

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

**Paolo Cantù** (Vimercate, 1975) graduated with honours in Theoretical Philosophy from the University of Milan.

In 2001 he became organisational director at the Della Cooperativa Theatre of Milan; in the same years he collaborated with *Festival Teatro Europeo*, *Uovo-* Performing Arts Festival and the Theatrical Residence NudoeCrudo Theatre of Lombardy.

In 2007 he was appointed organisational and administrative director of the *Fondazione Teatro Piemonte Europa* in Turin, a stable theatre of innovation (later a theatre of Significant Cultural Interest), where he was responsible for management, personnel and offices. Together with director Beppe Navello, he worked on the creation of artistic-productive projects, on the programming of the season of Astra Theatre, as well as on Teatro a Corte Festival, an international review of contemporary creativity held in the Savoy residences of Piedmont.

From 2007 to 2013 - as member and coordinator of the artistic-organizational staff of the festival - he was in charge of the international and territorial programming, of the productive and site-specific projects, of the organizational management, participating as artistic delegate to international conferences and showcases, activating projects with embassies, public institutions, theatre centres, festivals and companies. At the same time, he specialised in European and national projects: as project manager, he managed the two-year Italian-French cross-border cooperation project within the EU Alcotra Programme (2009/2011) with the *Theatre Scène Nationale du Gap Scavalcamontagne*; in the same years he was a member of the steering committee of the international project *Marchés Communs*, which promotes the circulation of urban dance creations between Italian and French regional realities; he is in charge of the project *Dare to say it, be able to do it*, supported by the *Programma Europa Cultura 2007-2013*, of which *Fondazione Teatro Piemonte Europa* is a partner.

In September 2012 he became the executive director and administrative manager of Franco Parenti Theatre of Milan - a private permanent theatre (later a theatre of Significant Cultural Interest) directed by Andrée Ruth Shammah - where, in addition to being responsible for managing the structure and coordinating the offices, he is a member of the artistic-organisational board and delegate for institutional relations with public and private bodies.

In 2013 he was a member of the planning staff of the Progetto Speciale *Per il Quarantesimo [Special Project "For the Fortieth"]*, supported by the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities, which included an intense programme of national and international shows, performance lessons, workshops and training projects dedicated in particular to the new scene. Since the same year he has been the project manager *Cittadella Luna*, a three-year project supported by the Cariplo Foundation that aims at integrating culture and well-being, through the reunification of the theatre spaces of Franco Parenti Theatre with the adjacent spaces of Caimi Bathing Center: an innovative model of cultural fruition and production connected to a public space, a creative incubator dedicated to live performances able to promote and enhance creativity and artistic hybridity and at the same time, to favour new practices of appropriation and sharing of urban spaces.

He was in charge of the general management of the Pier Lombardo Foundation, a public-private foundation that manages the spaces of the Theatre and the redeveloped Caimi Bathing Centre, renamed *Bagni Misteriosi*.

He has participated as a speaker in national and international conferences, has been a member of the board of directors and lectures annually as part of the *Master Eventi Culturali* at the Sacred Heart Catholic University in Milan, as well as in seminars organised by the Hystrio magazine.

He has been a member of the Board of Auditors of the A.G.I.S. [*Italian General Entertainment Association*] – Interregional Union of Piedmont and Aosta Valley and the A.N.T.A.C. [*National Association of Contemporary Art Stable Theatres*] board of directors.

From January 2015 to December 2017 he was director of the Piemonte dal Vivo Foundation, where - alongside his distribution activities as a Regional Multidisciplinary Circuit (theatre, dance, music, circus) - he launched and developed several new projects: among others, *Vignale Monferrato Festival*; the platform *Hangar Piemonte. Re-inventare il futuro* dedicated to the training of cultural enterprises; *GlocalSound* for the circulation of independent music; the new Regional Choreographic Centre and Artistic Residence in the spaces of the *Lavanderia a Vapore* in the metropolitan area of Turin.

Since January 2018 he has been the general and artistic director of the I Teatri Foundation of Reggio Emilia.