## Stories of Impact



EMotive

Worldwide network for innovative social solutions.



#### THE KNOT OF THEATRE IS THE KNOT OF LIFE

Hello, my name is Daniele, I am Italian but I've been living in Madrid for 8 years.

Love and theatre brought me here where I'm in an organization called TR3S social (meaning Revolutionary Theatre for Social Empowerment).

For us, theatre is a tool for collective empowerment, as well as personal and social transformation. We work, among others, with a methodology called Forum Theatre which originally comes from the Theater of the Oppressed and we re-elaborated to adapt it to our social context.

Let me tell you my experience with the E-motive program.

#### BEING IN THE CENTER OF THE SCENE OF OUR LIVES

**TR3S Social mission:** 

Transform and empower society towards a society where basic human rights are respected for all citizens, where there is equality of gender; where people are protagonist of their lives, and where life sustainability is guaranteed both from environmental and economical points of view.



#### THE ALADDIN FACTOR

Hi Daniele. My name is Veronica. I'm here because my organization wants build on previous knowledge developed by E-Motive in The Netherlands. How can we do that? Let's do a mapping of needs and existing knowledge: we want to promote different ways of development education and citizen cooperation. Why? We believe social transformation comes about when people collaborate on the basis of equality and respect.

> Yes, of course! There is a method called the Aladdin factor consisting in writing wishes on a notebook to make them occur. I never did it, but if I had, I would have surely written this.

That's how I came across Daniele and 3 Social. His organization presented a proposal for a mutual learning exchange with an organization in India. They want to learn from India how to empower people through arts and Theater in Spain to help them overcome complex social difficulties.

#### PREPARING TO TRAVEL: FILLING THE SUITCASE WITH DREAMS

The members of TR3S social decided to contact the organization Jana Sanskriti, the most experienced and globally renowned organization in the Theatre of the Oppressed field.

We contacted Jana Sanskriti with 2 main goals: Learning their methodology and practice. How do they mobilize thousand of peasant workers in rural India? How do they apply the Forum Theatre theory? Look for other ways of thinking to apply in our work.

CALCUTTA

ticket

#### FORUM THEATRE: FROM CLASSIC VIEWER TO SPECTACTOR-ACTOR

The Forum Theatre methodology was born as a theatrical trend in Brazil of the 70's, called the Theatre of the Oppressed. It was systemized by playwright, actor, director and theatre pedagogue Augusto Boal (1931-2009), inspired by the work of the educator and theorist Paulo Freire.

Its objective is to transform reality by breaking the "fourth wall" of classical theatre and involving society in searching solutions to their common problems.



# Forum Theatre Steps:

The work starts with an oppressed social group that reflects in depth, analyzing the social political and economic causes that generate their reality.

This analysis becomes a short play of about 20 minutes of length.



This play is presented a first time to an audience that is sensitive to the conflicts represented.

This action in an open theater scene then becomes a reality in every day in the community. Immediately after that, the actors re-present the play with a mediator that invites the audience to hop on stage, replacing the actors in order to change the scene and find solutions to the conflict shown.

#### **VISITING JANA SANSKRITI**



In February 2015 5 people 4 of organizations traveled to the Jana Sanskriti center on the outskirts of Calcutta. They were amazed not only by Jana Sanskriti's vast experience but also for the world view that they presented: basically that there is an unseen order that theater makes evident.

The path of politics and spirituality have to come together. But spirituality is not necessary to believe in God. Just simply believe that we are part of something bigger and that's a systemic vision derived from the "Oneness"

> That's what has been lost in Europe with our cartesian rational square vision.

### **REALITY GLASSES**

This is the core of Emotive, starting to think: how are my reality glasses? What are they made of? How do I remove them and what do I tell others?

#### FROM SPECTATOR-ACTOR TO SPECTATOR-ACTIVIST

India is a highly divided society with great inequalities. Within this context the lower class, mainly workers and farmers, has no community sense and is usually divided by religion and other factors. We work with theatre to to help them find their own identity, potential and power.

It is also amazing how you take the Forum Theatre method a step further by creating a local human rights committee to change reality far beyond the theatre play, making policy proposals to transform their reality.

Exactly, my father used to say: in Forum Theatre the real job comes after the theatre.

#### Jana Sanskriti in Madrid



#### JANA SANSKRITI IN MADRID

An exchange workshop was organised in Madrid, inviting university students, teachers and researchers to experience the methodology and meeting to dream about future collaborative scenarios with E-motive as a springboard.

How sad. In India we already have communities. How disintegrated a society could be that you have to build a community? Here you have to work hard first to find a community or work hard with people to build a community, and only then start working with them.

#### THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING

CHAPTER 1

This is the first chapter of a new book which has to do with replicability in the local, european and global scales. And it begins with connecting our work in India, Spain and Holland and starting to think globally.

> We are talking about student exchange programs. We want the next generation of Jana Sanskriti to interact globally. We will act to make the intercultural exchanges grow. Now is the time .

> > In India, every two years we have our biannual festival called "..." and Theatre of the Oppressed professionals from all over the world come to participate. There is one week of workshops and this ends up in 3 or 4 performances. So the participants they go to the villages and they perform in front

• of hundreds and thousands of people.

I would like to do the same here..

Performing with the Africans or the people from Bangladesh in Madrid. Traveling and performing it in different areas or Madrid. Why not make the first Festival of Theatre of the Oppressed here?

#### E-MOTIVE IS LOOKING FOR:

# **ENTERPRENEURS: SUPPORTERS:**

Your ability to intervene in society is amplified through this network of relationships and allows you to expand your reach. you can have new partners in an international network and you have also access to new sources of funding

# SOCIAL FINANCIAL

**E-motive is creating out-of-the-box** collaborations that have real and profound impact in the lives of communities worldwide. We need time, money and effort to replicate this innovative methodology. And we already have time, effort and passion.

Contact Us **Recommend to a friend** 

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