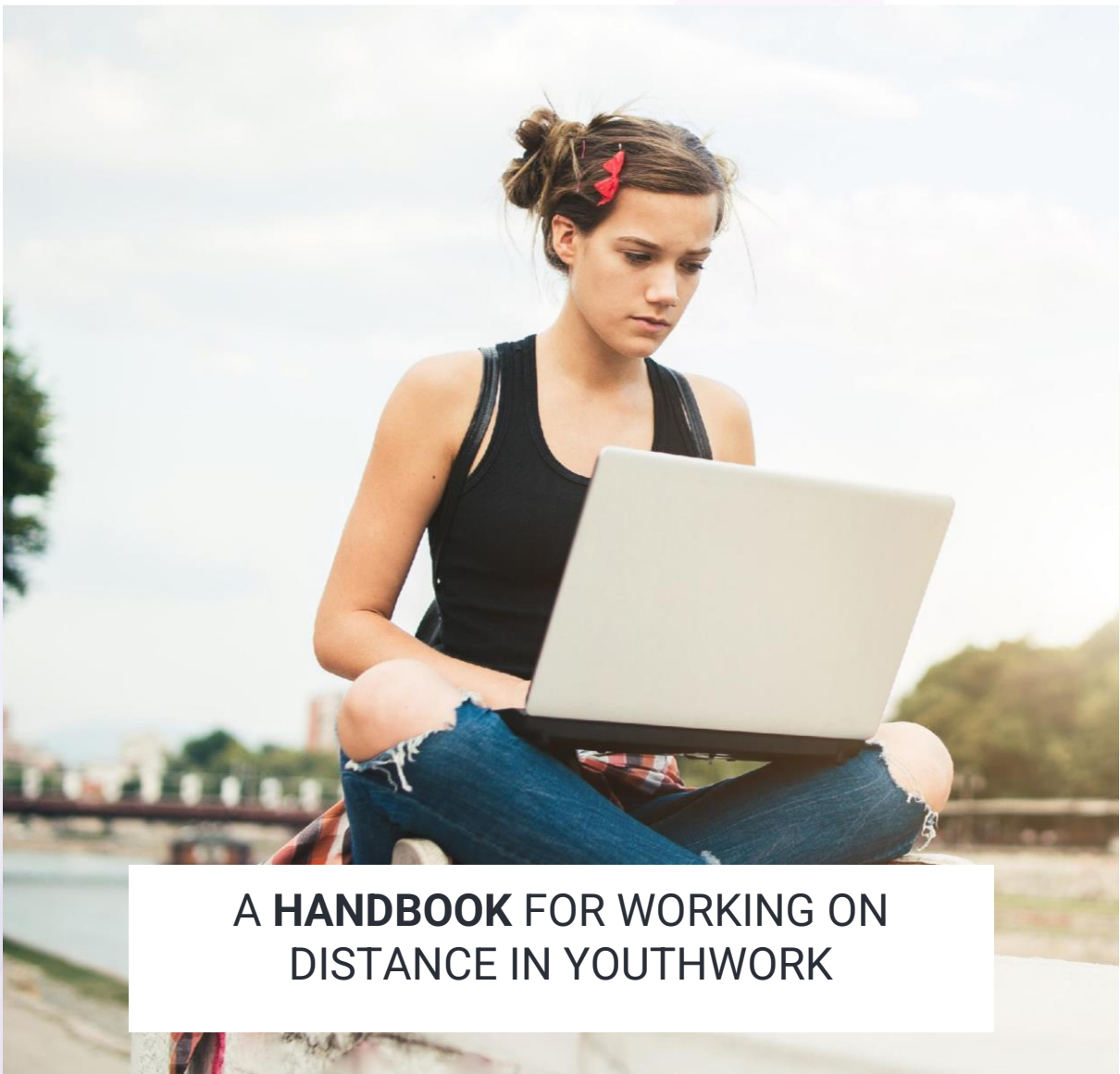


#1 BEING EVERYWHERE



**A HANDBOOK FOR WORKING ON
DISTANCE IN YOUTHWORK**

INTRODUCTION

About Europefiction and the Academy

EUROPEFICTION is an association of 10 youth theatres from 6 European countries. In a network of five theatres for young audiences from the Ruhr area and five European partner theatres, we want research transnational encounters and develop new aesthetic forms together with young people and other partners.

Every year a group of young theatre people come together a summercamp for an encounter and exchange with performances, workshops, conversations and firetalks. Encountering creates the basis of our society: community and solidarity. We want to develop an artistic utopia for a common future through art.

After two years of working together on the project of Europefiction, the Europefiction Academy is a next step to strengthen the partnerships between the co-working theatres, their local networks and to reflect on innovative methods in collaboration between the professional group leaders, talented ex-participants and students from a variety of theatre minded studies.

