

Carte Blanche and The Theatres of the Impossible



Carte Blanche is a not-for-profit arts organization founded in 1987, with the aim of producing and promoting cultural activities based on experimental research in the arts.

The organization manages **Compagnia della Fortezza**, the theatre company composed by the inmates actors of Volterra Prison and directed by **Armando Punzo**.

Together with the permanent theatre workshop inside Volterra Prison, Carte Blanche also organizes every year since 1993 one or two professional trainings for the arts professions.

It consists of 5 professionals: an artistic director, an art manager, a project manager, a secretary, a coordinator of the Theatre in prison centre activities. Besides, Carte Blanche involves 35 collaborators with artistic and technical skills: dramaturgs, set and costumes designers, choreographers, musicians, videomakers, photographers, light directors, webmaster, social media and communication manager.

Carte Blanche is the first Italian National Theatre and Prison Centre, whose protocol agreement was signed by the Italian Ministry of Justice, the Tuscany Region, the Pisa Region, the Volterra Municipality and the ETI (Ente Teatrale Italiano).

The centre promotes and coordinates the activities of theatre in prison nationally and internationally, it conceives projects with the EU and extra European nations, it is the documentation centre for academics, researchers and student from all around the world, it organises and takes part to national and international meetings and it collaborates with universities, schools and research departments.

For the Teatro di San Pietro, which is also the physical office of the organization, Carte Blanche promotes creative residences for artists, theatre companies and musicians, it organises creative workshops for children, teen agers and adults, it conceives exhibitions, installations, lectures and meetings.