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SLOVENIAN THEATRE NEWS

April 2017

sl()gi SLOVENIAN
THEATRE
INSTITUTE

Mestni trg 17, SI-1000 Ljubljana

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About the Roads to »The Grandest Invention of Human Spirit*« in Slovenia

Milestones in the Development of the Drama Society in Ljubljana

The exhibition on the 150th anniversary of the Drama Society in Ljubljana

23rd March 2017–10th January 2018, SLOGI – Theatre Museum, Mestni trg 17, Ljubljana



The Drama Society in Ljubljana (founded in 1867) was the initiator of the Slovenian theatre of modern age – the foundation of the Society was the beginning of the institution and professionalization of Slovenian theatre. In its development from 1867 to 1920 it negotiated a fifty-year long road through the period of institutionalisation and professionalization of the Slovenian theatre, finishing it in 1920 with the advent of a new development stage; i.e., Europeanisation (1920–1945). The exhibition is focused on the first fifty years of the Drama Society's activity, shedding light on the important and decisive milestones of its development. Before the first milestone there was the general atmosphere in the beginning of the second half of the 19th century among the Slovenian intellectuals, which indicated, that Slovenes needed their own national theatre. This contextual development can be traced back to the dialogue between the father and the son in Trubar's *Abecedarium*, the theatre of Jesuits and Capuchins, to Linhart followed by Drabosnjak, and parallel to this the touring Innsbruck comedians, Italian opera singers and 100 years of German theatre tradition in this territory (established in 1765). A great example was set by Anton Tomaž Linhart as the pioneer of the Slovenian theatre of modern era and the early predecessor of the Drama Society. All these elements, together with general theatrical examples, the influences of time (observed in larger nations) and the Spring of Nations (1848) fostered among Slovenes the awareness of the necessity of having a national theatre. The exhibition provides evidence and arguments for twelve significant progressive phenomena in the development of the Drama Society – from the rudimentary origins of the Society during Metternich and Bach absolutism (1848 to 1851) to the formation of the Slovenian theatre as a public institution and the beginning of its Europeanisation (1920).

The illustration material includes manuscripts, portraits of meritorious originators of the Drama Society and the theatre people of the time, theatre reviews, posters and flyers, old photographs and postcards, relevant books of that time, models of two most important theatres, etc. Texts at the exhibition are both in Slovenian and English language.

[More on the exhibition](#)

*Josip Noll's definition of theatre from his *Handy Book for Theatre Dilletants*.

DRAMA (Dramatic play, Tragedy, Intimate drama)

CELJE PEOPLE'S THEATRE

Romeo and Juliet (Dramatic play, tragedy)

Producer:



Slovensko ljudsko
gledališče Celje

Slovensko ljudsko gledališče Celje
Celje People's Theatre, Gledališki trg 5, 3000 Celje
03 42 64 200, tajnistvo@slg-ce.si, www.slg-ce.si

Contact person:

mag. Tina Kosi, upravnica@slg-ce.si, kosi.tina@gmail.com; 03 42 64 204, 031 743 610

A short presentation of the producer:

Celje People's Theatre is professional and repertory theatre. We have always been proud to attract most accomplished theatre actors, directors and other theatre professionals to produce contemporary theatre of the highest quality. Every year we present a season of 6 new productions, one production is for the young and the children. Every year we have app. 60 000 visitors who enjoy 180 performances by Slovenian and foreign companies and attend 80 guest performances by our theatre on tour.

