

## Testimony

The ten days I spent in Chişinău truly enriched my experience both as an artist and as a cultural manager.

I had the chance to co-facilitate the workshop of Forum Theatre & Invisible Theatre alongside George Wielgus (a first co-facilitation with another TO Joker, one that I significantly admire); I held an open debate on Theatre for Communities (my theoretical specialization) and hosted two documentary screenings each followed by a discussion concerning revolts and struggles within educational systems in Romania and Croatia.

As Focus Atelier Chişinău marks our first collaboration with AZART Centre for Cultural Projects (MD) (<http://cpcazart.wordpress.com/>) and the first step for creating a platform that links Chişinău and Cluj – all the while also stands for our third collaboration with Reboot the Roots (GB) (<http://www.reboottheroots.org.uk/>), association which George Wielgus is part of, and which was one of our prime collaborators for the first edition of Focus Atelier Cluj, in 2015.

I therefore had the occasion to talk to and facilitate a workshop for approx. 25 participants, comprising theatre students, emerging artists and school teachers. At the same time, this was an opportunity to engage with new collaborators and continue previous collaborations. Along the period I spent in Chişinău, I connected with operators from local art spaces such as Teatru Spălătorie and Oberliht, I met local performance artists and script-writers; amongst these are some that I have been already considering to invite to participate in Focus Atelier Cluj, in 2017 (you can follow this here – [www.focusatelier.ro](http://www.focusatelier.ro)). These meetings specifically have helped me to obtain a broader image on the ways we are about to collaborate.

I am thankful to people in Chişinău and elsewhere that made this happen and I am looking forward to harvest this experience within future projects.

Many thanks to Azart, Reboot the Roots and all the people who have combined their efforts to make all this possible!

Lorand Maxim

Focus Atelier Manager