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**International Performance Artists Offer
Free Performance Exchange Workshops
At the Home for Cooperation**

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Rooftop Theatre in partnership with the US based interdisciplinary performance collective, *Skewed Visions*, and the Association for Historical Dialogue and Research (AHDR) announce ***Shift*, a short weekend of FREE performance exchange workshops** for artists of all disciplines interested in contemporary performance and the exploration of locational identity.

Workshops will be held on **Saturday January 11 and Sunday January 12, 2014 from 9am - 4pm** at the Home for Cooperation in Nicosia and are open to contemporary theatre artists, dance artists, visual artists, musical performers and artists in general interested in learning about international methods for exploring, researching and incorporating aspects of landscape and community into their own work. Artists will have a chance to share their own ideas and learn from both Rooftops and *Skewed Visions* theatre professionals and incorporate fresh, new international perspectives into their own way of thinking and working.

Gülgün Kayim is a US based performance artist of Turkish Cypriot origin. She was born in Famagusta, grew up in London and is one of three co-founding members of *Skewed Visions*, an award winning interdisciplinary art collective, specialized in site-specific performance. Gülgün is also an affiliate faculty member in the Department of Theatre Arts and Dance at the University of Minnesota and the Director of Arts, Culture and Creative Economy for the City of Minneapolis. She holds a Masters and Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Directing and Intercultural Performance. She specializes in curating and creating Site-Specific performance - techniques where the performance is tailored to the location in which it is presented - and has written on the subject for national and international journals, taught and presented her work in the United Kingdom, Scotland, United States and Russia.

The Rooftop Theatre Group, formed by theatre enthusiasts and active citizens from both communities following the opening of the checkpoints in 2003, is working to face the challenges of a changing culture and society in Cyprus. The Group attempts to achieve this by enacting through dialogue, theatre and performance an exploration of personal and cultural identity and of the insights, skills and possibilities needed to live in a multicultural society. Through its activities and outreach programs, the Group aims to help bridge the gap and heal the historical conflict between the Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot communities, as well as other communities of the island. Theatre can and does help develop active tolerance skills in people, that is, openness to the other, a greater maturity and understanding, in contrast to the passive tolerance that many members of society have today. Rooftop aims to break down gender, cultural and social stereotypes through self-reflection and dialogue.

Artists interested in participating must apply by **January 6th 2014**, space is limited so applicants will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. To reserve a place artists must submit a 200 word professional biography, submit contact information (name, phone number, e-mail address) and commit to at least one full day of the weekend (workshops are 9-4pm both days) of activities. Those who can attend both days will be given first preference. Lunch will be provided for all participants at the Home for Cooperation Cafe on both days. Confirmation, background reading and logistical information will be forwarded to participants by January 8th 2014.

Located in the Nicosia, Cyprus, UN Buffer Zone, the Home for Cooperation (H4C) provides a shared space for inter-communal cooperation and dialogue. Hosting a library and archive, conference and exhibition spaces, and offices, the H4C is the first centre in Cyprus to promote the collective efforts of civil society in engaging in historical inquiry, contemporary understanding and peace building. As a landmark building located within the Ledra Palace crossing, the H4C with its programs and partners, aims to foster intercultural dialogue and understanding in Cyprus and globally.

For more information on Skewed Visions please go to: www.Skewedvisions.org
On Rooftops Theatre please go to: www.rooftoptheatregroup.com

For general questions, please contact Gulgun@skewedvisions.org and /or info@rooftoptheatregroup.com

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