

**Le**

**THEATRE**

**en Pologne**

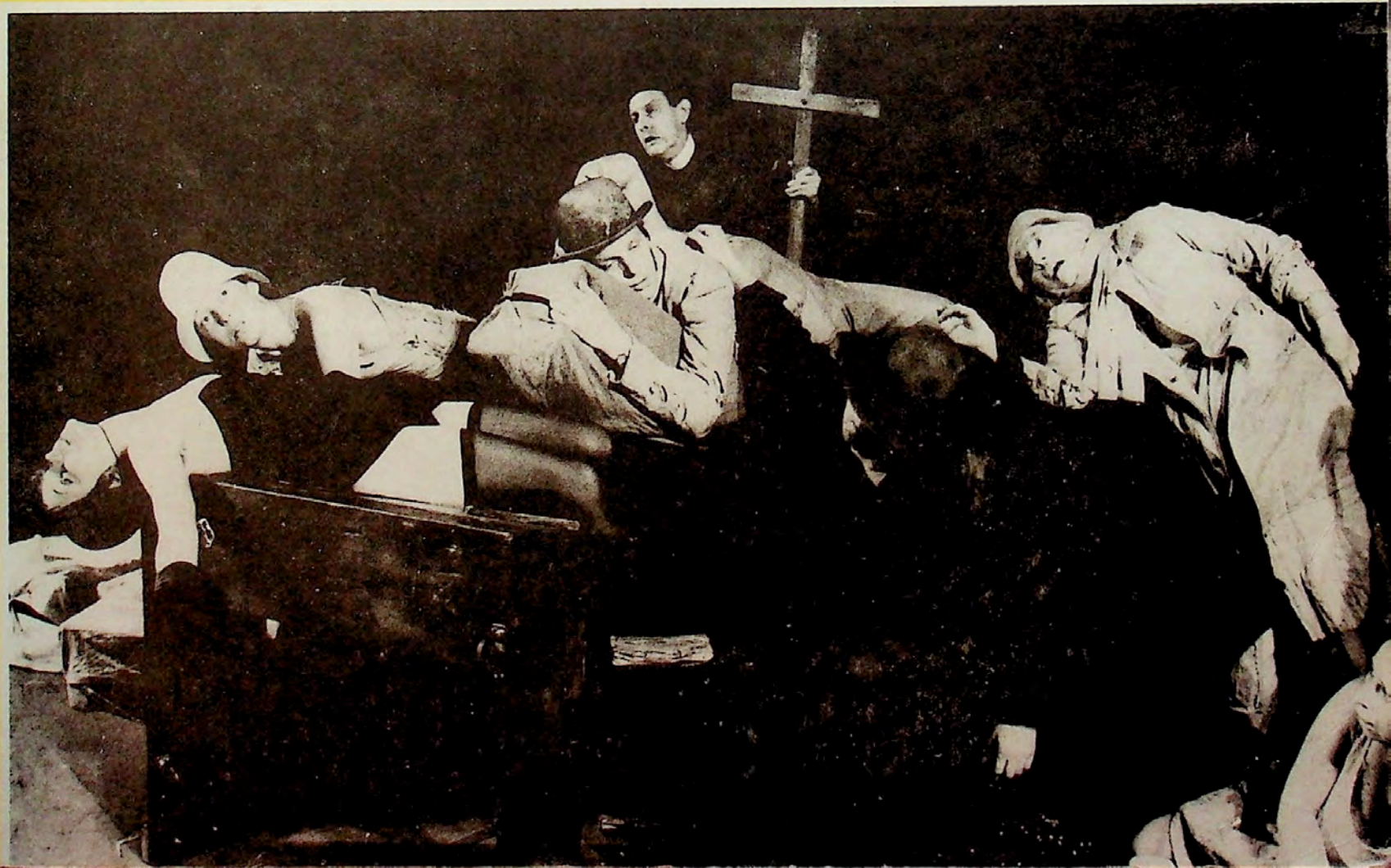
**The**

**THEATRE**

**in Poland**

8-10

1988



Internacional de Teatro, Montevideo '88, an event which raised Uruguay's capital to the rank of one of the foremost international theatre centres during the several years of the absence of Caracas on the world's theatre festival map; a three-week visit to the Argentine capital, Buenos Aires, now undoubtedly the continent's theatre capital, where the Stary Teatr performed under the aegis of the popular Teatro Municipal General San Martín.