Performance (photo + photo's author):



Photo: Uroš Hočevar

Author:

William Shakespeare

Title:

Romeo and Juliet

Creators and performers:

Translator Srečko Fišer

Director and Dramaturg Matjaž Zupančič

Set Designer Alen Ožbolt

Costume Designer Bjanka Adžić Ursulov

Composer Aldo Kumar
Movement Coach Tamás Tuza
Vocal Coach Simon Dvoršak
Lighting Designer Andrej Hajdinjak
Language Consultant Jože Volk
Assistant Director Nina Ramšak

Cast

Chorus Aljoša Koltak, David Čeh, Damjan M. Trbovc
Escalus, prince of Verona Mario Šelih
Mercutio, kinsman of Escalus, a friend of Romeo Vojko Belšak
County Paris, kinsman of Escalus Branko Završan
Lord Montague, patriarch of the house of Montague Rastko Krošl
Lady Montague, matriarch of the house of Montague Tanja Potočnik
Romeo, son of the Montagues Petja Labovič
Benvolio, cousin and friend of Romeo Tarek Rashid
Balthasar, Romeo's personal servant Igor Sancin
Lord Capulet, patriarch of the house of Capulet Renato Jenček
Lady Capulet, matriarch of the house of Capulet Jagoda
Juliet, daughter of the Capulets Liza Marija Grašič
Tybalt, cousin of Juliet, nephew of lady Capulet Andrej Murenc
Nurse, Juliet's personal attendant and confidante Minca Lorenci
Friar Laurence, a Franciscan friar Igor Žužek
Friar John, a Franciscan friar Kristian Koželj (guest performance)
Musicians
Vocal Tanja Potočnik
Violoncello Tamara Gombač/Katarina Kozjek
Marimba Eva Zavšek/Petra Vidmar
Clarinet Gašper Salobir/Mitja Ritlop

Genre:

Dramatic play, tragedy

Co-producer(s):

/

Opening night:

17 February 2017

Duration:

145 minutes, one interval

A short description of the performance:

The tragedy of forbidden, impossible and overwhelming love is a story of hate and love, arrogance and intolerance, superiority and narrowmindedness, a story of poetry and violence. The lovers from feuding families desperately try to oppose the social fetters. They find happiness in their boundless love leading to a tragic ending. The greatest love story of all times is also a story of absurd hatred between two Verona feuding families, the Capulets and the Montagues, a story of meaningless and destructive forces of hatred which destroy a young love, and, ultimately, a story of reconciliation of rival families.

Links:

<http://www.slg-ce.si/home/theater-play/romeo-and-juliet>

Target audience:

Adults

Basic technical requirements:

Stage size: width (11,8 m) and depth (11,6 m), set-up time: 6 h (set, light, sound), max. number of audience members: unlimited, number of performers: 22, total touring number: 36, transport requirements: transport truck, van, bus

Performed in:

Slovenian

with the **subtitles in:**

English

Awards:

/

Important tours:

/

Near future plans:

Performance at Celje castle 9th and 10th of June 2017

Rose Bernd (Dramatic play)

Performance (photo + photo's author):



Photo: Jaka Babnik

Author:

Gerhart Hauptmann

Title:

ROSE BERND

Creators and performers:

Translator Mojca Kranjc

Director Mateja Koležnik

Dramaturg Nika Leskovšek

Set Designer Marko Japelj

Costume Designer Alan Hranitelj
Music Selection and Vocal Coaching Simon Dvoršak
Choreographer Magdalena Reiter
Language Consultant Jože Volk

Cast

Bernd Bojan Umek/Branko Završan
Rose Bernd Liza Marija Grašič
Christoph Flamm Andrej Murenc
Mrs. Flamm Pia Zemljič/Lučka Počkaj
Arthur Streckmann Igor Žužek
August Keil Aljoša Koltak
Martin David Čeh
Labourers at Flamm's Barbara Medvešček, Manca Ogorevc, Tanja Potočnik, Igor Sancin, Damjan M. Trbovc

Genre:

Dramatic play, drama

Co-producer(s):

/

Opening night:

6 May 2016

Duration:

90 minutes, no interval

A short description of the performance:

Hauptmann found inspiration for his play Rose Bernd in a true story of a 25-year old baby-murderer Hedwig Otto. Rose is a young girl torn between her desires and other people's expectations. She has been postponing her wedding to August Klein for three years. Rose Bernd tells a dramatic story of a young woman, trapped within traditional and constraining surroundings. Her fall from grace is caused by her unconventional and socially unaccepted deeds. It is a moving portrayal of a ruin of a young woman who wants more from life than her constrained surroundings can offer her.

