

gener-AZIONI

Last August the Magdalena network celebrated its 25th anniversary, 25 years of meetings, exchange and creative work among female artists from 50 nations. In response to this event, Magfest Torino has chosen to reflect on the theme gener-AZIONI, generations.

The themes for Magfest always arise from a practical reflection which touches directly one or all the artistic directors of the festival.

The theme "generations" stems from the need shared by Annamaria, Gabriella and Valentina to analyse and debate the (dis)similarities of the three generations which today, after 25 years, compose the Magdalena network.

What is the significance of a *feminine* cultural action in 2011? What is passed on from one generation to the next? What changes? Can there be an artistic identity across generations and what constitutes the identity of one generation?

What are the characteristics of our generation? Are we a generation or rather individuals which make up a generation as fragmented as our times?

Playing with the Italian word "generazioni" (including the root-words for the terms 'to generate', 'gender' and 'action'), Magfest Torino 2011 wishes to address the topic also under a specifically performative perspective: what does it mean to generate actions? Which actions generate? And, are there gender actions? Does gender influence actions?

In our experience, generating performance exchanges among artists, participants, actors and directors is one of the ways to define who we are and what kinds of actions represent the driving force across several generations.