With this academy we want to develop new artistic and communicative strategies to convey the value of a democratic future with an interplay of political issues and art to a wide professional public of formal and non-formal youth-education.

Want to know more about Europefiction and the Academy?

<https://europefiction.org>



HI THERE!

You're just entered the virtual space of our research around the theme Being Everywhere working on a distance for the Europefiction Academy.

We can be present in different worlds at the same time. While our physical bodies in one place, our virtual bodies can be connected to others. We are used to time and place shifts and are able to be present in all different kinds of spaces. What does this mean for the human body in the era of the Anthropocene? Can we find a new consciousness of physicality and collectivity? When it's no longer possible to meet each other, does this virtual world replace the real one? Which new artistic practices does this trigger?

When we look into the future and look back at our past few years, we question how we

can work on a distance in times of crises. In times when we can't be together because travelling isn't possible whether due to another pandemic, to financial reasons or just because we don't want to travel due to the climate crisis. What can we learn from our experiences in the past years during the pandemic? What works and what doesn't? What tools, inspiration and successful methodologies can we share?

We hope to inspire you with this digital magazine and we would like to continue to build further on a platform with you. One where we can share our knowledge and experiences regarding the above questions.

So have fun and don't forget to add!
Team Being Everywhere

Subject and Pages

1. Thoughts about Being Everywhere

Here you can read some thoughts of artists, researchers and scientist about 'Being Everywhere'; about physicality and digitality, about the body in digital space, about live and online encounters and about art education in this transformative times.

2. Voices of participants

For the research on the theme, we interviewed participants of Europefiction about 'Working on a distance' and their thoughts and experiences with it. When we could finally get back together, during the Europefiction summercamp in Gelsenkirchen in July '22, we made some videos of interviews.

3. Perspectives on digitality and physicality

Theater professionals share their vision and thoughts about digitality and physicality, how they relate to each other and how they use this in their working practice.

4. Inspiration

Many inspiring projects have been and are taking place all over the world when it comes to the topic of Being everywhere, working on a distance. Let yourself be amazed by some examples.

5. Working tools

On this page you can find different collected and suggested working tools. From basics to digital – and analogue tools and from possible presentation formats to suggestions for how to start your online meeting. Also you can find some do's and don'ts in working online.

1. THOUGHTS OF BEING EVERYWHERE

Here you can read some thoughts of artists, researchers and scientist about 'Being Everywhere'; about physicality and digitality, about the body in digital space, about live and online encounters and about art education in this transformative times.

"This has been written during the 2020 pandemic lockdown. The music and theatre industries have been pushing for new ways for people to experience the feeling of life of live art through tech. But there's a depth of honesty to the life exchange that the screen immediately defeats. The screens, the one in your hand as you watch and one in the room that captures the performance - close doors between the writer, the work and the reader. What we are left with is something to watch, not something to be part of. Screens work for film, cinema television. But not for live performance." During lockdown, when physical connection was so heavily policed, we began to crave what we had previously taken for granted. When we are forced to go without something, we begin to notice what it truly is. When we have it all the time, we have no need to tune in to its qualities. The cliché is a cliché because it's true you don't know what you've got till it's gone. When I'm numb, how can I make myself connected? I can't. But I can try to create an environment that's welcoming for connection if it should turn up. Abstinence helps."

Kae Tempest, 2020

Fragment from the essay On connection

<https://shop.kaetempest.co.uk/products/on-connection>

“Now that our virtual world has become so big or that we spend so much time in that space, that also gives an out of body experience actually. We get out of our bodies. The webcam films my body, but I’m actually not in my body anymore because I’m somewhere in that in-between space looking at all those mosaics of all those figures I’m talking to and in the meantime my body is being filmed. The exercise to bring consciousness and body together, to be really present in the body, here and now, with the other... I think we should cherish it. And also that, in the theater and I think in all kinds of art institutions, we have to question spaces, including the public space. What it’s like to be close to someone or to go further away and what that does to your body consciousness? I think we should keep training that. There is something of the essence of humanity and also coming together. You want to feel that you are also a swarm, that you are a group. How do we do that? Can we do that in a playful or beneficial way, be that group body?”

Bianca van der Schoot, 2020

Fragment from an interview for Holland Festival (in dutch)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch>

“The body, bodily matters and embodied relations and how we imagine and manage them are ‘intimately tied to the social’: how we relate to ourselves, to others, and to the world (Shilling, 2008). Digital technology is a fundamental part of the contemporary experience and re-imagination of the body. Via technological means, the body has been the subject of ‘intensification of the extension, abstraction, and reconstruction’ (Cregan, 2006). Developments in digital technology raise questions for how the relationship between society, nature and culture, and challenge how we think about these through the body. Haraway’s (2003) cyborg vision of a hybrid machine-organism, for example,

was a seminal moment in the re-imagination of the body as in-determinant and fluid and no longer tied to the material physical body.”

