



Akadémia umení v Banskej Bystrici
Fakulta dramatických umení
Horná 95, 974 01 Banská Bystrica

Call for Conference Papers

VISIONS AND CHALLENGES OF EUROPEAN THEATRE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

(17th edition of International Conference on Theatrology in Banská Bystrica)

Organizer: Faculty of Dramatic Art, Academy of Arts in Banská Bystrica

To be held on November 27–28, 2020, Banská Bystrica, Slovakia

Conference mission:

The conference responds to the need for new definition of the status, functions and potential of theatre as a living, social medium of the 21st century. The approach of contemporary theatre makers and scholars is mainly represented by their critical and reflective views. There is little attention paid, however, to the new possibilities of theatre and theatre education; how they can correspond with (or contradict) substantial social upheavals, which have taken place in recent years. Without mentioning new challenges and visions introduced, for example, by reformers of the first half of the 20th century, the perspective of the status of theatre in society remains rather narrow. Are there, in today's world, theatre personalities who managed to push forward the boundaries of theatre, develop its forms and styles, establish distinctive schools, make space for experiment, and most importantly, correspond to the milieu? What is the artistic and social impact of theatre today? In conference papers, historical as well as theoretical or practical approaches to the topic concerned may be applied.

Conference goals:

The conference seeks to stimulate thinking about theatre, explore efficient theatre methods and strategies, and identify the potential of theatre (or its counterpart) in the future. The goal of the conference is to present and compare knowledge about theatre in the 21st century; how theatre can contribute to other areas of life; what is the power or potential of European and Slovak theatre in open cultural space (at the 100th anniversary of its professional institutionalisation).

- Theatres, theatre personalities, collectives and schools as opportunities for experiment: Are we in accord with the milieu? Are we able to push forward the boundaries of theatre and bring new visions? What is the artistic and social impact of theatre today?
- It shows that diverse critical appeals and warnings captured in performances and artists' expressions are not efficient enough: Is theatre supposed to communicate motivations and reasons for negative conditions or rather bring about artistic solutions? How can theatre stimulate changes?
- In general, we are witnessing shift towards internationalisation of theatre and identity changes: What are the issues that European theatre cultures can share with each other? What are the things that Slovak theatre has offered or has to offer to European context and vice versa? Can we tell the difference?



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- There exist new theatre challenges and transfers. They are closely related to the field of innovations in theatre education: Do they have to be mutually compatible? Does theatre education have to take into account current social affairs and artistic visions of the future?

Conference submission:

Please, make the conference submission by turning in a completed registration form to the following address: konferenciafdu@aku.sk by **14. 9. 2020**.

The title of your presentation together with a short abstract (1,000 signs max.) and keywords shall be stated in Slovak and/or English language.

Upon review by the members of the conference programme committee the authors of handed in conference papers will receive a written invitation to the conference. The participation of invited conference speakers is free of charge.

Individual papers shall be presented within a **standard time limit of 20 minutes in Slovak or English**. (In the case of other languages, it is necessary to agree in advance with the organizers.)

The abstracts and conference schedule will be posted on the following website: <https://fdu.aku.sk/>.

Selected conference papers having the form of final studies (max. 20 pages long), on the basis of “a peer review“ will be incorporated in the conference proceedings to be published in 2019. Final versions of contributions to the proceedings must be sent by **18 10. 2020**.

Should you have any queries, please, contact the organization committee members: konferenciafdu@aku.sk

Scientific and programme committee:

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