're in the midst of shaping their identity and theatre offers a safe space for expression, exploration, and emotional development.

11. Has theatre influenced your personal development in any way? How?

Yes. It taught me resilience, patience, and how to live more truthfully, both on and off stage.

12. Do you think theatre has been inclusive in your experience? If not, what barriers exist?

Not always. There are still barriers for marginalized voices—economic, social, and systemic ones. Inclusion remains a work in progress.

13. Would you like to add anything about your personal journey in theatre?

It hasn't always been easy, but every moment has been worth it. Theatre has shaped who I am—both as an artist and as a human being.

14. Why did you start doing theatre?

Because I couldn't not do it. It felt like home from the very beginning.

15. What is your favorite part of creating a show?

The rehearsals—the process of discovering the story together with the actors.

16. Do you think you have learned any skills while doing theatre?

Definitely, many.

17. If yes, what skills in particular do you think you have gained from doing theatre?

Creative problem-solving, collaboration, leadership under pressure, and emotional intelligence.

18. Do you think you have gained social skills and/or relations while doing theatre?

Yes.

19. If yes, do you have any long-time relationships because of theatre? How long?

Yes, some friendships and working relationships have lasted over two decades.

20. What age group do you think especially should go watch theatres, and why?

Young people—because theatre opens the heart and mind in a way that screens often can't.

21. What do you think theatre has done for your personal development?

It made me more empathetic, more patient, and gave me a deeper understanding of the human condition.

22. Anything you would like to add about your personal experience with theatre?

Theatre saved me many times—it gave me purpose, voice, and connection when I needed them most.

General Questions:

1. Do you think that theatre can help improve skills in adults?

Yes.

a. If yes, then what skills come to mind?

Communication, empathy, adaptability, problem-solving, and confidence.

b. How would you make sure that those skills were taught during the creation of the show?

By creating collaborative rehearsal spaces where everyone's voice matters, using improvisation and reflective exercises.

c. Are there any skills that you think could be good to start learning/teaching while creating theatre?

Active listening, non-verbal communication, emotional regulation, and storytelling.

2. Do you think theatre can help adults develop socially?

Yes.

a. How would you make sure that the adults get to develop socially?

Through ensemble-building exercises, post-rehearsal discussions, and trust-based group dynamics.

b. Are there any ways where theatre could be having a negative effect socially?

If it becomes hierarchical or exclusionary, it might reinforce insecurity instead of encouraging connection.

c. Do you think theatre can help with boredom in adults?

Absolutely. It offers both stimulation and a sense of purpose.

d. Do you think theatre can help with general life satisfaction in adults?

Yes, especially when it offers a platform for expression and connection.

3. What initiative do you think could be effective in teaching more people development and social skills through theatre?

Community-based theatre workshops, especially intergenerational ones, where diverse participants create stories together.

4. Do you think more people should go watch shows at the theatre?

Definitely. Theatre provides a unique, shared human experience that no other medium can replicate.

5. Do you think more people should be a part of creating theatre shows?

Yes.

a. Do you think that there is anything holding people back from doing theatre?

Fear, lack of access, financial insecurity, and the misconception that theatre is only for professionals.

b. What do you think can be done to engage more people?

Offer free or low-cost workshops, demystify the process, and take theatre to unconventional spaces.

6. Can you explain what you think the difference is between amateur and professional theatre?

It's more about resources and context than talent. Professional theatre often involves payment and a public audience, while amateur theatre is usually for learning or community building.

a. Do you think that there should be more professional or amateur shows available in your local area?

Both! They serve different but equally important purposes.

b. Do you think it's easy to access information about the local shows, and do you think enough people see the information?

No, we still lack a central, accessible platform for theatre events. More visibility is needed.

7. Are you worried about technology and its impact on theatre?

Somewhat.

a. Are you worried about AI and its impact on the entertainment industry?

Yes, especially if it replaces rather than complements human creativity.

b. Is there something you think theatre can do that watching a digital movie can't do?

Yes—create a live, emotional, two-way connection between audience and performer in real time.

8. Do you have a fun fact about theatre that you would like to share?

Theatre comes from the Greek word *theatron*, meaning “a place for seeing”—but ironically, it's also a place for truly being seen.

9. Any other comments about theatre that you would like to mention?

Theatre is more than art. It's community, therapy, rebellion, education, and celebration—all rolled into one.

STAGE+T - WP2, Activity 2 - Interview Questions

Interview: DANIELA NANE



Initial information:

1. **Nationality:** Romanian
2. **Name:** Daniela Nane
3. **Age:** 53
4. **Gender:** F
5. **Highest finished education:** Graduate of the “Ion Luca Caragiale” National University of Theatre and Film in Bucharest
6. **Current employment status:**
 - ☒ Full-time employed
 - ☐ Part-time employed
 - ☐ Self-employed
 - ☐ Student
 - ☐ Retired
 - ☐ Other (please specify)
7. **Are you currently working in the theatre industry?**
 - ☒ Yes, full-time

- ☐ Yes, part-time
- ☐ No, but I used to
- ☐ No, I am involved as a volunteer/amateur

8. Employment

- a. Part time employed
- b. Full time employed ✓
- c. Self employed
- d. Student
- e. Retired
- f. Other (describe)

1. What role do you play in theatre? (Actor, director, set designer, writer, etc)

I am an actress.

2. How long have you done theatre?

I've been working in theatre for more than 30 years. It's been a lifelong passion.

3. Approximately how many shows have you been involved in?

It's difficult to count exactly, but I'd say I've been involved in over 50 productions in different stages of my career.

4. What type of theatre do you work in? (Commercial, independent, experimental, educational, social, other)

I've worked in both commercial and independent theatre, but I have a special fondness for experimental and social theatre that challenges perceptions and explores new forms of expression.

5. What motivated you to start working in theatre?

Theatre captured my heart from a young age. It was a way to express my emotions and connect with others on a deeper level. The idea of creating something unique with a group of talented people is what motivated me.

6. What is the most fulfilling part of creating a performance for you?

The most fulfilling part is when the audience reacts to the performance. That moment of connection when the story resonates with them is irreplaceable. It's why I do this.

7. What are the biggest challenges you face in the theatre industry?

The biggest challenges are often financial constraints, and maintaining a balance between creative freedom and the practicalities of staging a show. Also, the continuous struggle to attract new audiences to the theatre.

8. What skills have you gained through your theatre experience? (Creativity, public speaking, teamwork, leadership, etc.)

Through theatre, I've gained skills in emotional intelligence, creativity, public speaking, and teamwork. Leadership also plays a crucial role, especially when working with younger actors or in creating and executing the vision for a production.

9. Has theatre helped you develop social connections?

Yes, absolutely. Theatre is all about relationships. You form strong, lasting bonds with your colleagues, directors, and crew members.

• If yes, do you have any long-term relationships (friendships, professional collaborations) that started through theatre? How long have they lasted?

I have formed some beautiful friendships that have lasted for decades. These relationships started in various productions, and I continue to collaborate with many of these talented individuals.

10. What age group do you believe benefits the most from theatre experiences, and why?

I believe young adults, teenagers, and older generations can benefit most from theatre. Young people because it opens their minds to different perspectives, and older adults because it offers a reflection on life experiences and helps them reconnect with emotions.

11. Has theatre influenced your personal development in any way? How?

Theatre has made me more empathetic and self-aware. It has taught me how to observe and understand human behavior, which has had a profound effect on how I live my life.

12. Do you think theatre has been inclusive in your experience? If not, what barriers exist?

Theatre can be inclusive, but there are always areas for improvement. Financial and social barriers often make it harder for some people to access theatre. We need to make theatre more accessible for diverse groups.

13. Would you like to add anything about your personal journey in theatre?

My journey in theatre has been incredibly rewarding. It's a lifelong commitment, and every role I've played has shaped who I am today. The ups and downs of the profession have taught me resilience, and I wouldn't change a thing.

