

>>>> After the April IETM Theatre and Dance Showcase, the theatre people can start to prepare for the 5th year of the Nová dráma / New Drama Festival. Its complete programme can be found in k o d magazine.

Beside it, we bring you again our regular sections. In the interview, Martin Krištof, one of the Stanica-Žilina-Záriečie creative team member, speaks about the tendencies of the alternative space of the Stanica, the philosophy of the team and theatrical dramaturgical aims. „We actually perceive theatre as a tool. Our aim is not to create theatre, but through theatre to open the perceiving of the viewer, the group of our city... The theatre as such lost its limits for me, it fell apart and was replaced by theatricality or more likely, by the whole life – every live action.“ He critically speaks of Slovak cultural environment. “We have the feeling that we are the best, we take ourselves too seriously, but the direction should be different.”

>>>> For the first time on Slovak stages, the Trnava Theatre presented Stodola’s one-act play and TV drama under a common title – *Once and Today (Volakedy a dnes)*. In her article *Once and Today – Some Personal Notices*, theatre critic Martina Ulmanová, the editor of

the complete work by Ivan Stodola, was delighted by the producing of Stodola’s plays but critical about the performance itself. “One has to be careful about which aspects of particular pieces “function” even today and they should therefore become a core of current theatre interpretation. The rest, even though it may look like irreplaceable, should be reduced or totally eliminated. Tactics or too much respect are unlucky solutions and make it difficult to evaluate the real quality of the author.”

>>>> The Na Rázcestí Theatre from Banská Bystrica has quite an untypical play on its repertoire, and it is not because the author and director of the production are the Pôtoň Theatre members, but mainly because of its style tending to documentary theatre. *The Mystery of House of Skutecký (Tajomstvo domu Skuteckých)*, “the play as well as production are as if a historical view not only on the life of painter Dominik Skutecký and Banská Bystrica but mainly the key historical moments from 1889 to the present. The life in the house no. 155 witnessed different political and social changes.”, Dáša Čiripová writes in her review.

>>>> There has been only two plays by Elfriede Jelinek, the Nobel Prize holder, presented on Slovak stages. The Košice Theatre and director Jano Šimko chose her older play, a loose adaptation of Ibsen’s *Nora – What Happened after Nora Left her Husband or the Pillars of Society (Čo sa stalo, keď Nora opustila manžela alebo opory spoločnosti)*. Author’s crude and striking style and socialistic and often feministic philosophy in earlier works, offer to directors a broad scale of interpretation possibilities. The *Nora* from Košice was according to theatre critic Martin Timko quite confused. “The production is a bunch of everything – interesting scenes as well as uneasy solutions and theatrical misunderstandings... Most importantly, the production should be seen as an attempt its creators invested themselves in. Perhaps, there are many themes in *Nora* which are current, but who knows whether they should be staged.”

>>>> The T/H/K section deals with a mysterious and absurd case which occurred after the announcement of the new operator of the DPOH Theatre. Juraj Kušnierik throws light on the situation, thoroughly and from several points of view, and

called it quite suitably, *A Bratislava’s Tragicomedy*. “Bratislava could have obtained an attractive cultural space almost for nothing. Nevertheless, the majority of the municipal parliament representatives had a different opinion, cancelled all the process and what’s more, they did it with slimy perfidiousness which should disqualify them from any elected post in the future.”

>>>> On the occasion of the Year of Grotowski and Wrocław Festival, the European Theatre Prizes were awarded in this town. Professor Zuzana Bakošová-Hlavenková speaks of the atmosphere of the event as well as the personalities who were awarded. They were many renowned personalities of Polish and world’s theatre. “Wrocław meetings at discussion matinees with individual creators as well as a fistful of inspiring productions, exhibitions, book promotions – this all satisfyingly saturated the participants of this year Premio Europa, European Theatre Prize ceremony award.”

>>>> A project of the Theatre Institute entitled Focus Europe is exceeding the borders of Slovakia. The pilot project is Focus Slovakia, this time at the

prestigious Serbian festival Sterijino Pozorje at the beginning of June in Novi Sad. Slovakia will be represented by two exhibitions – Theatre Architecture in Slovakia and New Space – New Play, production of Kubo by the Na Rázcestí Puppet Theatre and various other presentations.

>>>> In the May issue, you can read an original theatre play by Michal Ditte – *The Mystery of House of Skutecký (Tajomstvo domu Skuteckých)*, already mentioned in the Reviews section. The play pays homage to internationally known visual artist Dominik Skutecký and the house no. 155 in which more or less important historical moments took place and which later became the Central-European Gallery.

**Šéfredaktorka:** Dáša Čiripová  
**Odborná redakčnica:** Anna Grusková  
**Interná redakčná rada:** Andrea Dómeová, Vladislava Fekete, Maja Hrnešik, Ján Jaborník, Zora Jaurová, Michaela Mojžišová, Dominika Zafková  
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**Jazyková redakcia:** Lujza Bakošová  
**Peklad anglického resumé:** Martina Herbst  
**Adresa redakcie:** k o d – konkrétne o divadle, Jakubovo námestie 12, 813 57 Bratislava  
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**Zodpovedná vydavateľka:** Vladislava Fekete, riaditeľka Divadelného ústavu  
**Tel.:** 00421 2 20487502, 503  
**e-mail:** kod@theatre.sk  
**internet:** www.casopiskod.sk  
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