Links:

<http://www.slg-ce.si/home/theater-play/rose-bernd-3>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z42-ma_JLoE

Target audience:

Adults

Basic technical requirements:

Stage size: width (11,8 m) and depth (11,6 m), set-up time: 6 h (set, sound, light), max. number of audience members: unlimited, number of performers: 12, total touring number: 27, transport requirements: transport truck, a van and a bus

Performed in:

Slovenian

with the **subtitles in:**

english

Awards:

Borštnik award for acting 2016: Pia Zemljič for the role of Mrs. Flamm in the production *Rose Bernd* performed by the Celje People's Theatre

Borštnik award for young actor 2016: Liza Marija Grašič for the role of Rose Bernd in the production *Rose Bernd* performed by the Celje People's Theatre

Association of Theatre Critics and Researchers of Slovenia Award for best production in season 2015/16 at 51. Maribor theatre festival

Important tours:

51. Maribor theatre festival, Maribor, Slovenia (22nd of October 2016)

SNG Nova Gorica, Nova Gorica, Slovenia 10th of March 2017

Murska Sobota, Slovenia 11th of March 2017

Prešeren's Theatre Kranj, Kranj, Slovenia: 21st of October 2016

Near future plans:

Cankarjev dom Ljubljana, Slovenia: 1st April 2017 at 8.00 PM

Koper Theatre, Koper, Slovenia: 28th of April 2017 at 8.00 PM

Thessaloniki, Greece: July 2017

PREŠEREN THEATRE KRANJ

Helver's Night (Intimate drama)

Producer:

Prešeren Theatre Kranj, Glavni trg 6, + 386 (0)51 30 20 18; + 386 (0)51 30 20 12, info@pgk.si, www.pgk.si

Contact person:

PR: Milan Golob, + 386 (0)4 280 49 18, + 386 (0)51 30 20 18; info@pgk.si

Programme Coordinator: Robert Kavčič, + 386 (0)4 280 49 13, + 386 (0)51 30 20 12, robert.kavcic@pgk.si

A short presentation of the producer:

We have a dream to strive for the best, because we bear the name of the greatest Slovenian poet France Prešeren (1800-1849). The same way as our great poet was 200 years ago, we are on the pendulum between yearning and cruel reality; between intimate, poetical themes and the social critique of reality. Although we are a repertory theatre we are not afraid of bold actions. We are recognizable by thematically provocative, aesthetically innovative and socially engaged performances.

Performance (photo + photo's author):



foto Nada Žgank, arhiv PGK

Author:

Ingmar Villqist

Title:

Helver's Night

Creators and performers:

Translation: Darja Dominkuš; Director: Alen Jelen; Dramaturg: Marinka Poštrak; Stage designer: Urša Loboda; Costume designer: Belinda Radulovič; Music designer: Darja Hlavka Godina; Language consultant: Maja Cerar; Lighting designer: Bojan Hudernik; Make-up artist: Matej Pajntar; Actors: Darja Reichman and Blaž Setnikar

Genre:

Intimate drama

Co-producer(s):

ŠKUC Theatre Ljubljana

Opening night:

28th in 29th of November 2016 in Škrlovec tower, PG Kranj

Duration:

85 min

A short description of the performance:

Helver's night is an intimate drama about an unusual couple, mentally handicapped Helver and his resigned foster mother Karla. They live in a small apartment, in the dusk, poverty, loneliness, surrounded with the fanatic Nazism, which is invading from the streets to their home. Ideology of evil invades with all brutality into their intimate world and complicated relationship between Helver and Carla. Drama written by the polish writer Jarosław Świerszcz, known as Ingmar Villqist, is a metaphysical reflection of anger and despair with the inevitable threat of Nazism.

