



"To Travel is to meet"

Dossier

Shpooka Tours

ARMA Theatre Company from Israel in collaboration with European artists



“Declining from the public ways, walk in unfrequented paths.”

Pythagoras



The famous international Shpooka family opens a tourist agency in the street! All is explored, the contradictions of wild beauty and miserable ugliness, the truth and humanity of the city. See the city as you have never seen it before!

Description

Shpooka Tours

The famous Shpooka family opens a tourist agency in the street!

The office of Shpooka Tours, situated in the street or in a public square, presents old style cars designed in retro fashion. It proposes the spectators to sign-up for a visit of the city and a choice of its itineraries; it could be a historic approach, romantic, mysterious, mystic etc. Each itinerary last around 10-15 minutes and visits spaces in the neighboring area to the “office”.

Before going into the car, the spectators have to successfully pass the hassles of “bureaucracy” ... after which, they are driven, like a royal family, inside the extravagant cars, accompanied by

guides on bicycles. With the aid of megaphones, the guides reveal particular sites and legendary local people. The Shpooka Tours agency, holds non-stop action, the cars are going in and out of the agency while the tourists (Festival public) are signing-up for a visit. When the tourists come back from a tour, they are invited to the 'on-site' T.V studio, to participate in an interview about their experience, as well as to enjoy a little music and dance, in a generous ambiance- for joy of life.

Shpooka Tours is a marvelous opportunity to help people meet! For example, if a family, a couple decides that they would like to join a different tour-theme, they will join different groups, and go on a tour in separate cars, and upon their return, they can share their experiences!



The public is introduced to « behind the coulisses » of the city: it enables the public to discover strange characters, unknown as well as marginal or unusual in the city. It could be public or private enterprises / clubs / sports / offices / less known museums / swimming-pools / boutiques / beauty-salons / photography studios / restaurants / fountains / a park or any eccentric and unique venue in town. The public will be invited to explore the contradictions between these sites of wild beauty or miserable ugliness, charged with authenticity of humanity.

The Shpooka Family offers the citizens and visitors of the city, to sign-up for a “unique visit”, “an opportunity to see your city as you have never seen it before”.



The show addresses the public in three modes:

The first time it addresses a large public which is looking at the events in-front of the tourism agency, and then is invited to join one of the guided tours.

The second time it addresses a small public which is sitting inside the agency cars with its' chauffeur and a guide on his bike- this is an intimate experience. The spectators go in and out of the car according to the itinerary, all wearing special hats which they received at the "office" before their departure.

The third time it addresses, again, a large public and particularly the anonymous passers-by of the city. Their attention is attracted by these outlandish cars passing by them and by the pleasantries of the guides with megaphones on bicycles. It creates a surprise for the simple unprepared passers-by, in unexpected urban "scenes".

Consequently, the show addresses a diverse range of audiences. There are many things happening in the city during this show, because it is both itinerant and in a fixed place. In Israel and in Poland, we played the show for three hours non-stop, but if the organizer choses to, we can play two shows of an hour and a half each. .

This is an urban site-specific show based on preliminary research. It involves the participation of the community- the local population and the festival public. It is important to mention that we

are very independent in our work: the itineraries are chosen and established by the actors in cooperation with the local enterprises and citizens. (We are, of-course, attentive and open to the good advice of the festival organizers).



The cars: finding the cars is made in collaboration with the citizens of the city and the festival organizers. In almost every city, there is an association or club for old cars. The idea is to invite such car owners to participate in the project, and to help them share with the public, their love to their car. Every car owner will wear a chauffeur's costume and become, in a way, part of the artists team. The characters of the Shpooka family are very diverse and they come from all over the world.

