

This year Artissima will be concentrating its ancillary cultural projects on a single great thematic programme, **BLINDING THE EARS**. This will be a non-stop four-day event devoted entirely to the interaction between the visual arts and the theatre, an extremely inspiring project in the light of the ever greater attention now being paid to all those ways in which body and space interact.

The title of the project “Accecare l’ascolto / Blinding the Ears” draws inspiration from the theatre of Carmelo Bene, the great Italian actor who fought against the modern tradition of middle-class theatre. The script is considered in a certain way subordinate, for the performance needs to be seen and experienced in its totality. Word as ecstasy loses its traditional communicative value and becomes an independent signifier, the aura of a sound perceived as oblivion. In this sense, Bene talks of “blinding the ears”.

The program, devised by Andrea Bellini, has the collaboration of a group of international curators, among which: Defne Ayas, Andrea Busto, Cecilia Canziani, Yann Chateigné Tytelman, Luigi Coppola, Ilaria Gianni, Davide Quadrio, Caterina Riva, Francesco Stocchi, Aurélie Voltz, Catherine Wood.

During the Artissima week an extraordinary group of international artists will be staging a complete series of world premieres: *pièces*, performances and concerts staged at Teatro Regio, Teatro Carignano, Teatro Gobetti, Cavallerizza Reale, and Teatro Astra.

All the events can be booked on-line on the Artissima website [www.artissima.it](http://www.artissima.it).

The program has been realized thanks to the collaboration of Fondazione del Teatro Stabile di Torino, in the context of Prospettiva 09, Fondazione Teatro Regio di Torino, and Fondazione Teatro Piemonte Europa.

**8pm | Teatro Gobetti**

ERIK AND HARALD THYS, *THE AUTOMOBILE*

This lecture by two brothers, who have been obsessed with cars since childhood, is an exercise in the psychoanalysis of automobiles. The first step is taken by a picture of their father's car and the audience is taken on a journey through western and eastern Europe, Asia and the United States. Finally, the artists analyze the identity of cars as an autonomous species and investigate their impact on the objects and the people.