Carey Jewitt, Anna Xambo and Sara Price, 2016

Fragment of an article about conceptualising and researching the body in digital contexts

https://discovery.ucl.ac.uk/id/eprint/1514578/1/Jewitt_Final%20pre%20print%20V%20Jewitt%20QR.pdf

“When we don’t examine the deeper assumptions behind why we gather, we end up skipping to quickly to replicating old, staid formats of gathering. And we forgot the possibility of creating something memorable, even transformative.”

“We’re living through an extraordinary moment and have the rare opportunity to actually pause and shape how we spend our collective time.”

Priya Parker, 2020

Quotes of Priya Parker, writer of The art of gathering (2019)

<https://www.priyaparker.com/the-virtual-gathering-guide>

AND NOW YOU!

**What thoughts of artists, researchers and scientist about
'Being Everywhere' you want to share?**

https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/

2. VOICES OF PARTICIPANTS

For the research on the theme, we interviewed participants of Europefiction about 'Working on a distance' and their thoughts and experiences with it. When we could finally get back together, during the Europefiction summercamp in Gelsenkirchen in July '22, we made some videos of interviews:

Naomi Tuininga, Rotterdam

Dominik Cseppely, Budapest

Hold Oláh, Budapest

Sophie Lei, Bochum

AND NOW YOU!

What are your thoughts with and experiences about working on a distance?

[https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/
/](https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/)

3. PERSPECTIVES ON DIGITALITY AND PHYSICALITY

Theater professionals share their vision and thoughts about digitality and physicality, how they relate to each other and how they use this in their working practice:

Florian Heller, Dramaturg

Pleun Peters, Artist educator

Catharina Gadelha, choreographer

AND NOW YOU!

What are your perspectives on digitality and physicality?

[https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/
/](https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/)

4. INSPIRATION

Many inspiring projects have been and are taking place all over the world when it comes to the topic of Being everywhere, working on a distance. Let yourself be amazed by some examples.

1. How to start a movement

A 3-week durational experience where you receive 15 envelopes in your mailbox with a serie of interventions and missions. An intimate yet collective way to empower your everyday life while subverting and disrupting the hidden rules of society.

<https://www.howtostartamovement.nl>

2. Hopes and fears across the water

A spoken word exchange between performers from the UK and The Netherlands, presented in touching and inspiring online sessions.

<https://companynewheroes.com/project/hopes-and-fears-across-the-water/>

3. When this is over

A play developed with 16 youth theatres, artists and campaigners in large online meetings collaborating digitally.

<https://www.companythree.co.uk/wtio>

4. The Corona Virus Time Capsule

Response to the pandemic, through the eyes of teenagers everywhere. Throughout Spring and Summer 2020, teenagers in 18 countries captured themselves in lockdown, supported by weekly tasks created by Company Three.

<https://www.coronavirustimecapsule.com>

5. Rituals of Change

Three online workshops by Dancing on the Edge Festival.

<https://magazine.dancingontheedge.nl/sense-of-place/>

6. Embracing package

Nine short audio stories in your inbox that tell you about special embracements.

<https://www.emkeidema.nl/omhelzingspakket/>

7. Carried by the wind

Project about connecting people who are separated by a wall (Israel) by making music on roofs together.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_HBVA1qOBKc

8. Being Here for You

An exchange project between an artist in NL and artist in South Africa.

<https://beinghereforyou.com>

9. Walk with Amal

One big puppet crossing borders and connecting people, creating one story.

<https://www.walkwithamal.org>

AND NOW YOU!

What examples of projects related to the subject of Being everywhere, working on a distance inspired you?

https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/

5. WORKING TOOLS

On this page you can find different collected and suggested working tools. From basics to

digital – and analogue tools and from possible presentation formats to suggestions for how to start your online meeting. Also you can find some do's and don'ts in working online.

BASICS

Basics for working online:

All camera on

- Every participant should feel safe

All microphones off

- Only the person who speaks turns on the microphone

Choose a silent space/room

- A room or space without disturbing background noises
(closed windows, closed doors, if possible no children around)

Use break-out rooms

- Group rooms where you can divide in smaller groups to work parallel only with partners and not the whole group

Make a good time schedule and stick to that

AND NOW YOU!

What are the basics for working online?

https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/

HOW TO START?

How to start an online meeting:

Always start with an introduction

- introducing yourself/the others, ask for the actual mood, expectations

Experiment with positions as standing, sitting, moving

- Which spaces can you find in your room?
- Which Changes of distance to the camera are possible?

Experiment with locations such as forrest, park, street, etc.