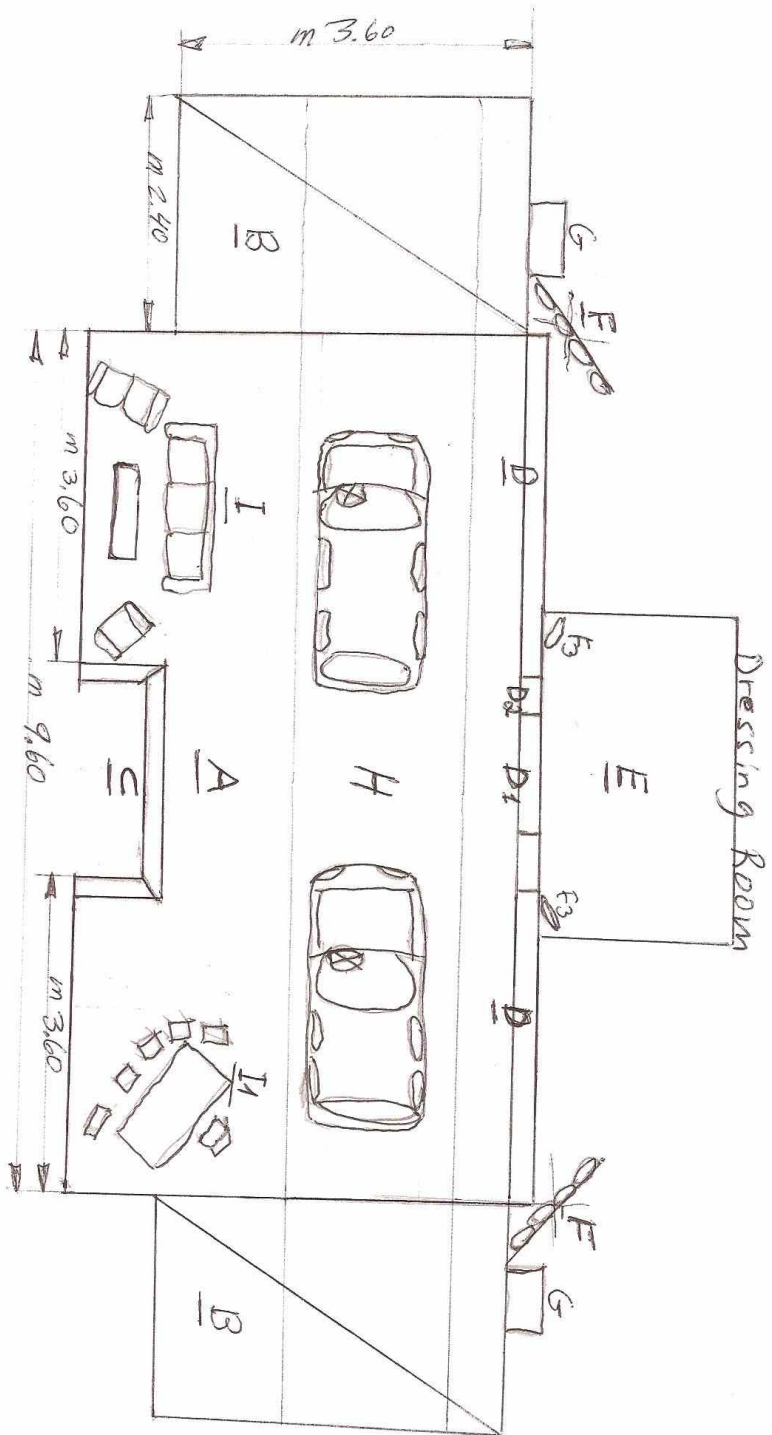
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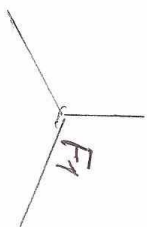
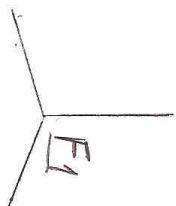
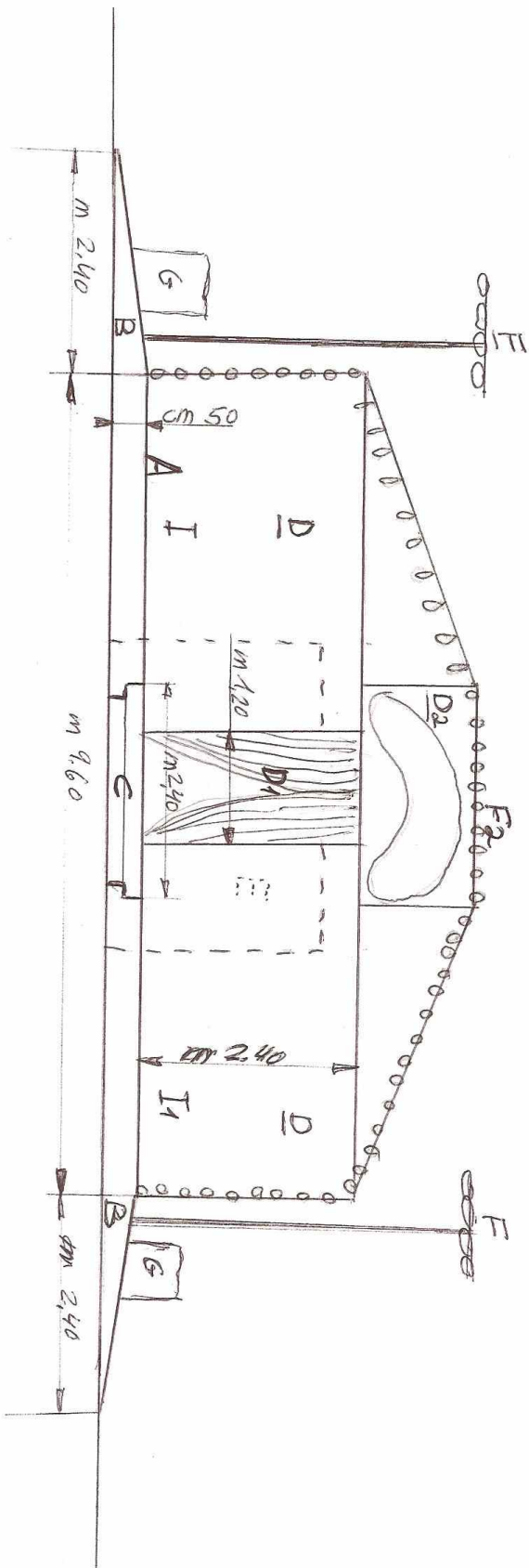