14. Why did you start doing theatre?

I started theatre because I felt the need to express myself. It was my way of communicating when words alone weren't enough.

15. What is your favorite part of creating a show?

My favorite part is the collaboration. Seeing all the elements come together—acting, directing, design, lighting—it's like creating a beautiful piece of art.

16. Do you think you have learned any skills while doing theatre?

Absolutely. Theatre has taught me patience, adaptability, and how to communicate both with my voice and through my body. I've learned to read people and situations better as well.

17. If yes, what skills in particular do you think you have gained from doing theatre?

The skills I've gained include communication, emotional expression, empathy, and team dynamics. These skills are essential, both on stage and in everyday life.

18. Do you think you have gained social skills and/or relations while doing theatre?

Yes. Theatre is a collaborative art, and I've developed deep friendships and professional relationships that have lasted through the years.

19. If yes, do you have any long-time relationships because of theatre? How long?

Yes, some of my closest friends and colleagues are people I met through theatre. Some of these relationships have lasted over 20 years.

20. What age group do you think especially should go watch theatres, and why?

I think everyone should watch theatre, but it's especially impactful for young people and older adults. Theatre helps young people understand different viewpoints, while for older adults, it can bring a sense of nostalgia or reflection on life.

21. What do you think theatre has done for your personal development?

Theatre has expanded my view of the world and humanity. It has helped me grow emotionally, creatively, and socially. It has made me more open to new experiences and different perspectives.

22. Anything you would like to add about our personal experience with theatre?

Theatre has given me an immense sense of purpose and joy. It's been my constant companion, my teacher, and my platform for self-expression.

General Questions:

1. Do you think that theatre can help improve skills in adults?

Yes.

a. If yes, then what skills come to mind?

Creativity, public speaking, leadership, teamwork, emotional intelligence.

b. How would you make sure that those skills were taught during the creation of the show?

By encouraging collaboration, emphasizing trust and communication, and fostering a creative environment where people are not afraid to express themselves.

c. Are there any skills that you think could be good to start learning/teaching while creating theatre?

Listening skills, adaptability, and conflict resolution. These are essential both on stage and in everyday life.

2. Do you think theatre can help adults develop socially?

Yes.

a. How would you make sure that the adults get to develop socially?

By creating a welcoming environment where people feel free to interact, exchange ideas, and support each other. Theatre is about human connection.

b. Are there any ways where theatre could be having a negative effect socially?

If people get too focused on their egos or the competition, it can create unnecessary tension.

c. Do you think theatre can help with boredom in adults?

Yes. Theatre engages people and provides a form of entertainment that is active and stimulating.

d. Do you think theatre can help with general life satisfaction in adults?

Definitely. Theatre enriches life and helps people reconnect with emotions and experiences that bring joy and meaning.

3. What initiative do you think could be effective in teaching more people development and social skills through theatre?

Creating community-based theatre projects where people from different backgrounds collaborate. This fosters inclusivity and social skills development.

4. Do you think more people should go watch shows at the theatre?

Yes, it's a great way to experience art and life. Theatre connects people to the human experience in ways other mediums can't.

5. Do you think more people should be a part of creating theatre shows?

Yes.

a. Do you think that there is anything holding people back from doing theatre?

Fear of failure or rejection, lack of resources, and the misconception that theatre is only for “talented” people.

b. What do you think can be done to engage more people?

Make theatre more accessible and encourage community involvement. Theatre should be for everyone, not just professionals.

6. Can you explain what you think the difference is between amateur and professional theatre?

Amateur theatre is driven by passion and creativity, while professional theatre involves a higher level of training, expertise, and resources. Both are valuable.

a. Do you think that there should be more professional or amateur shows available in your local area?

Both have their place. More amateur theatre could make it accessible to a wider audience, but professional theatre raises the artistic standards.

b. Do you think it's easy to access information about the local shows, and do you think enough people see the information?

No. We need better promotion and communication about local theatre events.

7. Are you worried about technology and its impact on theatre?

Yes, technology is evolving quickly, and it's something we need to keep up with. But theatre will always be special because it's live and human.

a. Are you worried about AI and its impact on the entertainment industry?

Yes, AI will change many aspects, but it can never replicate the soul of a live performance.

b. Is there something you think theatre can do that watching a digital movie can't do?

Theatre is live, it's shared. The energy between the actors and the audience is something movies can't replicate.

8. Do you have a fun fact about theatre that you would like to share?

Theatre can sometimes feel like magic. A small change in a scene or a line can completely alter the emotional impact on the audience.

9. Any other comments about theatre that you would like to mention?

Theatre is a powerful art form that speaks to the soul. It's an experience that stays with you long after the curtain falls.

STAGE+T - WP2, Activity 2 – Interview Questions

Interview: DORINA CHIRIAC



Initial information:

1. **Nationality:** Romanian
2. **Name:** Dorina Chiriac
3. **Age:** 52
4. **Gender:** Female
5. **Highest finished education:** UNATC (The National University of Theatre and Film "I.L. Caragiale" – Bucharest)
6. **Current employment status:**
 - ☒ Full-time employed
 - ☐ Part-time employed
 - ☐ Self-employed
 - ☐ Student
 - ☐ Retired
 - ☐ Other (please specify)
7. **Are you currently working in the theatre industry?**
 - ☒ Yes, full-time
 - ☐ Yes, part-time
 - ☐ No, but I used to

☐ No, I am involved as a volunteer/amateur

8. Employment

- a. Part time employed
- b. Full time employed ☒
- c. Self employed
- d. Student
- e. Retired
- f. Other (describe)

Interviewee's role in theatre:

1. What role do you play in theatre? (Actor, director, set designer, writer, etc)

Primarily an actress, but I also contribute to dramaturgy, sometimes directorial decisions, and I am deeply involved in mentoring young actors and participating in educational initiatives related to theatre.

2. How long have you done theatre?

I have worked professionally in theatre for over 30 years, but the spirit of performance has been with me since childhood.

3. Approximately how many shows have you been involved in?

Over 60 professional productions. Some of the most important ones include "O scrisoare pierdută" at Teatrul de Comedie, "Fetița cu chibrituri" at Teatrul Mic, as well as numerous experimental and independent works that challenged traditional formats.

4. What type of theatre do you work in? (Commercial, independent, experimental, educational, social, other)

A mix of state-supported and independent theatre. I've done commercial shows, but I gravitate more toward educational, experimental and social theatre—projects with a message, with community impact, or with emotional depth.

5. What motivated you to start working in theatre?

Theatre offered me a language to express what I couldn't in everyday life. As a child, I felt things intensely and theatre gave me the courage and tools to shape those emotions into stories. It was never a career decision—it was a calling.

6. What is the most fulfilling part of creating a performance for you?

The alchemy between the actor and audience. That sacred, invisible thread that connects us during performance. When I see someone in the front row deeply moved or

smiling with recognition, I know I've done something meaningful. It's also fulfilling to feel the unity of the ensemble—a group breathing as one.

7. What are the biggest challenges you face in the theatre industry?

Chronic underfunding of the arts, lack of strategic vision in national cultural policies, and a general devaluation of theatre in the digital age. Also, navigating egos and institutional politics can be draining

8. What skills have you gained through your theatre experience? (Creativity, public speaking, teamwork, leadership, etc.)

Aside from performance techniques, I've developed deep empathy, communication, emotional literacy, problem-solving, adaptability, and leadership. I've also learned to listen—to others, to silence, to the unsaid.

9. Has theatre helped you develop social connections?

If yes, do you have any long-term relationships (friendships, professional collaborations) that started through theatre? How long have they lasted?

Absolutely. My most meaningful relationships have been forged in rehearsal spaces and on stage. These include lifelong friendships and artistic partnerships that have lasted over 25 years and still enrich my personal and professional life.

10. What age group do you believe benefits the most from theatre experiences, and why?

Teenagers and young adults—they are in a stage of identity formation and questioning. Theatre gives them tools to explore, reflect, and grow. However, every age group finds something in theatre: children discover wonder, adults find perspective, and seniors find recognition.

