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## Introductory Seminar by Chiara Guidi

### • Memory, art and childhood

Chiara Guidi emphasizes memory's pivotal role in her artistic creations regarding her work on children's theatre. She stresses that art is generated in memory, but also finally returns to it: it originates in the artist's memory and ends up in the spectators' memory. From that regard, she focuses on memory's pervasive, catalytic and dialectic effect, by simultaneously bridging the artist's and the viewer's agency in artistic phenomena. Thus, memory seems to represent a common venue for the artist and the audience and, by extension, art is in effect highlighted as a collective and interactive process.

Furthermore, it would be interesting to explore if memory has solely an autobiographical character in Chiara Guidi's work and if she, perhaps, draws on others' memory and especially children's memory as a creative stimulus for it.

### • Passion, art and childhood

According to Chiara Guidi passion is the motor of her artistic creativity. Complementarily, it could be argued that passion seems to be also one of the subjects of her artistic work on children and childhood. For instance, in "La terra dei Combrichi", she treats with themes such as love and death,





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that are interweaved with passion, mostly in the ancient Greek sense of "pathos," that entails, except for the notion of a strong urge, the notion of pain.

Moreover, she delineates that she is always in need of children so as to motivate and inspire her artistic productivity. Therefore, her art creation necessitates the presence of a passion and childhood.

By extension, one could wonder about her supreme incentive for her artistic productivity. Which is the primary and overarching motivating agent of it: a kind of passion or her interest in childhood?

