

Press Release

## “WOUNDED TO DEATH”

**The monologues on femicide once again at the United Nations  
After the stop in New York the project by Serena Dandini arrives in Geneva**

Palais des Nations, Assembly Hall, A Building - h. 19

*More than one third of the female population in the world is victim of physical or sexual violence; for many of them violence is perpetrated by the partner, as stated by the UN report published by the UN World Health Organization (WHO) last June.*

After the stop at the United Nations Headquarters in **New York** on November 25<sup>th</sup> 2013, where the theatrical performance was chosen by UN Women and by the Italian Mission at the UN Headquarters to celebrate the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, and after the stops in **Washington (at the OAS, Organization of American States)**, in **Brussels** (in theatre) and in **London (on occasion of the Trust Women Conference organized by Thomson Reuters Foundation)** “Wounded to Death”, the theatrical project on femicide written by Serena Dandini in cooperation with Maura Misiti, has resumed its international tour. It will be performed at the Palais des Nations of Geneva within the context of the 25<sup>th</sup> session of the UN **Council for Human Rights**.

**On Wednesday March 26, at 7 p.m. (doors opening and 5.30 p.m.)  
Palais des Nations – Assembly Hall  
A Building – Third Floor, Door 15  
8-14 Avenue de la Paix - Ginevra**

Serena Dandini has given voice to all the victims in the world with a series of monologues perform, with great success, in fifteen Italian theatres between 2012 and 2013, before the international tour, which went on stage in the autumn 2013. “Wounded to Death” (which is also a book published by Rizzoli) is a collection of monologues following the model of the famous *Spoon River Anthology* by Edgar Lee Master, The texts are written by Serena Dandini with the cooperation of Maura Misiti, researcher at CNR (National Research Council). The texts, inspired by news stories and by journalistic investigations, aim at giving voice to the women who lost their life at the hand of a husband, a partner, a lover or an

# FERITE A MORTE

DI SERENA DANDINI  
 WOUNDED TO DEATH  
 BLESSÉES À MORT  
 HERIDAS A MUERTE

“ex-partner”.

In the theatrical event, numerous eminent women, very well known to the public, give voice to an imaginary posthumous recount of the victims. It is the occasion to reflect on this issue trying to involve the public opinion, the media and the institutions.

In Geneva, the performance promoted by the Italian Mission and by the Swiss Mission at the United Nations thanks to the support of the **Istituto Italiano di Cultura (Italian Institute of Culture) in Zurich**, will go on stage in French, English and Italian. The monologues will be read by a cast of readers, among them women of the show business and of the world of culture but also representatives of institutions and civil society. On that occasion, RSI, the Swiss Television broadcasting in Italian, will contribute to the event by recording the theatrical performance and by streaming it on the UN and RSI website. A special thanks to UNWG, the association of UN women and to the association **Cultura Italia – Sans Frontières** of Geneva.

Already confirmed on stage, together with Serena Dandini and Maura Misiti, **Navi Pillay** (High Commissioner at the United Nations of Human Rights), **Carla Del Ponte** (former Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court for former Yugoslavia from 1999 to 2007 and now member of the independent Commission of Inquiry on Syria, under the aegis of the UN Council for Human Rights), **Doris Schopper** (member of the International Red Cross), **Cécile Kyenge** (national spokesperson of the network Primo Marzo), **Kate James** (activist for gender equality), **Mimma Viglezio** (writer and creative consultant), **Maria Grazia Cucinotta** (actress and UN Ambassador), **Fabiola Gianotti** (physicist), **Petula Clark** (singer and actress), **Ada Marra** (Swiss member of parliament), **Nelly Staderini** (Medecins San Frontieres), **Esther Marmabachi** (journalist), **Ellen Ringier** (activist), **Laura Bates** (founder of *Everyday Sexism*), **Lara Gut** (skier) and **Kajori Massé-Basu** (President of UNWG).

The welcome messages of **Michael Møller**, General Director of the United Nations Office, **Maurizio Enrico Serra**, Permanent Representative of Italy at the United Nations Office in Geneva, and **Alexandre Fasel**, Permanent Representative of Italy at the United Nations Headquarters in Geneva will precede the performance.

The performance will be on streaming on the website [www.tvsvizzera.it](http://www.tvsvizzera.it) and on the website of Wounded to Death [www.feriteamorte.it](http://www.feriteamorte.it)

*All the monologues of ‘Wounded to Death’ – explains Serena Dandini – deal with announced crimes, women murdered by men that were supposed to love and protected them. It is no coincidence in fact that often the culprits are husbands, boyfriends or ex-partners; a family massacre that, with an incredible shocking frequency, is sadly and constantly present in the news stories. Behind the “closed doors” of the Italian houses, it is hidden a silent suffering: the murder is just the tip of the iceberg of a path made of abuse and pain better known as domestic violence. We do believe it is crucial to keep on talking about this issue and try, as*

*much as possible, also through the theatre, to increase the public opinion awareness”.*

Project sponsored by the **Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs**. The international tour has been possible thanks to the support of **eni and Gucci**.

All the participants not in possession of a UN badge, are kindly requested to register at the e-mail address [ginevra.culturale@esteri.it](mailto:ginevra.culturale@esteri.it) before March 24<sup>th</sup>

*It is a Mismaonda production ([www.mismaonda.eu](http://www.mismaonda.eu)).*

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