11. Has theatre influenced your personal development in any way? How?

Immensely. Theatre has made me more patient, curious, resilient, and open-hearted. It taught me how to handle rejection, how to manage success with humility, and how to live with constant reinvention.

12. Do you think theatre has been inclusive in your experience? If not, what barriers exist?

Progress is being made, but slowly. Barriers include systemic inequalities, limited representation, and access issues—especially for people with disabilities or those from rural areas or marginalized communities.

13. Would you like to add anything about your personal journey in theatre?

It has been full of transformation. I've had moments of despair and others of indescribable joy. Each role, each play has left a mark on me, helped me understand myself and others more deeply.

14. Why did you start doing theatre?

Because it felt like breathing. It was the most natural way I found to explore and connect with the world and with myself.

15. What is your favorite part of creating a show?

The rehearsal period—when the team becomes a tribe. Also, that magical moment before the premiere when nerves and excitement collide.

16. Do you think you have learned any skills while doing theatre?

Definitely.

17. If yes, what skills in particular do you think you have gained from doing theatre?

Emotional regulation, memory training, ensemble work, improvisation, physical and vocal expressiveness, and the art of being present.

18. Do you think you have gained social skills and/or relations while doing theatre?

Yes, profoundly so.

19. If yes, do you have any long-time relationships because of theatre? How long?

Yes. I have artistic friendships and collaborations going back to the early 1990s—over 25 years of shared paths and mutual growth.

20. What age group do you think especially should go watch theatres, and why?

Adolescents and young adults. They are shaping their worldview and emotional core. Theatre can guide them toward empathy, critical thinking, and emotional literacy.

21. What do you think theatre has done for your personal development?

It gave me inner structure, meaning, and a sense of belonging to something larger than myself. Theatre taught me how to fall and rise again.

22. Anything you would like to add about our personal experience with theatre?

It's my chosen path. It has kept me honest. It keeps me asking questions. It brings me home to myself.

General questions (for each question, ask WHY, WHAT or HOW to get a detailed answer):

1. Do you think that theatre can help improve skills in adults?

Yes

a. If yes, then what skills come to mind

- Skills: Self-expression, confidence, conflict resolution, improvisation, collaboration.

- b. How would you make sure that those skills were taught during the creation of the show?
 - These can be taught through open rehearsals, feedback circles, and exercises like role reversal or scene-building.
- c. Are there any skills that you think could be good to start learning/teaching while creating theatre?
 - Especially useful: Active listening, public speaking, and creative problem-solving.

2. Do you think theatre can help adults develop socially?

Yes.

- a. How would you make sure that the adults get to develop socially?
 - By offering a safe, collaborative space where vulnerability is welcome
- b. Are there any ways where theatre could be having a negative effect socially?
 - It could be negative if competition or ego override the collective process.
- c. Do you think theatre can help with boredom in adults?
 - Yes, it absolutely helps with boredom—rehearsals and shows engage the body, mind, and heart
- d. Do you think theatre can help with general life satisfaction in adults?
 - Yes. Theatre creates a sense of purpose, accomplishment, and emotional richness.

3. What initiative do you think could be effective in teaching more people development and social skills through theatre?

Mobile theatre labs, cross-disciplinary community projects, long-term residencies in underprivileged areas, theatre-for-change workshops.

4. Do you think more people should go watch shows at the theatre?

Yes. Theatre fosters empathy, attention span, and human connection. It's a mirror and a window.

5. Do you think more people should be a part of creating theatre shows?

Yes.

- a. Do you think that there is anything holding people back from doing theatre?
 - Fear of failure, lack of confidence, and lack of resources are big barriers.
- b. What do you think can be done to engage more people?
 - We need more inclusive platforms, affordable workshops, and diverse representation on stage.

6. Can you explain what you think the difference is between amateur and professional theatre?

Professional theatre involves formal training, consistent practice, and livelihood. Amateur theatre often springs from passion, and while it may lack technical finesse, it can be profoundly sincere.

- a. Do you think that there should be more professional or amateur shows available in your local area?
 - Both should be encouraged. Professional theatre for excellence, amateur theatre for community spirit.
- b. Do you think it's easy to access information about the local shows, and do you think enough people see the information?
 - Access to info isn't always easy. Many shows fly under the radar. We need better online visibility and grassroots promotion.

7. Are you worried about technology and its impact on theatre?

- To some extent. Technology can dilute attention and commodify emotion, but theatre's liveness remains unique.
- a. Are you worried about AI and its impact on the entertainment industry?
 - AI is concerning if it replaces artistic human labor. Creation should stay human.
 - b. Is there something you think theatre can do that watching a digital movie can't do?
 - Theatre offers presence, unpredictability, and intimacy—no digital medium can replicate that.

8. Do you have a fun fact about theatre that you would like to share?

Sometimes, during performances, actors “talk” to each other in character with tiny unscripted signals—eye movements, hidden gestures. It's a secret dance within the dance.

9. Any other comments about theatre that you would like to mention?

Theatre is more than entertainment. It's a collective act of imagination and healing. It connects us across time, space, and difference.

STAGE+T - WP2, Activity 2 - Interview Questions

Interview: GABRIEL COVEȘEANU



Initial information:

1. **Nationality:** Romanian
2. **Name:** Gabriel Coveșeanu
3. **Age:** 50
4. **Gender:** M
5. **Highest finished education:** Graduate of the “Ion Luca Caragiale” National University of Theatre and Film in Bucharest
6. **Current employment status:**
 - ☒ Full-time employed
 - ☐ Part-time employed
 - ☐ Self-employed
 - ☐ Student
 - ☐ Retired
 - ☐ Other (please specify)
7. **Are you currently working in the theatre industry?**
 - ☐ Yes, full-time
 - ☒ Yes, part-time
 - ☐ No, but I used to

☐ No, I am involved as a volunteer/amateur

8. Employment

- a. Part time employed
- b. Full time employed ✓
- c. Self employed
- d. Student
- e. Retired
- f. Other (describe)

1. What role do you play in theatre?

I am primarily an actor, but over the years I've also been involved in hosting, television, and theatre production.

2. How long have you done theatre?

I've been doing theatre for more than 25 years.

3. Approximately how many shows have you been involved in?

I've been involved in over 30 theatre productions, and countless performances including TV appearances and events.

4. What type of theatre do you work in?

Mostly commercial and independent theatre, although I've also taken part in social and educational projects over the years.

5. What motivated you to start working in theatre?

The joy of storytelling and connecting with people. Ever since I was a teenager, I loved performing and making people feel something real.

6. What is the most fulfilling part of creating a performance for you?

Hearing the audience laugh, cry, or respond emotionally—that moment of true connection is priceless.

7. What are the biggest challenges you face in the theatre industry?

Funding is always a challenge. Also, keeping people engaged in an era of screens and instant entertainment is getting harder.

8. What skills have you gained through your theatre experience?

Definitely public speaking, emotional intelligence, adaptability, and teamwork. Also, the ability to listen deeply.

9. Has theatre helped you develop social connections?

Absolutely.

● *If yes, do you have any long-term relationships (friendships, professional collaborations) that started through theatre? How long have they lasted?*

Yes, some of my closest friendships started in the theatre world—some have lasted over 20 years.

10. What age group do you believe benefits the most from theatre experiences, and why?

Children and teenagers. Theatre helps them build empathy, confidence, and imagination at an age where identity is still forming.

11. Has theatre influenced your personal development in any way? How?

Yes, it's made me more aware of myself and others. It taught me patience, resilience, and how to handle rejection.

12. Do you think theatre has been inclusive in your experience? If not, what barriers exist?

In Romania, we still have work to do regarding inclusivity. Financial and cultural barriers still exist for many people.

13. Would you like to add anything about your personal journey in theatre?

I feel grateful for every role and every stage. Theatre has given me a purpose and a voice.

14. Why did you start doing theatre?

Because I loved to make people smile—and I discovered early on that I could do that best on stage.

