

# **European Bibliodrama Network**

## **The charter of the European Bibliodrama Network**

**Drafted 16 June 2003 in Dobogokö, Hungary**

**Updated 22 May 2004 in Gelnhausen, Germany**

### **A European Training and Learning Partnership**

The following text arises from a two year co-operation of Bibliodrama project partners from five European countries (Switzerland, Hungary, Austria, Denmark and Germany) working on the project 'Long term advanced Bibliodrama education in Europe', supported by the Sokrates Grundvig 2 programme of the EU. It was produced at a meeting in Dobogoko in Hungary on June 16<sup>th</sup> 2003.

Other interested Bibliodrama groups from Sweden and Finland also associated themselves with the Charta and with the European Bibliodrama Network (EBN).

The structure and way of working of the network were agreed at a meeting in Gelnhausen, Germany, on May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2004 and integrated into the Charta.

This text is aimed at those who are interested in crossborder Bibliodrama exchanges; Bibliodrama leaders; those interested in continuing education in Bibliodrama (for example in churches and educational institutions) or in Bibliodrama instruction. You are all invited to work with us in the European Network.

Gelnhausen, 22.06.2004

Contents	Page
What is Bibliodrama?	2
We are Bibliodrama practitioners	2
We understand ourselves to be an open network of people	2
Our goals	2
Our fundamental approach to Bibliodrama	3
How does the EBN operate?	3
Common concept of formation of Bibliodrama leadership	4
1. Pre-requisites for Bibliodrama leadership formation	4

2. Goals of Bibliodrama leadership formation	5
3. Structures of Bibliodrama leadership formation	6
Participating institutions, contact addresses	7

## **What is Bibliodrama?**

Bibliodrama thrives on experimenting: Biblical texts and topics relate to the respective experiences and life stories of the participants in the context of their current religious and social situations. There is a lively encounter between the individual, the group as a whole and the text. In the interplay between creative staging and responsible reflection, religious tradition is continued.

## **We are Bibliodrama practitioners**

- from different countries in Europe (Austria, Hungary, Switzerland, Denmark and Germany, etc.)
- from different Christian traditions
- with different bibliodrama learning paths and bibliodrama experiences

## **We see ourselves as an open network of people**

- who know that they are connected to the process of European unification.
- who respect the historical, cultural and spiritual roots of Europe, especially Christianity with all its roots, and want to develop them critically
- who want to learn from European history, from wars with processes of displacement and extermination of people, from the experience with the “Iron Curtain” and want to help shape the future of Europe
- to whom the cooperation with different churches, denominations and religious groups as well as different social institutions is important
- who want to promote and develop bibliodrama as an independent movement for renewal and liberation both within and beyond the churches

## **Our goals**

- We want to use bibliodrama to inspire people within and beyond the churches to come to terms with Christianity and Western history and offer them opportunities to take root in it.
- We would like to further develop our bibliodrama work with collegial advice and professional exchange beyond the borders of a country, e.g. through international congresses and specialist conferences as well as through the translation of specialist literature and documents concerning practice. That is why we are developing a European network for bibliodrama.
- We will draft standards that do justice to the complexity of bibliodrama processes, taking our different contexts and concepts into account, in order to offer the participants in our events clear quality standards.

## **Our principles related to bibliodrama**

- We respect the biblical text that inspires, corrects and irritates the bibliodrama work.
- We respect the potential of the group, the different life and belief experiences that the respective participants bring with them.
- We take into account the ecclesiastical and social context and relate current conflicts and political questions to topics in the text and the group.
- We stimulate learning processes that affect and move people with body, soul and spirit and that can lead to a changed attitude towards life.
- We work with a variety of methods; serious and fun, creative and interactive.
- We consider a comprehensive further education and training for bibliodrama leadership to be necessary.
- We trust in the Spirit of God and his power to stimulate us.

## **How does the European Bibliodrama Network work?**

The European Bibliodrama Network sees itself as an association of interested and committed people who strive for professional exchange, mutual collegial advice and the ongoing development of bibliodrama.

The network sees itself as a creative space that enables members to come into contact with one another. This space thrives because of the commitment of its members, who move within it and communicate their concerns with one another. They organize the exchange of their questions, ideas and projects in a self-determined manner. Information intended for all members can be published centrally via the network's secretariat group.

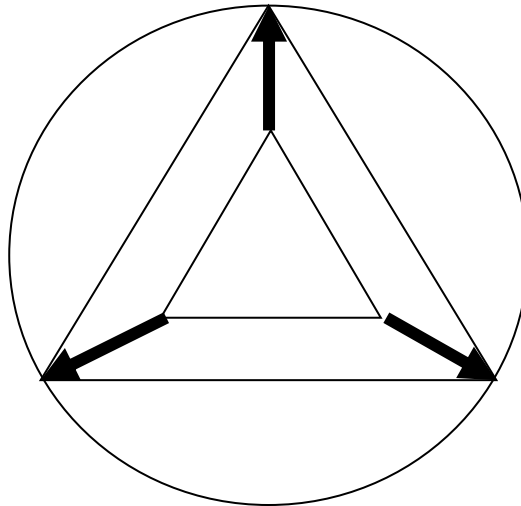
Regular training events (every one to two years) moving from one member country to another promote personal contact and exchange on technical developments. **The network's secretariat is made up of three members (elected every two years).** The necessary organizational work is controlled from there.