In all these countries and cities, the Stary Teatr played to full houses. At all the festivals, Wajda's *Crime and Punishment* was generally acclaimed as the absolute 'top', the artistic reference point of these international surveys. In Caracas, an extra performance had to be arranged during the festival. In Bogota, after the official closing, the festival was held one day longer to enable the local theatre people to see the play. In Montevideo, the festival was held unofficially three days longer as the Stary Teatr was unable to come to Uruguay earlier because of its Argentine contract. I have been to too many large-scale international festivals not to realize that situations like these are quite extraordinary.

In Bogota and Buenos Aires, the production of *Crime and Punishment* was presented against a broad panorama of accompanying events. There was a retrospective survey of Wajda's films in cinemas; an actor of the Stary Teatr, Kazimierz Borowiec, presented two monodramas to the local Polish communities, and an exhibition of Polish theatre posters was held.

Reviews of the Polish production, all in the same tone, were published in major Argentine papers. To evidence this here are some titles from the Argentine press which in previous years had by no means been as unanimous in its judgement of other Polish companies: "A Great Theatre of the World", "The Great Creation of Dostoyevsky by Wajda's Company", "Dostoyevsky and Wajda's Excellence", "Two Monumental Actors in the Lead of the Polish Company in *Crime and Punishment*", "Two Actors of Genius in a Theatre Adaptation of *Crime and Punishment*", "Polish Theatre Monument. Dostoyevsky's Genius Rendered by Another Genius - Wajda's".

---

## Performances of Polish theatres abroad

---

AUSTRIA. Vienna.

Academy of Movement (Akademia Ruchu) of

Warsaw. *Carthage (Kartagina)*, staged by Wojciech Krukowski. May 1988.

BELGIUM. A tour.

"Wierzbak" theatre of Poznań. *The Convex (Wypukły)*; *The Brothers Grimm's Fairy Tales (Baśnie braci Grimm)*, directed by Bogdan Wąsiel. May 1988.

FRANCE. A tour.

"Rampa" theatre of Warsaw. *Bad Behaviour (Złe zachowanie)*, directed by Andrzej Strzelecki. March-April 1988.

Valenciennes.

Teatr Dzieci Zagłębia of Będzin. *Mask Seller (Sprzedawca masek)*; *The Enamoured (Zakochani)*; *Ivan, the Tsar's Son (Iwan, carski syn)*, directed by Grzegorz Lewandowski. May 1988.

THE NETHERLANDS. Leyden.

Teatr Wielki of Warsaw. *Ludus Danielis*. March 1988.

ISRAEL. A tour.

Jewish Theatre of Warsaw. *The Dybbuk*; *The World of My Dreams*; *Bonjour Monsieur Chagall*, directed by Szymon Szurmiej. March 1988.

YUGOSLAVIA. Belgrade.

"Groteska" Puppet and Mask Theatre of Cracow. *L'Annina e il sorcio Pompeo* by Gennaro Aceto, directed by Leszek Czarnota. March 1988.

CANADA, USA. A tour.

Teatr Powszechny of Warsaw. *A Bench (Skameika)* by Alexander Gelman, directed by Maciej Wojtyczko. April-May 1988.

LUXEMBURG.

Teatr Wielki of Warsaw. *Ludus Danielis*. March 1988.

GDR. Dresden.

Teatr Wielki of Poznań. *Requiem* by Giuseppe Verdi. June 1988.

FRG. Karlsruhe.

Academy of Movement. *Carthage; English Lesson*. April 1988.

Mannheim.

Teatr Wybrzeże of Gdańsk. *Wallenstein* by Friedrich Schiller, directed by Krzysztof Babicki. May 1988.

Stuttgart.

Ballet ensemble of the Teatr Wielki of Łódź. Ballet show *Wolfgang Amadeus*, choreographed by Gray Veredon. May-June 1988.

Munich.

Teatr Wielki of Warsaw. *The Mannequins (Manekiny)* by Zbigniew Rudziński. March 1988.

"Wierzbak" theatre of Poznań. *The Convex; The Brothers Grimm's Fairy Tales*, directed by Bogdan Wąsiel. May 1988.

Heilbronn.

Teatr Wielki of Łódź. *Tosca* by Giacomo Puccini. March 1988.