15. What is your favorite part of creating a show?

The rehearsals. That period of discovery, experimentation, and bonding is magical.

16. Do you think you have learned any skills while doing theatre?

Definitely.

17. If yes, what skills in particular do you think you have gained from doing theatre?

Creative thinking, communication, memorization, time management, and empathy.

18. Do you think you have gained social skills and/or relations while doing theatre?

Yes, theatre is one of the best places to build social skills.

19. If yes, do you have any long-time relationships because of theatre? How long?

Yes, I have friendships and collaborations that go back over 20 years.

20. What age group do you think especially should go watch theatres, and why?

Young adults. It's a time when emotions run deep and theatre can offer perspective, healing, and insight.

21. What do you think theatre has done for your personal development?

It's kept me grounded. It helped me better understand myself and others.

22. Anything you would like to add about your personal experience with theatre?

Theatre has been a lifelong journey of joy, struggle, and transformation—and I wouldn't trade it for anything else.

General Questions

1. Do you think that theatre can help improve skills in adults?

Yes, absolutely.

a. If yes, then what skills come to mind?

Public speaking, teamwork, empathy, adaptability, and creativity.

b. How would you make sure that those skills were taught during the creation of the show?

By encouraging collaboration, giving space for self-expression, and creating a safe, open environment for feedback and growth.

c. Are there any skills that you think could be good to start learning/teaching while creating theatre?

Active listening and emotional awareness are crucial. Also, learning how to handle constructive criticism is very important.

2. Do you think theatre can help adults develop socially?

Definitely.

a. How would you make sure that the adults get to develop socially?

Through group exercises, improvisation, and shared reflection sessions before and after rehearsals.

b. Are there any ways where theatre could be having a negative effect socially?

Only if egos get in the way or the environment becomes competitive rather than supportive.

c. Do you think theatre can help with boredom in adults?

Yes, theatre engages the imagination and offers a creative outlet.

d. Do you think theatre can help with general life satisfaction in adults?

Very much so. Being part of a creative process is incredibly fulfilling.

3. What initiative do you think could be effective in teaching more people development and social skills through theatre?

Community theatre workshops for adults—open, free, and accessible to all backgrounds.

4. Do you think more people should go watch shows at the theatre?

Yes, theatre offers a unique kind of live emotional experience that no screen can replace.

5. Do you think more people should be a part of creating theatre shows?

Yes.

a. Do you think that there is anything holding people back from doing theatre?

Fear of judgment and lack of confidence, often. Also, the misconception that theatre is only for professionals.

b. What do you think can be done to engage more people?

Outreach programs, free workshops, school collaborations, and better promotion of inclusive theatre.

6. Can you explain what you think the difference is between amateur and professional theatre?

Professionals usually rely on it for income and often have formal training. Amateurs do it for the love of it. Both are valuable.

a. Do you think that there should be more professional or amateur shows available in your local area?

A balance is ideal. Amateur shows bring fresh energy, professional shows bring polish and consistency.

b. Do you think it's easy to access information about the local shows, and do you think enough people see the information?

Unfortunately, no. Promotion can be improved—many people don't know what's going on locally.

7. Are you worried about technology and its impact on theatre?

A little.

a. Are you worried about AI and its impact on the entertainment industry?

Yes, especially regarding jobs and creative originality. But I also see it as a tool if used wisely.

b. Is there something you think theatre can do that watching a digital movie can't do?

Yes—create real, human connection in real time. That energy exchange between actor and audience is irreplaceable.

8. Do you have a fun fact about theatre that you would like to share?

The superstition about never saying "Macbeth" in a theatre—unless you want bad luck!

9. Any other comments about theatre that you would like to mention?

Theatre is not just entertainment—it's therapy, education, and connection. Everyone should try it at least once.

STAGE+T - WP2, Activity 2 - Interview Questions

Interview: LIA BUGNAR



Initial information:

1. **Nationality:** Romanian
2. **Name:** Lia Bugnar
3. **Age:** 56
4. **Gender:** F
5. **Highest finished education:** Graduate of the Institute of Theatre and Film Arts
6. **Current employment status:**
 - ☒ Full-time employed
 - ☐ Part-time employed
 - ☐ Self-employed
 - ☐ Student
 - ☐ Retired
 - ☐ Other (please specify)
7. **Are you currently working in the theatre industry?**
 - ☒ Yes, full-time
 - ☐ Yes, part-time
 - ☐ No, but I used to
 - ☐ No, I am involved as a volunteer/amateur
8. **Employment**
 - a. Part time employed
 - b. Full time employed ☒

- c. Self employed
- d. Student
- e. Retired
- f. Other (describe)

1. What role do you play in theatre?

I'm an actor, playwright, and director. Sometimes all three at once. I like having my fingerprints all over the show, if possible.

2. How long have you done theatre?

Since the '90s. So, over 30 years. Hard to believe, even for me.

3. Approximately how many shows have you been involved in?

Definitely over a hundred, between acting, writing and directing. But I stopped counting a long time ago. I only count the ones that stay with me.

4. What type of theatre do you work in?

Mostly independent theatre. I love the freedom it gives. I've also worked in commercial and state theatres, but the independent scene feels like home.

5. What motivated you to start working in theatre?

The need to tell stories. And the magic of being someone else for a while—on stage or through my characters.

6. What is the most fulfilling part of creating a performance for you?

When I see the audience laughing or crying. When I can feel the silence in the room, that moment when they're truly *with* us.

7. What are the biggest challenges you face in the theatre industry?

Funding. And sometimes, the lack of openness to new voices and stories. Also, burnout. Theatre asks a lot from you.

8. What skills have you gained through your theatre experience?

Creativity, adaptability, public speaking, a weird sense of time management, empathy, and definitely teamwork.

9. Has theatre helped you develop social connections?

Yes. My closest friends, collaborators, even some ex-boyfriends—I met them all in theatre. Some relationships have lasted over 20 years.

10. What age group do you believe benefits the most from theatre experiences, and why?

Teenagers and young adults. Because theatre helps you see yourself and others. It can shape your values, your courage, your voice.

11. Has theatre influenced your personal development in any way? How?

Absolutely. It made me more sensitive, more aware, and at the same time stronger. It forced me to understand human nature.

12. Do you think theatre has been inclusive in your experience?

Not always. There's still a long way to go, especially for people outside the mainstream: different abilities, ethnicities, identities. Barriers still exist.

13. Would you like to add anything about your personal journey in theatre?

I've made mistakes, I've cried, I've failed. But I've also created beauty, laughter, connection. Theatre raised me.

14. Why did you start doing theatre?

Because nothing else made sense. And I wasn't very good at anything else.

15. What is your favorite part of creating a show?

Rehearsals. That moment when the story is still raw and full of potential.

16. Do you think you have learned any skills while doing theatre?

Yes.

17. If yes, what skills in particular do you think you have gained from doing theatre?

Empathy, resilience, how to function with zero sleep, how to keep going when you're heartbroken.

18. Do you think you have gained social skills and/or relations while doing theatre?

Definitely.

19. If yes, do you have any long-time relationships because of theatre? How long?

Yes. Some have lasted decades. They're family now.

20. What age group do you think especially should go watch theatre, and why?

Young people. Theatre can give you emotional vocabulary when you don't even know you need one.

21. What do you think theatre has done for your personal development?

It made me more alive. And more human.

22. Anything you would like to add about your personal experience with theatre?

It's my first love. And still my favorite place to hide and heal.

General Questions

1. Do you think that theatre can help improve skills in adults?

Yes.

a. If yes, then what skills come to mind?

Communication, collaboration, confidence, emotional intelligence.

b. How would you make sure that those skills were taught during the creation of the show?

By involving people in the creative process—writing scenes, improvising, exploring characters.

c. Are there any skills that you think could be good to start learning/teaching while creating theatre?

Listening. Real listening. And self-awareness.