The secretariat has the following tasks:

- Maintain a list of current members and make it accessible to all,
- Accept new members and promote contacts with national or European network members,
- Manage the finances, which consist of the annual membership fees,
- Maintain the network's website and provide current information,
- Support the preparation group for the annual meeting of the network in organizational issues and content planning,
- Publish information and regular reports on the network in the specialist journal "TextRaum".
- Circulate a regular newsletter

## **Common concept for further training to lead bibliodrama**

Bibliodrama training not only trains learners to lead bibliodrama activities, but also encourages them in their personal development. Certain requirements are required for this. Further training is based on these prerequisites and new skills are acquired.



**Personal development**

## **Prerequisites for continuing education in Bibliodrama leadership**

### **Personal competence**

- Know yourself (strengths and weaknesses)
- Ability to self-reflect (self-distance)
- Willingness to get involved in internal processes and to reflect on them
- Openness to the spiritual dimension • Being able to use your own abilities and skills

### **Social skills**

- Self-awareness in groups
- Ability to communicate
- Ability to participate adequately in groups
- Treating people with respect
- Curiosity about people and their individuality Expertise a) Leadership skills •

### **Experience in leading groups**

- Methodological competence: knowledge of basic methods of group work (discussion management, group dynamics) b) pedagogical competence
- Ability to lead a group in goal-oriented learning
- Methodological competence: basic methodological and didactic knowledge
- c) basic biblical knowledge

- d) Knowledge of and reflection on the basic lines of the Christian faith
- e) personal examination of the Judeo-Christian tradition and the history of its impact up to the present day

#### Field of practice

- Opportunity to apply what has been learned in further training in practice and to develop it further Bibliodrama experience Basic education and training
- Theological or pedagogical or social diaconal basic training or equivalent experience and further training or
- Willingness to acquire these basic skills during the continuing education in Bibliodrama leadership

### **Goals of continuing education in Bibliodrama leadership**

#### Personal competence

- Reflection on one's own religious socialization
- Self-awareness in bibliodrama: experience in different roles, expansion of the role repertoire
- Pay attention to the effect of texts, topics, group situations and current political issues on yourself and your own behavior
- Promotion of creativity, spontaneity and the courage to experiment
- Become sensitive to the relationship between form and content (aesthetic dimension)

#### Social skills

- Ability to work in a team
- Being able to get involved in processes as a participant and also be able to perceive them critically and distantly as an observer
- Openness and curiosity about the group and its processes
- Get to know the group as a means of design and expression
- Perceive, experience and help shape the group process in the bibliodramatic event
- Practice in new social roles
- Attention is drawn to the effect of texts, topics, group situations and current political issues on the group and its behavior
- Maintaining trust in the autonomy of the individual and the group
- Collegiality: Being able to appreciate other bibliodramatic approaches and to assess them professionally

#### Leadership skills

- Knowledge of the possibilities and limits of our leadership
- Clearly take on a management role
- Being able to self-critically question management actions and reflect on them ethically
- Be able to deal with criticism from others (leader feedback)
- Being able to respond sensitively to groups
- Consciously use the effect of texts, topics, group situations and political topicalities on the group for the group process and be able to work creatively with it
- Learn process-oriented working with groups b) Pastoral and therapeutic competence
- Being able to deal sensitively with people and their questions of life and belief, topics and problems and to be able to respond to them. This includes the ability to deal with crises and meaningful interventions. c) Didactic competence

- Being able to plan, perceive and reflect on bibliodramatic action in the relational structure of text-leader-individual and group-method-institutional conditions d) Methodological competence
- Being able to develop a methodical approach from the text
- Get to know different methods of text work as preparation and text introduction, design and reflection and learn to use them in a targeted manner e) Dealing with biblical texts
- Be open and curious about the richness of the biblical texts • Discovering the richness of meaning of the biblical texts and being able to make it accessible to others
- Respectful handling of texts and their different interpretations f) Theory and theology of bibliodrama
- Knowledge of theological, psychological, pastoral, psychodramatic, group dynamic and other backgrounds

#### Field of practice

- Application of what has been learned in one's own field of work
- Development of the practical field
- Preparation, implementation and evaluation of specific projects under supervision / intervention

### **Structures of continuing education for Bibliodrama leadership**

#### Minimum scope:

- 45 units including supervision (270 lessons of 45 minutes or 202.5 hours of 60 minutes)
- With higher requirements shorter, with lower requirements longer resp. supplement with corresponding additional modules in parallel Minimum duration:
- two years Learning group:
- The training takes place in a continuous (closed) learning group. Leadership of training:
- It is led by a team of trained bibliodramatists who have qualified for it (professional training and experience, further training in bibliodrama management, additional, completed training such as gestalt pedagogy therapy, TZI, psychodrama management, theatre pedagogy, social therapeutic role play, role play pedagogy among other things or equivalent further education and specialisations).