AND NOW YOU!

How do you start an online meeting?

[https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/
/](https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/)

WARMING-UP

Warming ups for an online meeting:

Leading and following

- One participant is moving in his/her own room and everybody does the same movement in their own rooms
- After one movement the next participant leads the movement
- Can use music

One is starting a movement, the rest is reacting

- One participant is moving in his/her own room. Everybody has to do a suitable movement to this movement
- After one movement the next participant leads the movement
- Play with the distance
- First try different distances to the camera and watch the different views of

you and the others

- Find your three favourite different positions, with three different distances to the camera
- Bring them to an order and present them to the group.

Play with the laptop as a movie camera

- Take your laptop in your hand and move with it through your space
- Which camera perspectives can you use (Close Up, long shot etc.)?

AND NOW YOU!

What can you do as a warming up in an online meeting?

[https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/
/](https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/)

DIGITAL TOOLS

Digital tools for working on a distance:

- Miroboard (to make a process visual)
- Google drive (as an archive)
- We-Transfer (to share big files)
- Padlet (to collect, research, archive)
- Instagram (to present tasks, podcast)
- Smart phone (record, take pictures, FaceTime)
- Messenger (to build groups)
- <https://skribbl.io/>
 - online tool for hangman
- <https://www.canva.com/templates/search/resumes/>
- <https://www.oncoo.de/>
 - whiteboard for working together without the need to sign up

- <https://pickerwheel.com/?id=5Da5R>
 - to find a topic, find randomly groups, if you choose places you can use them as a inspiration for szenen
- <https://webuhr.de/timer/#countdown=00:01:00&enabled=0&seconds=0&sound=xylophone&loop=1>
 - can show it in zoom, for example everybody has 3 minutes to get a costume with things they have in their house
 - or to find a requisite that is important to me

AND NOW YOU!

What digital tools can be used in working on distance with groups?

https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=

ANALOG TOOLS

Analog tools for working on a distance:

Write letters (one to one, chain letter)

- Be safe that you are allowed to share the directions of the participants

Packages with tasks, tools

- For example every participant get a package with flower seeds and the task to spread it at special places and to make every week a photo of the place

Speed dating, interviews via telephone

- It can help to prepare questions before

Use costumes, or materials that you have at home

- For example every participant has two minutes to find an old looking costume in their rooms

Real backgrounds

- Find some nice camera backgrounds in your house or outside
- For example a wall in the basement

Going out to making photos

- Different tasks; for example make photos of your favorite places

Recording sounds of the city

AND NOW YOU!

What analogue tools can be used in working on distance with groups?

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/](https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/)

PRESENTATION FORMATS

Presentation formats for working on a distance:

- Video (professionals, I-movie, moviemaker, final cut)
- Site- specific performance
- Zoom
- Apps (Bi Parcour)
- Audiowalk
- Theatre (live via Zoom)

AND NOW YOU!

What presentation formats can be used in working on a distance?

[https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/
/](https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/)

NEED HELP?

- Ask for support from a digital professional
- Share your experiences

DON'TS

Don't:

- Forget to take a break
- Talk too much
- Forget your body
- Forget your senses

WHAT WORKS?

Examples and exercises:

1. **If you work together with a group on a distance, make duo's. They will be buddies for the rest of the project. Give them questions or tasks to get to know each other.**
2. **Everyday tasks to put in a diary. They can be topic related or just random exercises to open yourself to your environment.**

For example:

- *Take an (online) newspaper and choose a news article of this day that is important to you to save. Cut it out or print it and put it in your booklet.
You can draw or write something under it.*
- *What is the most beautiful thing that you've experienced today?*
- *Make a self-portrait*

Exchange the diary's when you meet in real life.

1. **If you work online start your meeting/rehearsal with connecting to the body. Take a moment to sit still, breath, feel the body.**
2. **Start (or continue) with a check-in round. Everybody tells something about what's going on, how you feel, what you did and ends with the words: check-in.**
 - By doing this everybody had already the chance to say something, you've heard everybody and you know what's going on.
3. **Combination of online/offline: Start your rehearsal online, give your participants an exercise they can do in real live, let them create/explore/go on adventure. Bring them back after a certain amount of time and exchange experiences.**
4. **Invite an artist to your online rehearsals to get some new input and inspiration.**

AND NOW YOU!

What works? Examples and exercises

[https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/
/](https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_kqyM32c=/)

CREDITS

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A big thanks to

Naomi Tuininga, Dominik Cseppely, Hold Oláh, Sophie Lei, Roshanak Morrowatian,
Victor Ruban, Florian Heller, Anne van Buren, Mynou van der Linden, Sarah van der Lugt,
Boogaerdt/Van der Schoot, Merel Smitt, TENT and all the Europefiction Academy partners
for working together