



MEDIA RELEASE

Toronto, September 5, 2012.

European Day of Languages

September 28, 2012

1:00pm – 3:00pm and 5:00pm – 7:00 pm

Istituto Italiano di Cultura

496 Huron St.

The European Day of Languages has been celebrated in Europe on September 26th since 2001 as an initiative of the Council of Europe. Promoting lifelong language learning and stressing the importance of intercultural understanding are the main objectives of the events associated with the European Day of Languages.

Acting as promoters of plurilinguism in the GTA, Alliance Française de Toronto, Centro de Língua Portuguesa Camões- Toronto, the Goethe-Institut Toronto, Istituto Italiano di Cultura Toronto and Spanish Centre Toronto will be hosting their 3rd European Day of Languages in Toronto on Friday, September 28, 2012. This year the former part of the day will be dedicated to a younger audience, the latter to an adult crowd.

Students from grades 8, 9 and 10 will have the opportunity to see a live performance by Faustwork Mask Theatre *The Mask Messenger*, a series of vignettes ranging from comic to bizarre to poignant. The show, in French and English, illuminates and expands the concept of the mask, by using an impressive collection created by Mr. Faust. The students will also have the opportunity of learning the basics of French, Portuguese, German, Italian and Spanish. These activities will run between 1:00 and 3:00 pm.

Leonhard Thoma will entertain the audience with interactive readings in French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish, starting at 5 pm. Leo Thoma is a German teacher living in Barcelona and writes short stories about average people who live their daily lives in different cultural contexts. When reading from his works in public, Leonhard Thoma turns listening into an engaging and fun interactive event.

Both performances can be followed in live streaming through the Istituto Italiano di Cultura's website at www.iictoronto.esteri.it

Free sample language lessons for beginners in Portuguese, German, Spanish, Italian, French, Greek and Danish for adults will run between 5:00 and 7:00 pm. Registration is a must.

More details about the event along with the option of registering for free sample language classes can be found on the European Day of Languages website: www.europeandayoflanguages.ca

New this year: win a trip to the Azores! Fly roundtrip to S. Miguel and spend a glorious week at a four star hotel, courtesy of Sata Airlines and Camões. Plus, win free language classes. No purchase necessary.



In collaboration with: Consulate-General of the Republic of Cyprus and The Royal Danish Consulate General in Toronto

Faustwork Mask Theatre is represented by Prologue to the Performing Arts, a charitable organization dedicated to bringing the performing arts to young people. www.prologue.org