2. Do you think theatre can help adults develop socially?

Yes.

a. How would you make sure that the adults get to develop socially?

It pushes people out of isolation. Being on stage—or backstage—requires trust and connection.

b. Are there any ways where theatre could be having a negative effect socially?

Maybe egos clashing. But that happens anywhere.

c. Do you think theatre can help with boredom in adults?

Yes. Theatre is the opposite of scrolling aimlessly.

d. Do you think theatre can help with general life satisfaction in adults?

Theatre gives purpose. A sense of belonging.

3. What initiative do you think could be effective in teaching more people development and social skills through theatre?

Community theatre workshops. Open to all ages. With professionals guiding, but non-professionals participating fully.

4. Do you think more people should go watch shows at the theatre?

Of course. It's soul food.

5. Do you think more people should be a part of creating theatre shows?

Yes.

a. Do you think that there is anything holding people back from doing theatre?

Fear. Lack of time. Thinking they're not "artistic" enough.

b. What do you think can be done to engage more people?

More safe spaces. More affordable workshops. A culture that values trying, not just succeeding.

6. Can you explain what you think the difference is between amateur and professional theatre?

Professional theatre pays the bills. Amateur theatre feeds the spirit. Both are valid.

a. Do you think that there should be more professional or amateur shows available in your local area?

More amateur shows, honestly. People need entry points.

b. Do you think it's easy to access information about the local shows, and do you think enough people see the information?

Not really. Promotion is still a weak link.

7. Are you worried about technology and its impact on theatre?

Sometimes.

a. Are you worried about AI and its impact on the entertainment industry?

A bit. But AI can't replicate the smell of a stage, the silence of a live audience.

b. Is there something you think theatre can do that watching a digital movie can't do?

It breathes with you. It's *alive*. That's irreplaceable.

8. Do you have a fun fact about theatre that you would like to share?

Actors can have full conversations in whispers backstage, while crying on stage. Magic trick.

9. Any other comments about theatre that you would like to mention?

Theatre doesn't need to be grand. Sometimes it's just four chairs, a light, and truth. And that's more than enough.

STAGE+T - WP2, Activity 2 – Interview Questions

Interview: MAIA MORGENSTERN



Initial information:

1. **Nationality:** Romanian
2. **Name:** Maia Morgenstern
3. **Age:** 62
4. **Gender:** Female
5. **Highest finished education:** UNATC “Ion Luca Caragiale” – Bucharest, Acting Department
6. **Current employment status:**
 - ☒ Full-time employed
 - ☐ Part-time employed
 - ☐ Self-employed
 - ☐ Student
 - ☐ Retired
 - ☐ Other (please specify)
7. **Are you currently working in the theatre industry?**
 - ☒ Yes, full-time
 - ☐ Yes, part-time

☐ No, but I used to

☐ No, I am involved as a volunteer/amateur

8. Employment

- a. Part time employed
- b. Full time employed ☒
- c. Self employed ☒
- d. Student
- e. Retired
- f. Other (describe)

Interviewee's role in theatre:

1. What role do you play in theatre? (Actor, director, set designer, writer, etc)

Professional actress, occasional director, theatre manager, educator, cultural activist.

2. How long have you done theatre?

Over 40 years (since 1982)

3. Approximately how many shows have you been involved in?

Over 100 performances – lead and supporting roles, both in Romania and internationally.

4. What type of theatre do you work in? (Commercial, independent, experimental, educational, social, other)

Commercial, independent, experimental, educational, social.

5. What motivated you to start working in theatre?

A deep calling, a need to express and understand the human condition. Theatre is a way of being.

6. What is the most fulfilling part of creating a performance for you?

The direct contact with the audience, that authentic emotional connection.

7. What are the biggest challenges you face in the theatre industry?

Low funding, excessive bureaucracy, lack of cultural education among youth, the precarious life of independent artists.

8. What skills have you gained through your theatre experience? (Creativity, public speaking, teamwork, leadership, etc.)

Creativity, empathy, communication, resilience, leadership, adaptability.

9. Has theatre helped you develop social connections?

If yes, do you have any long-term relationships (friendships, professional collaborations) that started through theatre? How long have they lasted?

Yes, absolutely. Theatre has been a key part of how I've formed both friendships and professional relationships. The collaborative nature of this work creates strong bonds—built on trust, emotion, and shared creative experiences. Some of these relationships have lasted for over 30 or even 40 years. We've grown together as artists and as people. Theatre gave me more than a career—it gave me a community.

10. What age group do you believe benefits the most from theatre experiences, and why?

Teenagers and young adults, but also seniors. Theatre shapes, connects, and heals.

11. Has theatre influenced your personal development in any way? How?

Theatre taught me patience, empathy, resilience, and inner balance

12. Do you think theatre has been inclusive in your experience? If not, what barriers exist?

Not always. Barriers do exist, but I actively advocate for a more inclusive and fair theatre.

13. Would you like to add anything about your personal journey in theatre?

I have experienced many theatrical eras, each with its own lessons. The stage has always been home.

14. Why did you start doing theatre?

Because that was where I felt heard, where I could give voice to human joys and sorrows.

15. What is your favorite part of creating a show?

Rehearsals – the living laboratory of discovery.

16. Do you think you have learned any skills while doing theatre?

Empathy, communication, active listening, critical thinking, improvisation, ability to work under pressure.

17. If yes, what skills in particular do you think you have gained from doing theatre?

Empathy, communication, active listening, critical thinking, improvisation, ability to work under pressure.

18. Do you think you have gained social skills and/or relations while doing theatre?

Yes, meaningful and long-lasting ones.

19. If yes, do you have any long-time relationships because of theatre? How long?

Some for 30–40 years – a large extended theatre family.

20. What age group do you think especially should go watch theatres, and why?

All ages. But especially teenagers – for formation, and seniors – for reflection and memory.

21. What do you think theatre has done for your personal development?

Theatre made me more aware, more human, more tolerant, deeper.

22. Anything you would like to add about our personal experience with theatre?

Theatre is a mission, not just a job. It's an act of faith in humanity.

General questions (for each question, ask WHY, WHAT or HOW to get a detailed answer):

1. Do you think that theatre can help improve skills in adults?

- Yes
 - a. If yes, then what skills come to mind
Communication, empathy, collaboration, spontaneity, listening.
 - b. How would you make sure that those skills were taught during the creation of the show?
 - Through theatrical games, role-playing, and group exercises.
 - c. Are there any skills that you think could be good to start learning/teaching while creating theatre?
 - Critical thinking, emotional control, self-confidence.

2. Do you think theatre can help adults develop socially?

- Yes.
 - a. How would you make sure that the adults get to develop socially?
 - It creates authentic bonds through vulnerability and collaboration.
 - b. Are there any ways where theatre could be having a negative effect socially?
 - Only in toxic or elitist environments.
 - c. Do you think theatre can help with boredom in adults?
 - Definitely, it breaks routine and brings meaning.
 - d. Do you think theatre can help with general life satisfaction in adults?
 - Absolutely, theatre brings joy and fulfillment.

3. What initiative do you think could be effective in teaching more people development and social skills through theatre?

- Community theatre programs, adult workshops, partnerships between theatres and local communities/schools.

4. Do you think more people should go watch shows at the theatre?

- Yes. Theatre humanizes and brings people closer together.

5. Do you think more people should be a part of creating theatre shows?

- Yes.
 - a. Do you think that there is anything holding people back from doing theatre?
 - Fear, lack of spaces, prejudice.
 - b. What do you think can be done to engage more people?
 - Openness, mentorship, free access to resources.

6. Can you explain what you think the difference is between amateur and professional theatre?

- Professionals live from theatre and are rigorously trained. Amateurs may bring authenticity but may lack technique.
 - a. Do you think that there should be more professional or amateur shows available in your local area?
 - Both. We need diversity of theatrical expression.
 - b. Do you think it's easy to access information about the local shows, and do you think enough people see the information?
 - Unfortunately, not always. While social media has helped, information about local shows often doesn't reach a broad audience. Many people still don't know what performances are happening in their city, especially if they don't actively seek out that information. We need better visibility—more consistent promotion, clearer communication from theatres, and stronger connections with communities to make theatre truly accessible.

