



IETM Spring Plenary Meeting
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After the Revolution, Impact of Digital Technologies on Artistic Practices Transformation 3

Moderators:

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Speaker:

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The main objective of the working session is to exchange opinions, ideas and experiences on how the digital revolution affects the world of performing arts. Participants are invited to reflect on and to tell about how they adapt their artistic practices to the digital shift.

People always liked to share things with each other. Nowadays there is a strong tendency of doing it by the means of digital tools: 87 % of people exchange information using Internet. As artists, we should consider this trend.

* There is an opinion that theater, as a special sector, is resisting to technologies. Nevertheless we need to admit that technologies are in our minds and, therefore – on the stage. Computer is playing more and more essential role in presenting and disseminating shows.

Speaking about the impact of digital development on the performance arts sector, we can distinguish two levels:

- Content of artistic works
- Ways of working and presenting

How do these two levels go together?

* There is another opinion saying that actually theater invents technologies. It's a complex place for experimenting and testing new tools. Many examples from the performing arts world demonstrate how robots can be involved in the creation and presentation process.

* So, is there some degree of “technophobia” in the world of performing arts? What does ‘digital’ mean for the sector of performing arts?

- Audience turned to be completely virtual.
- “Technofatigue”
- No direct reactions, criticism.

There is a gap between two generation groups:

- “Digital natives”: people, who were born in the world of technologies
 - “Digital immigrants”: those, for who technological shift was new and they had to adapt to it.
- In fact audience is more open for new technologies than we think. We don’t have enough technical means. The process of change is very slow.

* Can cultural technologies contribute to the innovations?

* “Criticize technologies using technologies.” Technologies are mainly invented to be rational, to gain money. It is not a universal solution for every sector. Technological tools and culture are not on the same phase.

* Technologies are brought to the stage, if they can improve the result and process of the work.

* Discussing technological progress we cannot say that we are ‘here’ and we are going ‘there’. There are variety of ways and opportunities.

* How do we reach our audiences by technologies? Question of technologies is economic, political. Freedom is more important in artistic field than everywhere.