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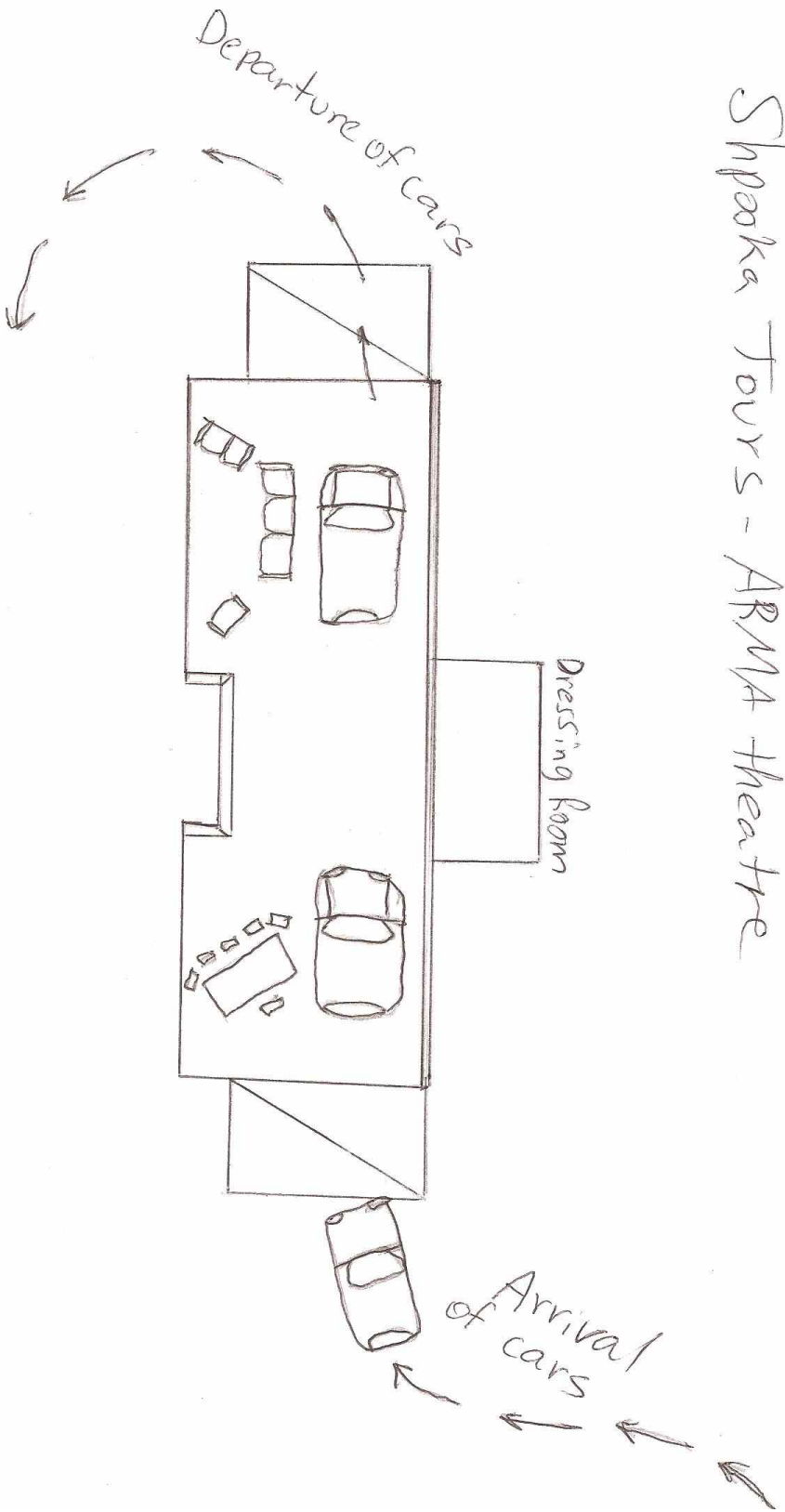
"Shpokka Tours" - ARMA theatre



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Audience