



Prague Quadrennial of stage design and theatre architecture

Quadriennale de Prague de décors et d'architecture théâtraux

Pražské Quadriennale scénografie a divadelní architektury

Prague Quadrennial - the international exhibition of stage design and theatre architecture - will take place for the ninth time in Prague in June 1999. It is going to be held in the year accidentally falling on the turn of the millennia enabling both the evaluation of what the theatre has offered the world and to pause on the function and mission of the theatre in future. At the same time, the globally put through world is characterized by the increasing requirements to preserve individuality and originality. That is why the central subject and the central idea of the PQ '99 reads:

"Our common world (world, nations, individuals)"

The PQ 99 shall consist of two integral parts, i.e. of the exhibition proper set up into four sections and of theatre events, seminars, discussions, competitions and other activities that will be developed and of various forms to fulfil the subtitle of the PQ that paraphrases Shakespeare's idea:

"The whole world is a stage and we all are actors".

The exhibition part of the PQ '99 will have the following structure:

- I. **National Section: Stage and Costume design**
- II. **Thematic Section: Homage to Scenography'**
- III. **Theatre Architecture Section**
- IV. **Theatre Schools Section**

The content of national exhibitions will include fields of competitions - stage and theatre costume, carried out in the last five years. Each exhibition should address the public and convince it by treatment of the space - that means to do so by both: by exhibits and by their installations. Exhibitions should not be retired into their shells, they should communicate with their environs - which will be aimed at by the whole conception of architectural treatment of the exhibition.

The thematic section offers the chances to individual countries to introduce their most significant personalities representing the sphere, whose contributions to the development of stage design they consider especially actual at present. The basic requirement imposed on the installation is the ability to mediate the significance of the work of these artists, to name a specific dramatic function of the stage design within artists, to name a specific dramatic function of the stage design within the theatre production, to cast light on the direct as well indirect framework within which the work came into being, to determine its nature and position in the context of the international development of art. The selection of personalities or scenographic events depends on individual national commissioners.

The section of theatre architecture proclaimed by the theme "Theatre architecture for the third millennium" shall include both the launched projects of new theatre building and adaptations of sites, halls and buildings suitable for forming a theatre space and also designs and visions hitherto unrealized which their authors consider particularly relevant. This section will take into account the use of new media and non-traditional proceedings in presentation leading to a maximum portrayal of the dramatic functions of the projected premises.

Section of stage design schools will remain of non-competition character and will thus enable the schools-selected by the commissioners of individual countries-to present results of their work.

The PQ is going to last for three weeks. Various international seminars, free discussions and accompanying events from the sphere of stage design, theatre architecture, theatre, film and stage technique, will be organized during that period.

Similarly, as in previous editions the individual participating countries shall have the chance to organize their National Days, in which they will have the possibility to get acquainted professional public with the new theatre trends in their countries.

More detailed information for individual circles of questions and inquiries shall be included in future leaflets and circular letters.

Inquiries will be answered:

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