Links:

http://www.pgk.si/repertoar/helverjeva_noc/161; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=93q3zurNGXw>

Target audience:

Students, Adults

Basic technical requirements:

Stage size: 6x5 m, set-up time: 8 hours, max. number of audience members: 100, number of performers: 2, total touring number: 11, transport requirements: van

Performed in:

Slovenian

with the **subtitles in:**

No subtitles

Awards:

/

Important tours:

/

Near future plans:

/

OTHERS (Experimental theatre, Performance, Documentary theatre, Devised theatre)

CELJE PEOPLE'S THEATRE

You Don't Say It(Performance, genre anagram)

Producer:



Slovensko ljudsko
Gledališče Celje

Slovensko ljudsko gledališče Celje
Celje People's Theatre, Gledališki trg 5, 3000 Celje
03 42 64 200, tajnistvo@slg-ce.si, www.slg-ce.si

Contact person:

mag. Tina Kosi, upravnica@slg-ce.si, kosi.tina@gmail.com; 03 42 64 204, 031 743 610

A short presentation of the producer:

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Performance (photo + photo's author):



Photo: Jaka Babnik

Author:

Branko Završan

Title:

You Don't Say It

Creators and performers:

Conceived and Directed by Branko Završan

Masks by Donato Sartori

Costume Designer Smrajc Žnidarčič

Composer Boštjan Leben

Lighting Designer Uroš Gorjanc

Cast

Aljoša Koltak

Minca Lorenci

Lučka Počkaj

Branko Završan

Genre:

Dance and mask performance, genre anagram

Co-producer(s):

/

Opening night:

5 November 2016

Duration:

75 minutes, no interval

A short description of the performance:

You Don't Say It by Branko Završan is based on mask acting. A full mask covers the entire face and forsakes spoken language and words. However, it does not give up on stories and their narratives, or on situations in which words are missing. This is a non-text based show. It is the human body, the gesture and the relationship between stage characters and space that speak volumes. Being silent does not demand silence, so the staging will swarm in music and sound by Boštjan Leben. These scenes can often evolve into a broader theatre-related meaning.

Links:

<http://www.slg-ce.si/home/theater-play/you-don-t-say-it>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6elqik9orVg>

Target audience:

Adults

Basic technical requirements:

Stage size: width (11,8 m) and depth (11,6 m), set-up time: 5 h (light, sound), max. number of audience members: unlimited, number of performers: 4, total touring number: 15, transport requirements: transport truck, a van and a bus

Performed in:

no spoken language or words

with the **subtitles in:**

/

Awards:

/

Important tours:

/

Near future plans:

Udine, Italy: September 2017

BUNKER LJUBLJANA**Ich kann nicht anders (Experimental theatre)****Producer:**

Bunker Ljubljana, Slomškova 7, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia, info@bunker.si, www.bunker.si

Contact person:

Tamara Bračić Vidmar, tamara.bracic.vidmar@bunker.si, +38612314492

A short presentation of the producer:

Bunker is a non-profit organization that produces and presents contemporary performances and produces or co-produces artists, organizes educational programs, organizes international conferences on relevant societal topics, and brings together the International festival Mladi levi. Since 2004 Bunker manages Stara elektrarna in Ljubljana, a space dedicated to contemporary performing arts, produces international festival Drugaganje in Maribor and develops innovative approaches to cultural education.

Performance (photo + photo's author):

Photography by: Toni Soprano

Author:

Beton LTD.