7. Are you worried about technology and its impact on theatre?

- Not afraid.
 - a. Are you worried about AI and its impact on the entertainment industry?
 - As long as it supports and doesn't replace, it can be valuable.
 - b. Is there something you think theatre can do that watching a digital movie can't do?
 - The live emotional impact, the unique energy of "now."

8. Do you have a fun fact about theatre that you would like to share?

I still get nervous before every performance, like it's the first time. Routine never settles in.

9. Any other comments about theatre that you would like to mention?

Theatre is a way to say: "I'm here, I feel, I live." It's the most honest form of human connection.

STAGE+T - WP2, Activity 2 - Interview Questions

Interview: MEDEEA MARINESCU



Initial information:

1. **Nationality:** Romanian
2. **Name:** Medeea Marinescu
3. **Age:** 50
4. **Gender:** F
5. **Highest finished education:** Graduate of UNATC (National University of Theatre and Film)
6. **Current employment status:**
 - ☒ Full-time employed
 - ☐ Part-time employed
 - ☐ Self-employed
 - ☐ Student
 - ☐ Retired
 - ☐ Other (please specify)
7. **Are you currently working in the theatre industry?**
 - ☒ Yes, full-time
 - ☐ Yes, part-time
 - ☐ No, but I used to
 - ☐ No, I am involved as a volunteer/amateur
8. **Employment**

- a. Part time employed
- b. Full time employed ✓✓
- c. Self employed
- d. Student
- e. Retired
- f. Other (describe)

1. What role do you play in theatre?

I am an actress. I started doing theatre as a natural extension of my film acting career.

2. How long have you done theatre?

I've been doing theatre since graduating from the Academy of Theatre and Film (currently UNATC), so for several decades now.

3. Approximately how many shows have you been involved in?

It's hard to give an exact number, but definitely dozens of productions, both in institutionalized and independent theatre.

4. What type of theatre do you work in?

I work both in institutionalized theatre, being a full-time employee of the National Theatre of Bucharest (TNB), and in the independent theatre scene.

5. What motivated you to start working in theatre?

Theatre was a continuation of my passion for acting, which began with film. It offered another dimension of expression and connection with the audience.

6. What is the most fulfilling part of creating a performance for you?

The most fulfilling moment is when the rehearsals advance and the director's vision becomes clear. Then comes the refinement of the role and, after the premiere, the joy of evolving the character freely in front of the audience.

7. What are the biggest challenges you face in the theatre industry?

Harmonizing with your partners and the director, sharing the same artistic vision, and aligning working styles. But these are part of a continuous learning process.

8. What skills have you gained through your theatre experience?

Theatre has helped me overcome shyness, build confidence in myself and my choices, and develop a deeper understanding of relationships and communication.

9. Has theatre helped you develop social connections?

Absolutely. I've interacted with so many different people and learned to see them in depth, almost like through a magnifying glass. Some of these connections have turned into lasting friendships and professional collaborations.

10. What age group do you believe benefits the most from theatre experiences, and why?

All age groups can benefit, but young people especially, because theatre helps them develop emotional intelligence, communication skills, and confidence.

11. Has theatre influenced your personal development in any way? How?

Yes, through theatre I've learned to understand my emotions better, to express them, and to be more attentive to what's happening around me and inside myself. It's an ongoing journey of self-discovery.

12. Do you think theatre has been inclusive in your experience? If not, what barriers exist?

In my experience, theatre is inclusive precisely because it brings together very different people and perspectives. It's a space where diversity becomes an asset.

13. Would you like to add anything about your personal journey in theatre?

Be curious. Stay open to learning and exploring—it's the only way to grow in this profession.

14. Why did you start doing theatre?

It was a natural continuation of acting in films. Theatre provided a new way of engaging with the art and the audience.

15. What is your favorite part of creating a show?

The refinement phase, when I can polish my role and find new nuances with every performance.

16. Do you think you have learned any skills while doing theatre?

Definitely. Theatre is a constant training in communication, listening, emotional awareness, and creativity.

17. If yes, what skills in particular do you think you have gained from doing theatre?

Real communication (not mimed), listening, self-awareness, observation, and the ability to connect authentically with others.

18. Do you think you have gained social skills and/or relations while doing theatre?

Yes, through interaction with diverse individuals, I've developed meaningful professional and personal relationships.

19. If yes, do you have any long-time relationships because of theatre? How long?

Yes, some relationships and collaborations span decades and are deeply rooted in the shared theatrical journey.

20. What age group do you think especially should go watch theatres, and why?

Young audiences should be exposed to theatre, as it shapes empathy, critical thinking, and emotional development.

21. What do you think theatre has done for your personal development?

It's helped me connect more deeply with my inner world, understand emotions, and build confidence in my personal and artistic choices.

22. Anything you would like to add about your personal experience with theatre?

Theatre has offered me the chance to see humanity in detail and to continuously learn about myself and others.

General Questions:

1. Do you think that theatre can help improve skills in adults?

- a. If yes, then what skills come to mind
 - Absolutely. Theatre cultivates real communication, empathy, self-awareness, and the ability to work as a team.
- b. How would you make sure that those skills were taught during the creation of the show?
 - To teach these skills during the creation of a show, the rehearsal space must become a safe place for exploration and openness.
- c. Are there any skills that you think could be good to start learning/teaching while creating theatre?
 - Skills like listening, emotional expression, adaptability, and improvisation are essential and can be taught through theatre.

2. Do you think theatre can help adults develop socially?

- Yes. Theatre creates natural social bonds through collaboration.
- a. How would you make sure that the adults get to develop socially?
 - Group work, trust-building exercises, and dialogue-driven activities are key.
- b. Are there any ways where theatre could be having a negative effect socially?
 - If misunderstood or led in a closed way, theatre might become elitist or inaccessible, but this is not inherent to the art.
- c. Do you think theatre can help with boredom in adults?
 - It can definitely fight boredom and enhance life satisfaction through engagement and expression.

3. What initiative do you think could be effective in teaching more people development and social skills through theatre?

- Community workshops, intergenerational theatre projects, or drama programs in schools and workplaces can be powerful tools.
4. **Do you think more people should go watch shows at the theatre?**
- Yes. Theatre is a unique emotional and intellectual experience that enriches both individuals and communities.
5. **Do you think more people should be a part of creating theatre shows?**
- Yes. Theatre is for everyone.
- a. Do you think that there is anything holding people back from doing theatre?
- Fear of judgment or lack of accessibility may hold people back.
- b. What do you think can be done to engage more people?
- More open and inclusive spaces, accessible pricing, and educational outreach can help.
6. **Can you explain what you think the difference is between amateur and professional theatre?**
- Professional theatre implies a certain level of training, dedication, and responsibility, while amateur theatre is often driven by passion and community spirit.
- a. Do you think that there should be more professional or amateur shows available in your local area?
- Both are valuable and should coexist. More amateur theatre could bring communities together.
- b. Do you think it's easy to access information about the local shows, and do you think enough people see the information?
- Access to information about shows needs to be improved, especially in smaller towns.
7. **Are you worried about technology and its impact on theatre?**
- No. Theatre's human component—immediacy and presence—remains irreplaceable.
- a. Are you worried about AI and its impact on the entertainment industry?
- b. Is there something you think theatre can do that watching a digital movie can't do?
- AI cannot replicate the live, emotional connection between actor and audience.
8. **Do you have a fun fact about theatre that you would like to share?**
- Each performance is unique. Even if you know your role by heart, the audience and your fellow actors change everything.

9. Any other comments about theatre that you would like to mention?

- Theatre is a mirror and a magnifier. It helps us understand others—and ourselves—better.

