



PRESS RELEASE

Groundbreaking documentary play SEVEN touring on Western Balkans

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Hedda Produktion AB, local partners and the Swedish Embassies in cooperation with the Swedish Institute announces the Western Balkans Tour of theatrical readings of the documentary play SEVEN.

The play is to be performed on ten occasions in six countries;

Macedonia	2 November
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5, 6, 7 November (Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Mostar)
Albania	8 November
Croatia	23 November
Kosovo	30 November
Serbia	25, 27 November, 2 December (Novi Sad, Novi Pazar, Niz)

SEVEN is a ground breaking documentary play based on Interviews with seven women's rights activists from around the world, whose difficult life stories and struggle are a source of inspiration: Farida Azizi (Afghanistan), Inez McCormack (Northern Ireland), Marina Pisklakova-Parker (Russia), Annabella de Leon (Guatemala), Mukhtar Mai (Pakistan), Mu Sochua (Cambodia) and Hafsat Abiola (Nigeria). At each venue the play is performed by a unique ensemble of prominent persons representing different aspects of society.

«The tour of SEVEN in six Balkan countries is a part of the long-term Swedish cooperation with the Western Balkans. SEVEN represents many of Sweden's core values of gender equality, human rights and democracy and the project has a well-documented history of bringing these high-prioritized topics up on the political agenda. With the regional tour of SEVEN the Swedish Institute aims at stimulating the debate on these topics on an individual, national and regional level»

- Annika Rembe, director-general of the Swedish Institute

The tour of theatrical readings of SEVEN was initiated in 2008 by playwright and producer Hedda Krausz Sjögren. The tour has performed in 13 countries to date, reaching over 20.000 people, from Sweden to Afghanistan. Over 500 persons, both men and women, including ministers, members of the European Parliament, artists, and the Academy award-winning actress Merly Streep has performed in the play.

The performances will be framed by activities to raise awareness for the struggle against gender-based violence and struggle for the protection of women's rights.

Based on interviews conducted in 2007, the play was created by seven award-winning playwrights: Paula Cizmar, Catherine Filloux, Gail Kriegel, Carol K. Mack, Ruth Margraff, Anna Deveare-Smith and Susan Yankowitz.

More information on the project:

www.sevenwomen.se/en/
www.facebook.com/pages/Seven-on-tour/

Photos:

www.sevenwomen.se/en/press/pressbilder

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