Title:

Ich kann nicht anders

Creators and performers:

Conceived and directed by: **Beton Ltd.**

Performers: **Primož Bezjak, Branko Jordan, Katarina Stegnar**

Music: **Dead Tongues**

Space design: **sonda4, Toni Soprano**

Costume design: **Mateja Benedetti**

Sound design: **Jure Vlahovič**

Dramaturgical adviser: **Urška Brodar**

Genre:

Experimental theatre

Opening night:

August 26th 2016

Duration:

75 minutes

A short description of the performance:

The authorial poetics of the Beton Ltd. collective is characterized by a search for personal entries into the global issues - a search for new, hybrid forms of performing, and a mastery of performing techniques. *Ich kann nicht anders* is their 5th performance. "*Ich kann nicht anders* leaves an impression of staging some fundamental existential fear, powerlessness and the feeling of uneasiness that still remain with the spectator after the performance ends. The form of the performance is built on the dramatic, and is based on the excellent acting skills of the three authors/actors/performers. " N. Jelesijević, RŠ

Links:

<http://www.bunker.si/eng/archives/8538>

Target audience:

Performance for students and adults

Basic technical requirements:

Performance is site specific / usually it's not performed in classical theatre, black box, we use alternative spaces, more like galleries, preferably with windows, even balcony. Venue has to be approved by the company in advance.

Up to 100 people (depends on the seating)

Minimum area which includes audience seating (7m width x 15m length x 3m height)

Set (few chairs and tables) can be found locally based on prior agreement and confirmation

No grid necessary

Number of performers: 3, total touring number: 7

Performed in:

Slovene language

with the subtitles in:

English, Polish, Czech languages

Important tours:

4th April at 8.00 p.m., Festival Week of Slovene Drama, Kino Storžič, Kranj, Slovenia

13th and 14th May at 8.00, at Športno društvo Tabor, Ljubljana

3rd and 4th June at 8.00, In the frame of Balkan Express Caravan Meeting, at Športno društvo Tabor, Ljubljana

5th October 2017 Prague, Czech Republic

10th October 2017 Festival Konfrontacje, Lublin, Poland

Near future plans:

/

MLADINSKO THEATRE

Our Violence and Your Violence (Devised theatre)

Producer:



SLOVENSKO
MLADINSKO
GLEDALIŠČE

Slovensko mladinsko gledališče / Mladinsko Theatre, Vilharjeva 11, SI-1000 Ljubljana, +386 (0)1 3004 900, info@mladinsko-gl.si, www.mladinsko.com

Contact person:

Dušan Pernat, +386 (0)1 3004 907, dusan.pernat@mladinsko-gl.si

A short presentation of the producer:

The Mladinsko story started in 1955 and it reached one of its peaks in 2008 with the title of the European Ambassador of Culture bestowed upon the theatre by the European Commission. In our new projects, we're dealing with the symptomisation of the society, and we show the recorded symptoms using the appropriate performative procedures. For this reason, public space, to us, becomes an equal performance space.

Performance (photo + photo's author):



Photo: Wiener Festwochen © Alexi Pelekanos, Mladinsko Theatre Archive

Author:

Title:

Our Violence and Your Violence

Creators and performers:

Director: Oliver Frljić / Dramaturgy: Marin Blažević / Set design: Igor Pauška / Costume and make-up design: Sandra Dekanić / Lighting design: Dalibor Fugošič / Adaptation of lighting design: David Cvelbar / Sound design: Silvo Zupančič / Music selection: Oliver Frljić / Artistic advice: Aenne Quiñones / Assistant to the director:

Barbara Babačić / Production management: Hannes Frey / Cast: Barbara Babačić, Daša Doberšek, Uroš Kaurin, Dean Krivačić, Jerko Marčić, Nika Mišković, Draga Potočnjak, Matej Recer, Blaž Šef

Genre:

Devised theatre

Co-producer(s):

A commission by HAU Hebbel am Ufer, Berlin.

Production: HAU Hebbel am Ufer, Berlin.

Co-production: Mladinsko Theatre, Ljubljana, Wiener Festwochen, Zürcher Theater Spektakel, Kunstfest Weimar, Hrvatsko narodno kazalište Ivana pl. Zajca, Rijeka.

