

We are thrilled to introduce...

THE CASSANDRA PROJECT

.... a groundbreaking new venture supporting young storytellers (ages 18-30) as they become socially engaged performers ready to electrify international stages. This dynamic project spans five European countries: Poland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden, and Norway.

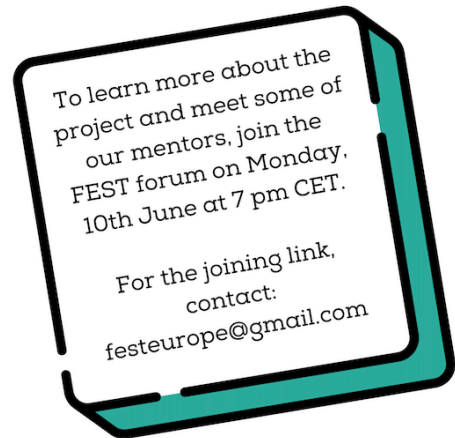


These smiling faces belong to the Cassandra participants, mentors, International festival representatives and project coordinators in Alden Biesen, April 2024

The Cassandra Project isn't just about performance—it's also about expanding the horizons of international storytelling festivals, championing art for social good, and creating platforms for the next generation of storytellers. Plus, we're developing a public training resource based

on our innovative techniques so anyone can join the movement and amplify the impact of youth storytelling.

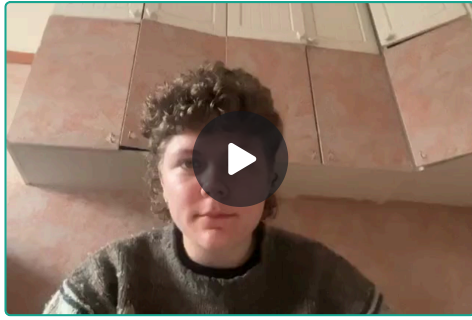
Thanks to the support of Creative Europe and the Federation for European Storytelling (FEST), The Cassandra Project is set to make waves across the continent. Stay tuned for more updates and stories from our young storytellers!



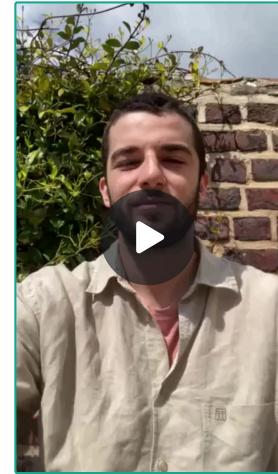
WHAT IS SOCIALLY ENGAGED STORYTELLING?

To us, socially engaged storytelling means sharing narratives that resonate with you personally while addressing issues of global significance. It's about telling stories that raise awareness of social challenges, spark meaningful conversations, and inspire positive change.

But enough from us. Hear from two of the young storytellers about what it means to them to be a socially engaged storyteller:



This is Mari from the Norwegian team



...and here is Daan from Team Belgium

Training Week

In April this year, our young storytellers travelled to the majestic castle of Alden Biesen in Belgium alongside their mentors and the directors of their home countries' international festivals. There, they participated in an intensive training program to develop their artistic voices, build technical stagecraft skills, and learn about their roles as custodians of intangible cultural heritage.

Simultaneously, the partner festivals engaged in round table discussions, peer learning, and practical workshops. These sessions aimed to strengthen international connections and collaboratively refine their strategies to elevate and platform diverse voices.

The course coincided with Alden Biesen's International Storytelling Festival, where we were lucky enough to witness some of the world's best storytellers in action and meet them in person. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the artists who so warmly offered their encouragement and advice, who listened and laughed with us and shared their own journeys in truly meaningful ways - also for putting up with our racket in the dining room.



Next Steps

The young storytellers have returned to their home countries, where, with the support of their mentors and home country festivals, they will create their own storytelling performances. These experiences will debut as a series in the days leading up to the 2024 Amsterdam International Storytelling Festival, where the international storytelling and performance community are graciously invited to have their socks blown off.

Get these dates in your diary!

AMSTERDAM STORYTELLING CENTRE **4TH AND 5TH OF NOVEMBER 2024**

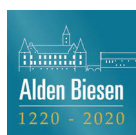
Every year, storytellers from around Europe gather for the annual FEST conference, which this year is in Glasgow, Scotland. Here, delegates will learn more about the Cassandra project and other innovative global Storytelling projects, as well as meet in person with the European storytelling community, all while enjoying some of the UK's richest culture.

Find out more at www.fest-network.eu

Project Partners



CASSANDRA
SOCIALLY ENGAGED STORYTELLING



Alden Biesen
Belgium (BE)



Stowarzyszenie
Grupa Studnia O.
Poland (PL)



Storytelling Centre
Netherlands (NL)



Stiftelsen Fortellersentrum
Norway (NO)



Storytelling Network of Kronoberg
Sweden (SE)



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