STAGE+T - WP2, Activity 2 - Interview Questions

Interview: MIHAI CĂLIN



Initial information:

1. **Nationality:** Romanian
2. **Name:** Mihai Călin
3. **Age:** 56
4. **Gender:** M
5. **Highest finished education:** Graduate of the “Ion Luca Caragiale” National University of Theatre and Film in Bucharest
6. **Current employment status:**
 - ☒ Full-time employed
 - ☐ Part-time employed
 - ☐ Self-employed
 - ☐ Student
 - ☐ Retired
 - ☐ Other (please specify)
7. **Are you currently working in the theatre industry?**
 - ☒ Yes, full-time
 - ☐ Yes, part-time
 - ☐ No, but I used to
 - ☐ No, I am involved as a volunteer/amateur

8. Employment

- a. Part time employed
- b. Full time employed ✓
- c. Self employed
- d. Student
- e. Retired
- f. Other (describe)

1. What role do you play in theatre?

I am an actor. I've been dedicated to acting for over three decades now.

2. How long have you done theatre?

I've been working in theatre for more than 35 years.

3. Approximately how many shows have you been involved in?

I've performed in over 70 theatre productions, both classical and contemporary.

4. What type of theatre do you work in?

I mainly work in institutionalized theatre – the National Theatre in Bucharest – but I've also collaborated with independent theatres on various occasions.

5. What motivated you to start working in theatre?

I was always fascinated by the power of storytelling and the emotional impact of live performances. I wanted to be part of that magic – to move people, make them think or laugh, and sometimes even cry.

6. What is the most fulfilling part of creating a performance for you?

The moment when you feel that the audience is with you – fully engaged, silent, responsive – that invisible connection is truly magical.

7. What are the biggest challenges you face in the theatre industry?

Keeping theatre relevant in a world that moves faster and faster. Also, securing financial support for ambitious or experimental projects is still a challenge in Romania.

8. What skills have you gained through your theatre experience?

Definitely creativity, adaptability, public speaking, empathy, and the ability to work as part of a team – and sometimes to lead it.

9. Has theatre helped you develop social connections? If yes, do you have any long-term relationships (friendships, professional collaborations) that started through theatre? How long have they lasted?

Absolutely. Yes, I have built long-term friendships and professional relationships through theatre. Some of these have lasted over 25 years.

10. What age group do you believe benefits the most from theatre experiences, and why?

Young people, especially teenagers and students. Theatre helps them develop emotional intelligence, critical thinking, and empathy.

11. Has theatre influenced your personal development in any way? How?

Yes, theatre has made me a more patient, observant, and emotionally aware person. It's taught me how to truly listen and understand human nature.

12. Do you think theatre has been inclusive in your experience?

To some extent, yes. But there are still barriers – financial, geographical, and sometimes even cultural – that prevent certain communities from accessing it fully.

13. Would you like to add anything about your personal journey in theatre?

I feel incredibly lucky to have made a living doing what I love. Theatre has been a lifelong teacher and friend.

14. Why did you start doing theatre?

Because I wanted to express myself. I was drawn to the power of emotion, language, and presence.

15. What is your favorite part of creating a show?

Rehearsals – the discovery process. That moment when you realize what a line really means or how a character truly feels.

16. Do you think you have learned any skills while doing theatre?

Yes, without a doubt.

17. What skills in particular do you think you have gained?

Communication, emotional expression, collaboration, self-discipline, and improvisation.

18. Do you think you have gained social skills and/or relations while doing theatre?

Yes.

19. Do you have any long-time relationships because of theatre? How long?

Many – some going back more than 25 years.

20. What age group do you think especially should go watch theatre, and why?

Teenagers and young adults. They are in a stage of self-discovery and theatre can be both a mirror and a guide for them.

21. What do you think theatre has done for your personal development?

It has given me insight, emotional strength, resilience, and a constant curiosity about people.

22. Anything you would like to add about your personal experience with theatre?

Only that I wouldn't trade it for anything in the world.

General Questions:

1. Do you think theatre can help improve skills in adults?

Yes.

- a. If yes, then what skills come to mind
- a. Skills like empathy, communication, teamwork, and emotional regulation.
- b. How would you make sure that those skills were taught during the creation of the show?
- b. These skills can be cultivated through group work, role-play, and reflection during rehearsals.
- c. Are there any skills that you think could be good to start learning/teaching while creating theatre?
- c. Self-awareness and listening are great to develop through theatre creation.

2. Do you think theatre can help adults develop socially?

Yes.

- a. How would you make sure that the adults get to develop socially?
- a. Theatre offers a safe space for collaboration, expression, and trust-building.
- b. Are there any ways where theatre could be having a negative effect socially?
- b. If taken too competitively, it might alienate some people or increase performance anxiety.
- c. Do you think theatre can help with boredom in adults?
- c. Definitely – theatre fights boredom and encourages imagination.
- d. Do you think theatre can help with general life satisfaction in adults?
- d. Yes – it gives purpose, emotional release, and a sense of belonging.

3. What initiative do you think could be effective in teaching more people development and social skills through theatre?

Community theatre programs or adult acting workshops in public institutions, libraries, and cultural centers.

4. Do you think more people should go watch shows at the theatre?

Absolutely. Live performance offers something no screen ever will – presence and real emotion.

5. Do you think more people should be a part of creating theatre shows?

Yes.

- a. Do you think that there is anything holding people back from doing theatre?
- a. Fear of being judged or not being "good enough" holds many people back.
- b. What do you think can be done to engage more people?
- b. We need more accessible workshops and inclusive programs that encourage people to try without pressure.

6. What is the difference between amateur and professional theatre?

Professional theatre implies a higher degree of training, commitment, and often a livelihood. Amateur theatre is more passion-driven, but no less valuable.

a. Do you think that there should be more professional or amateur shows available in your local area?

a. We need both. Diversity is key.

b. Do you think it's easy to access information about the local shows, and do you think enough people see the information?

b. I think more needs to be done to promote local shows – better outreach, digital platforms, school collaborations.

7. Are you worried about technology and its impact on theatre?

To some degree, yes.

a. Are you worried about AI and its impact on the entertainment industry?

a. AI especially worries me when it replaces creativity or human interaction.

b. Is there something you think theatre can do that watching a digital movie can't do?

b. Theatre offers **presence**. It breathes with the audience. That can't be replaced by screens.

8. Do you have a fun fact about theatre that you would like to share?

Even after 35 years, I still get nervous before a premiere. Butterflies never go away – and that's a good thing!

9. Any other comments about theatre that you would like to mention?

Theatre is one of the few places where we gather to feel something together. It's an act of community, and we need that now more than ever.

STAGE+T - WP2, Activity 2 - Interview Questions

Interview: OVIDIU NICULESCU



Initial information:

1. **Nationality:** Romanian
2. **Name:** Ovidiu Niculescu
3. **Age:** 50
4. **Gender:** M
5. **Highest finished education:** Graduate of the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art
6. **Current employment status:**
 - ☐ Full-time employed
 - ☐ Part-time employed
 - ☒ Self-employed
 - ☐ Student
 - ☐ Retired
 - ☐ Other (please specify)
7. **Are you currently working in the theatre industry?**
 - ☐ Yes, full-time
 - ☒ Yes, part-time

- ☐ No, but I used to
- ☐ No, I am involved as a volunteer/amateur

8. Employment

- a. Part time employed
- b. Full time employed
- c. Self employed ✓
- d. Student
- e. Retired
- f. Other (describe)

1. What role do you play in theatre?

I am primarily an actor, but over the years I've also been involved as a writer and occasionally as a director. I enjoy being a storyteller in any form.

2. How long have you done theatre?

I've been in the theatre world for over 25 years now. It's been a beautiful, ongoing journey since my student days.

3. Approximately how many shows have you been involved in?

I've been part of over 40 theatre productions, and I've also done voice work, television, and film. But theatre always has a special place in my heart.

4. What type of theatre do you work in?

Mainly commercial and independent theatre. I've also participated in experimental projects and educational theatre, especially when collaborating with students or younger audiences.