Funded by the German Federal Cultural Foundation

Regional co-producer: MESS Sarajevo

Opening night:

29 May 2016 (Vienna), 13 October 2016 (Ljubljana), 22 November (Rijeka)

Duration:

75 min

A short description of the performance:

The performance *Our Violence and Your Violence* observes the Europe which was – how naively – surprised by the refugee crisis, the Europe that unscrupulously forgets its colonial past while closing borders to those escaping the consequences of the European and American politics. As if the 20th century stubbornly did a single thing – fuelling the national narcissisms that taught one mass that it's better than others, while forgetting on purpose that ostracism is a form of violence. The 21st century continues to teach the same lessons, but uses the indispensable weapon: fear.

Links:

<http://en.mladinsko.com/performances/premieres-201617/our-violence-and-your-violence/description/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R4M5yH4ghZA>

Target audience:

Students, adults

Performed in:

Slovenian, English, Croatian, Dutch, German

with the **subtitles in:**

English

Awards:

The "Brave New World" Award of the Dani Magazine (MESS Sarajevo, 2016)

Important tours:

- Hrvatsko narodno kazalište Ivana pl. Zajca, Rijeka, Croatia, 22 – 26 November 2016
- Desiré Central Station Festival, Subotica, Serbia, 19 November 2016
- Temps d'Images, Cluj, Romania, 11 November 2016
- MESS Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 9 October 2016
- HAU Hebbel am Ufer: The Aesthetics of Resistance – Peter Weiss 100, Berlin, Germany, 28–30 September 2016

- Festival of New Dramaturgies, Bydgoszcz, Poland, 25 September 2016
- Kunstfest Weimar, Weimar, Germany, 20 & 21 August 2016
- Wiener Festwochen, Vienna, Austria, 29 May – 1 June 2016

Near future plans:

- Croatian National Theatre Ivan Zajc, Rijeka, Croatia, 22 April 2017
- Marulić Days, Split, Croatia, 24 April 2017
- KRASS – Kultur Crash Festival 2017 feat. YoungStar Fest, Hamburg, Germany, 28 & 29 April 2017
- Mladinsko Theatre, Ljubljana, Slovenia, 4, 5 & 6 May 2017

The Republic of Slovenia (Documentary theatre)

Performance (photo + photo's author):



Photo: Nejc Saje, Mladinsko Theatre Archive

Author:

Title:

The Republic of Slovenia

Creators and performers:

All the authors of the performance will remain anonymous. In this context, the individual simply isn't important. What is important is the state(ment).

Genre:

Documentary theatre

Co-producer(s):

Maska Ljubljana

Opening night:

20 April 2016

Duration:

120 min

A short description of the performance:

Three situations from the time after the independence, three stories about a hidden piece of recent history we

can hardly be proud of: a testimony of an executor of orders, an exact transcript of a debate among those who issued orders, and five versions of the event which in its time was an affair and then grew into a myth and changed a perfectly ordinary name of a perfectly ordinary village into a synonym for something that everybody knows everything about, and at the same time knows nothing, into something about what books are written and words are murmured on street corners.

Links:

<http://en.mladinsko.com/performances/reprises-201617/the-republic-of-slovenia/description/>

<http://en.mladinsko.com/performances/reprises-201617/the-republic-of-slovenia/video/>

<http://postcardsgods.blogspot.si/2016/05/republika-slovenija-mladinsko-ljubljana.html>

Target audience:

Students, adults

Performed in:

Slovenian

with the **subtitles in:**

English

Awards:

Special Maribor Theatre Festival Jury Award for an engaged gesture on the 25th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Slovenia (2016)

Important tours:

- Maribor Theatre Festival (Festival Borštnikovo srečanje)
- Week of Slovenian Drama (Prešeren Theatre, Kranj, Slovenia)

Near future plans:

Mladinsko Theatre, Ljubljana, Slovenia, 20 & 23 May 2017

Malta Festival, Poznań, Poland, June 2017