

– SHARED GROUND –

SOCIALLY ENGAGED ART FOR SOCIAL COHESION



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Culture as a Shared Language

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Presented by
Yolda Collective

YOLDA



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Brno/Czech Republic

community-based projects

physical theatre

socially engaged art

autoteatro

YOLDA

clowning

site-specific

... performing arts ...

movement-based practice

workshops

audience engagement

devised theatre

WHY SOCIALLY ENGAGED THEATRE SUPPORTS “SOCIAL COHESION”, “OPEN AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES”?

CO-CREATION

(Participants immerse in a co-creative process)

VISIBILITY

EMPATHY

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

DIALOGUE

SAFE SPACE

UNDERSTANDING SELF

EMOTIONAL REGULATION

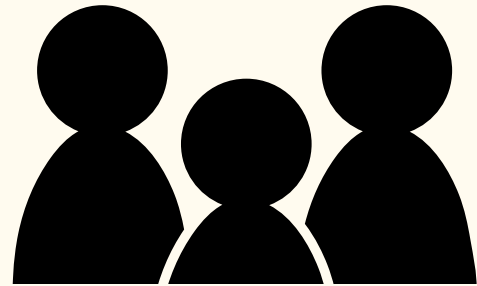
COLLECTIVE AGENCY

PLAYFULLNESS

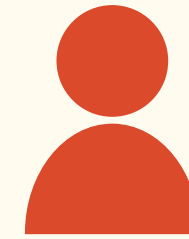
DISRUPTION OF ROUTINE

RADICAL IMAGINATION

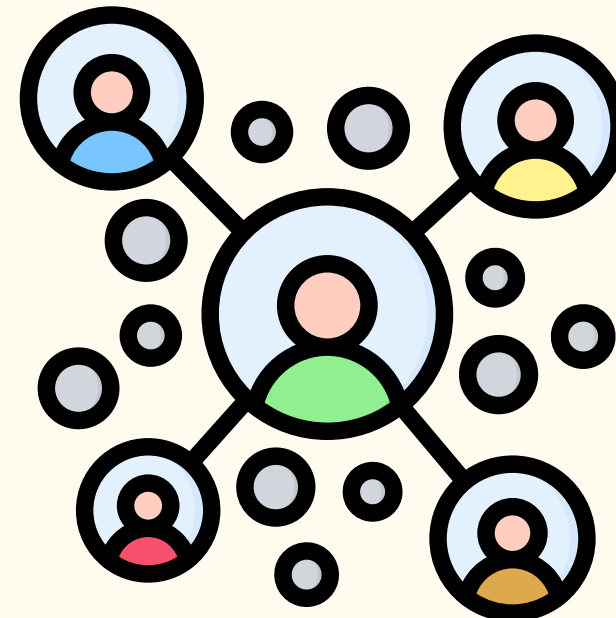
BEING A GROUP



BEING AN INDIVIDUAL



COMMUNITY



SHARED GROUND

~ Shared Vulnerability ~

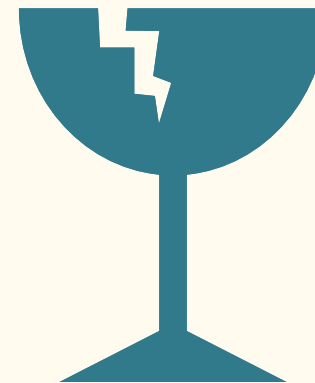
THEATRE "GAMES"

- Homo Ludens
- Playing as adults

"ARTISTIC" ACTIVITIES

"not being an artist"

- Being in the area which is unknown
- Sincerity
- Radical play



Fragility

Shared Vulnerability → Shared Ground → Support ↘

"We are together in this, I want us to achieve together" — Shared responsibility

MOVEMENT APPROACH IN COMMUNITY-BASED PRACTICES

WHY MOVEMENT-BASED APPROACH?

LANGUAGE

- reduce language barrier

VERBAL & PHYSICAL

- Honesty, Sincerity
- Getting to know each other

"I feel like I know everybody
for a much longer time."

KINESTHETIC EMPATHY

- your body understands what another body is doing.
- Mirror Neurons
- Nervous systems begin to co-regulate



LANGUAGE BARRIERS



CULTURAL DIFFERENCE



SOCIAL POLARIZATION

FUTURE PROJECTS OF YOLDA COLLECTIVE

IN THE FIELD OF SOCIALLY ENGAGED ART ~ 2026-2027

COMMUNITY THEATRE

A creative space where participants from diverse backgrounds can connect, exchange perspectives, share their presence and stories. It aims to build a cooperative, supportive, and safe environment where everyone can express themselves without pressure or judgment.

The partner

The Centre for Foreigners of the South Moravian Region (located in Brno) supports the integration and well-being of people with migrant backgrounds.

INNER GARDEN

Movement-based community project in Psychiatric hospitals.

Movement workshops where participants can explore inner states, personal boundaries, and relationships through physical experience.

Supporting mental well-being, self-awareness, and social connection through accessible artistic practice.

The partners

Psychiatrická nemocnice Havlíčkův Brod (PNHB) and Psychiatrická nemocnice Jihlava

THANK YOU!

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