5. What motivated you to start working in theatre?

I've always been drawn to stories and to the power of emotion. Theatre gave me a voice and a way to express and explore the human condition. It felt like home from the start.

6. What is the most fulfilling part of creating a performance for you?

Seeing the audience react, feeling that connection from the stage—it's electric. And that moment when your character comes alive, it's pure magic.

7. What are the biggest challenges you face in the theatre industry?

Funding, visibility, and sometimes, lack of public interest. Also, the pressure to constantly evolve and stay relevant in an industry that's changing rapidly.

8. What skills have you gained through your theatre experience?

Definitely creativity, public speaking, adaptability, emotional intelligence, and a great deal of teamwork. Theatre has sharpened my listening skills and taught me patience.

9. Has theatre helped you develop social connections?

Absolutely.

• Do you have long-term relationships that started through theatre?

Yes, many of my closest friends and professional collaborators came from theatre. Some relationships have lasted over 20 years.

10. What age group do you believe benefits the most from theatre experiences, and why?

Young adults and teenagers, because that's when identity is forming. Theatre encourages empathy, communication, and self-expression.

11. Has theatre influenced your personal development in any way? How?

It shaped my identity. It helped me understand myself, be more open, and manage emotions. It's been both therapy and training ground.

12. Do you think theatre has been inclusive in your experience? If not, what barriers exist?

There's room for more inclusion. Financial barriers, social status, and sometimes institutional politics limit access, especially for marginalized voices.

13. Would you like to add anything about your personal journey in theatre?

Theatre has saved me more than once. It's not just a profession—it's a calling. I'm grateful for every role and every audience I've met.

14. Why did you start doing theatre?

Because I felt I couldn't not do it. I needed a way to express everything I couldn't put into words. And theatre gave me that language.

15. What is your favorite part of creating a show?

Rehearsals. That space of experimentation, laughter, failure, and discovery. It's the soul of the process.

16. Do you think you have learned any skills while doing theatre?

Absolutely.

17. If yes, what skills in particular do you think you have gained?

Confidence, empathy, improvisation, voice control, discipline, and time management.

18. Do you think you have gained social skills and/or relations while doing theatre?

Yes.

19. If yes, do you have any long-time relationships because of theatre? How long?

Yes, some of my closest friendships began over two decades ago on stage.

20. What age group do you think especially should go watch theatre, and why?

Everyone. But teenagers and young adults especially—they need to see real emotion and human connection beyond screens.

21. What do you think theatre has done for your personal development?

It gave me resilience. It made me brave and vulnerable at the same time. And it taught me the beauty of constant learning.

22. Anything you would like to add about your personal experience with theatre?

It's been my anchor, my playground, and my passion. I believe theatre can transform lives—because it transformed mine.

General Questions

1. Do you think that theatre can help improve skills in adults?

Yes, without a doubt.

a. What skills come to mind?

Communication, confidence, collaboration, empathy, adaptability, stress relief.

b. How would you make sure those skills were taught during the creation of the show?

Through open rehearsals, collaborative exercises, group feedback, improvisation, and role-play techniques.

c. Are there any skills that could be good to start learning while creating theatre?

Yes—emotional regulation, non-verbal communication, storytelling, listening, and constructive criticism.

2. Do you think theatre can help adults develop socially?

Yes.

a. How would you make sure adults get to develop socially?

By creating inclusive spaces, team-building exercises, encouraging group discussions, and rotating roles to increase perspective-taking.

b. Any ways where theatre could have a negative effect socially?

If ego gets in the way or if environments are overly competitive or judgmental. But that depends on the leadership.

c. Can theatre help with boredom in adults?

Definitely—it activates imagination and offers a sense of play and purpose.

d. Can theatre help with general life satisfaction in adults?

Yes—it brings community, meaning, and a creative outlet that many adults desperately need.

3. What initiative do you think could be effective in teaching more people development and social skills through theatre?

Community theatre workshops, corporate theatre programs, and theatre-in-education models adapted for adults.

4. Do you think more people should go watch shows at the theatre?

Yes! It's a unique, shared, live experience. Unlike anything digital.

5. Do you think more people should be part of creating theatre shows?

Absolutely.

a. Anything holding people back from doing theatre?

Fear, time, financial constraints, and lack of exposure.

b. What can be done to engage more people?

Offer free or low-cost workshops, community events, and outreach programs to schools and companies.

6. Can you explain the difference between amateur and professional theatre?

Professional theatre is usually done by trained artists and paid roles, while amateur theatre is passion-driven and voluntary. Both can be powerful.

a. Should there be more professional or amateur shows locally?

Both. A healthy theatre ecosystem includes both professional excellence and community involvement.

b. Is it easy to access information about local shows? Do enough people see it?

Not always. Better marketing, more digital presence, and community partnerships would help.

7. Are you worried about technology and its impact on theatre?

Somewhat, yes.

a. Are you worried about AI and its impact on the entertainment industry?

Yes, but I believe human connection and vulnerability will always matter more in live performance.

b. Is there something theatre can do that digital movies can't?

Yes—be *alive*. Theatre breathes with the audience. You share the same air, the same silence, the same laughter.

8. Do you have a fun fact about theatre you'd like to share?

Yes! In ancient Greece, actors wore masks not just to show emotions, but also to help project their voices in open-air theatres. It's amazing how theatre has always been a blend of art and clever technology!

9. Any other comments about theatre?

This is where we gather, witness, feel, and remember what it means to be human.

CONCLUSION

Theatre's Emotional and Social Impact:

The interviews highlighted the profound emotional bond that theatre cultivates between performers and their audiences. Many participants spoke passionately about how storytelling, embodied performance, and the shared experience of live theatre were central to their decision to pursue this path. Beyond offering a space for self-expression, theatre nurtures empathy and emotional intelligence, making it a uniquely powerful medium for building social connections and bridging both generational and cultural divides..

Personal Growth and Professional Development:

Theatre professionals said it played a big role in their personal growth. Through their experiences, they developed important skills like resilience, leadership, and communication. This was especially true for those who worked in both independent and commercial theatre, where they constantly had to balance creative freedom with connecting to audiences and staying financially afloat. For many, theatre was a space for ongoing learning and emotional development, shaping both their personal and professional lives.

Barriers to Inclusivity and Access:

A common theme throughout the interviews was the recognition of barriers to inclusivity in theatre. Several interviewees pointed out the systemic inequalities and lack of access to theatre education, especially for marginalized communities. The economic and social challenges that independent artists face were also mentioned as obstacles that limit broader engagement in the arts. However, most professionals expressed a desire to create more inclusive spaces within theatre, where diverse voices and perspectives can thrive.

Collaboration and Networking:

Theatre professionals highlighted how important collaboration is—not just with other artists, but with a whole community of creative people. Many said their most meaningful work relationships and lasting friendships came from working together on stage. These connections play a big role in helping each other grow, come up with new ideas, and keep developing as artists.

The Role of Theatre in Adult Education and Social Skills Development:

Many professionals agreed that theatre offers significant potential for adults to improve key social and developmental skills. Theatre encourages active listening, public speaking, teamwork, adaptability, and emotional regulation. Specifically, the creation of shows and participation in community-based projects can help individuals develop better communication and problem-solving skills, offering them an outlet to address personal challenges and grow socially.

The Need for Increased Accessibility and Visibility:

A recurring challenge raised was the lack of visibility and accessibility of local theatre productions. Several professionals suggested that better promotion and information dissemination are necessary to encourage broader attendance, particularly for amateur shows. In addition, there is a pressing need for more accessible training programs and community theatre initiatives to engage a larger, more diverse audience, ensuring that the transformative power of theatre can be experienced by as many people as possible.

The Future of Theatre in a Digital Age:

While there were concerns about the impact of technology on theatre, especially the rise of AI and digital media, most professionals agreed that live theatre remains irreplaceable. The unique emotional energy shared between the actors and the audience is something that digital media cannot replicate.