

# Preface

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Maja Šorli, Editor-in-Chief of *Amfiteater*

Ana Stojanoska, Editor-in-Chief of *Ars Academica*

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The present issue is a joint edition of two journals of performing arts, namely, the Slovenian journal *Amfiteater* and the Macedonian journal *Ars Academica*. The motive behind this decision was the bilateral research project *Macedonian-Slovenian Theatre Relations (from 1990 until the Present)*, carried out during 2017 and 2018 by the Faculty of Dramatic Arts, Skopje and the Academy of Theatre, Radio, Film and Television, University of Ljubljana. The main goal of the project was to determine, record and evaluate the mutual cooperation of theatre artists from both countries in the period 1990–2015. The results of the project are presented in the special editorial, prepared by the heads of the Macedonian and Slovenian teams, Ana Stojanoska and Aldo Milohnič.

The thematic block brings four articles examining Slovenian-Macedonian relations that have developed in theatre festivals and in the area of dance and drama, plus two interviews, one with choreographer, dancer and dance teacher Dejan Srhoj, and the other with theatre director Slobodan Unkovski, which provide further insights and shed more light on Slovenian-Macedonian relationships.

In addition to the articles dedicated to international cooperation, this issue also includes three contributions delving into research themes particularly relevant for Slovenian theatre. Barbara Orel's article discusses the origins of postdramatic theatre in Slovenia, which she detects already in Balbina Battelino Baranovič's Experimental Theatre (1955–1967). Mateja Fajt provides the first in-depth investigation of the backstage work done by seamstresses, tailors, dressers and shoemakers in Slovenian institutional theatre, while Tomaž Toporišič reviews the book *Heteronomija umetnosti in avantgard* [The Heteronomy of Art and the Avant-gardes] by Aleš Erjavec, and finds that it is "a fresh and immensely readable book that brings comprehensive insights into the radical politicised avant-gardes".

The team of the project *Macedonian-Slovenian Theatre Relations* and the editors of the journals *Amfiteater* and *Ars Academica* wish you a pleasant read and a happy 2019!

*Translated by Katja Kosi*