

# Erzählkunst e.V.

Storytelling Club founded in Berlin in 2007

With our finger on the pulse of contemporary storytelling we aim to sustain a vibrant storytelling scene in Berlin.

The art of storytelling nourishes itself from the innovative powers of diverse traditions and proves that future needs roots. There are treasures of stories in the archives of human memory that can be transformed through the oral diplomacy of storytelling to a jaw-dropping topicality.

Our organization supports storytelling projects on various stages, in institutions and established a monthly storytelling stage *Erzählbühne Berlin* in the Theater o.N. (in 2018 at danziger50).

Storytelling can look back at a 4.000-year-old tradition. In the recent years storytelling has experienced a renaissance called New Orality. On all continents thousands are visiting storytelling festivals. We are part of this movement and enhance this diverse exchanges between cultures and entertaining communication. We aim to activate cooperations and wish to make Berlin a hotspot for national and international storytelling.

In a time of global migration storytelling unfolds new cultural meanings and its eminent political dimension. Erzählkunst e.V. therefore initiates projects with storytellers from different countries. Bi- and multilingual storytelling allows to shed light on known and foreign stories and languages. For this reason storytelling with refugees has also become a vital part of our work.

We offer training for storytellers and for people working in pedagogic fields to enlarge their repertoire in communication. We initiate projects in schools and kindergarten. The project ErzählZeit was developed, established and implemented in schools in Berlin under this roof from 2003-2013. Children learn to listen attentively

and with respect. Especially children with a background of migration are empowered to use their second language creatively, connect to their phantasy and learn to communicate about inner pictures and needs resulting in a growing self-confidence (see: evaluation report: - *ErzählZeit*). This long term project proves in an impressive way the growth of audible competence and the comprehension for poetic language through storytelling.

Translation: Britta C. Wilmsmeier