#### Training elements:

- In addition to personal experience and experience in the group, the further training includes elements with practicing leadership in the learning group and personal practice with collegial advice (learning partnerships, intervention) and supervision in small groups.
- The further training works with a wide methodological spectrum, including all the senses, in particular with body and movement work.
- In addition, biblical texts from the 1st and 2nd Testament are developed bibliodramatically in as many different literary genres as possible.
- The dimensions of the bibliodrama: biographical, socio-political / institutional (church) and religious are included. Graduation:
- The training concludes with a formal conclusion: minutes, final project, colloquium in which the participants can show their skills - with the option of recognition (certification) or rejection.

## **Institutions involved in the project, contact addresses**

Numerous bibliodrama teachers and learners have taken part in the project activities through the institutions listed below and have contributed to the development of the European bibliodrama network. Those interested in the network can find out more from the named representatives of the institutions.

### **Hungary**

*Csillaghegyi Evangelikus  
Gyülekezet  
Ildiko Donath-Muntag  
Mező Ucta 12., 1038 Budapest  
Fon: ++36/1/2403771  
Mail: muntag@freemail.hu*

*Egyházforum Alapítvány  
Peter Varga  
Alkotmány u. 18, 1122 Biatorbágy  
Fon: ++36/30/9543537  
Mail: Vpp106@westel900.net*

### **Switzerland**

*Arbeitsgemeinschaft Bibliodrama  
Reinhard Schläpfer  
Hirtenstraße 3, 9008 St. Gallen  
Fon+Fax: ++41/71/2452669  
Mail: reinh.schlaepfer@bluewin.ch*

*Interessengemeinschaft Bibliodrama  
Cäcilia Koch  
Kirchstraße 2, 4628 Wolfwill  
Fon++41/62/9261243  
Mail: caecilia.koch@bluewin.ch*

### **Germany**

*Gesellschaft für Bibliodrama e.V.  
Dr. Wolfgang Wesenberg  
Krügerstraße 1, 10439 Berlin  
Fon: ++49/30/42800920  
Mail: wesenberg@t-online.de*

*Ev. Akademie Nordelbien  
Wolfgang Teichert  
Esplanade 15, 20354 Hamburg  
Fon: ++49/40/35505638  
Mail: wteichert@akademie-nordelbien.de*

### **Austria**

*Österreichische Gesellschaft für Pastoral-  
psychologie und integrative Pädagogik  
Gabriele Dorneger  
Moserhofgasse 24b , 8010 Graz  
Fon: ++43/316/816737  
Mail: gabriele.dorneger@utanet.at*

*Österreichisches Netzwerk Bibliodrama  
Gabriele Bleker-Permes  
Brunnau 6, 6391 Fieberbrunn  
++43/5354/52775  
Mail: bleker@aon.at*

### **Denmark**

*Folkekirkens Paedagogiske Institut  
Karin Kofod  
Kirkeallé 2, 6240 Lögumkloster  
Fon: ++45/74743213  
Mail: KK@KM.dk*

*Bibliodramaföreningen i Danmark  
Henning Sørensen  
Saralyst Allee 120, DK-8270 Højbjerg,  
Fon: ++45/86275855  
Mail: helis@webspeed.dk*

*Burkhardtthaus e.V. / Ev. Institut  
Christoph Riemer  
Herzbachweg 2, 63571 Gelnhausen  
Fon: ++49/6051/89-0  
Mail: ch.riemer@t-online.de*

*Erwachsenenbildung Bethel  
Wolfgang Roos-Pfeiffer (Projektkoordination)  
Nazarethweg 4-7, 33617 Bielefeld  
Fon: ++49/521/144-6105  
Mail: roos@nazareth.de*

## **Sweden**

*Lidingö folkhögskola*

*Lotta Geisler*

*Kottlavägen 116, 18141 Lidingö*

*Fon: ++46/8-6362300*

*Mail: [lotta.geisler@lidingo.fhsk.se](mailto:lotta.geisler@lidingo.fhsk.se)*

## **Finland**

*Kirkon koulutuskeskus*

*Matti-Pekka Virtaniemi*

*Linnaistenkatu 5 C 15, 04400 Järvenpää*

*Fon: ++35/892719911*

*Mail: [koulutuskeskus@evl.fi](mailto:koulutuskeskus@evl.fi)*