Witten.

Teatr Wielki of Warsaw. *Ludus Danielis*. March 1988.

Wiesbaden.

Teatr Wielki of Poznań. *Requiem* by Giuseppe Verdi; *The Black Mask (Czarna maska)* by Krzysztof Penderecki. May 1988.

A tour.

Teatr Wielki of Łódź. *Rehearsal (Próba)* ballet, choreographed by Antal Fodor. March 1988.

SWITZERLAND. Winterthur.

Teatr Wielki of Łódź. *Mefistofele* by Arrigo Boito. March 1988.

FRG, SWITZERLAND. A tour.

Teatr Wielki of Poznań. *Im weissen Rössl* by Ralph Benatzky. March 1988.

FRG, AUSTRIA, THE NETHERLANDS, SWITZERLAND. A tour.

Baltic Opera of Gdańsk. *Nabucco* by Giuseppe Verdi. March 1988.

FRG, SWITZERLAND, LUXEMBURG. A tour.

Pantomime Theatre of Wrocław. *Action - A Midsummer Night's Dream (Akcja - Sen nocy letniej)*; *Hamlet, Irony and Mourning (Hamlet, ironia i żałoba)*; *The Prodigal Son (Syn marnotrawny)* by Henryk Tomaszewski. March 1988.

FRG, AUSTRIA, SWITZERLAND, WEST BERLIN. A tour.

Opera and Operetta of Szczecin. *Gräfin Mariza* by Emmerich Kálmán. *Maske in blau* by Fred Raymond. April-May 1988.

VENEZUELA, COLOMBIA, ARGENTINA, URUGUAY. A tour.

Stary Teatr of Cracow. *Crime and Punishment*

by Fyodor Dostoyevsky, directed by Andrzej Wajda. March–April 1988.

SWEDEN. Stockholm.

Teatr Powszechny of Warsaw. *From the Life of the Rainsnakes (Fran regnormarnas liv)* by Per Olov Enquist, directed by Zygmunt Hübner. May, 1988.

USSR. Wilno.

Teatr Wielki of Warsaw. *The Haunted Manor (Straszny dwór)*; *The Countess (Hrabina)* by Stanisław Moniuszko; *King Roger (Król Roger)* by Karol Szymanowski; *Hedwig, Queen of Poles (Jadwiga, królowa polska)* by Karol Kurpiński; a ballet evening. May–June 1988.

---

## Polish theatre people abroad

---

Andrzej Wajda (director), Krystyna Zachwatowicz (stage designer) and Zygmunt Konieczny (composer) prepared a production of Ansky's play *The Dybbuk* at the Habima Theatre in Tel Aviv.

Bohdan Cybulski (director) and Jan Banucha (stage designer) staged Tadeusz Różewicz's play *The Card Index (Kartoteka)* in Český Těšín, Czechoslovakia.

Andrzej Łapicki (actor and director) and Mieczysław Czechowicz (actor) showed Sławomir Mrożek's play *The Émigrés (Emigranci)*, directed by Andrzej Łapicki, in Canada and West Berlin.

Bohdan Hussakowski (director) and Paweł Dobrzycki (stage designer) prepared a production of *Farewell, Judas (Żegnaj Judaszu)* by Ireneusz Iredyński, at the Yermolova Theatre in Moscow.

Cezary Morawski (actor) presented the *Bericht für eine Akademie* monodrama at the Centre of Information and Polish Culture in Berlin, GDR.

Alojzy Nowak (director) staged Sławomir Mrożek's play *Tango* in Yerevan, Armenian S.S.R.

Irena Kądziołka-Mirecka and Ewa Benesz (actresses of the no longer existing Laboratory Theatre) ran theatre workshops at the Teatro Helios in Sassari, Italy.

Zygmunt Molik (an actor of the no longer existing Laboratory Theatre) ran theatre workshops at the Theaterhaus in West Berlin.

Leszek Mądzik, founder and artistic director of the Visual Stage (Scena Plastyczna) of Lublin,

ran theatre workshops for the Drama School students in West Berlin.

Bohdan Poręba (director) staged *Summer at Nohant (Lato w Nohant)* by Jarosław Iwaszkiewicz, at a theatre in Braşov, Rumania.

---

## Leszek Mądzik in the USA

---

Leszek Mądzik, founder and artistic manager of the Visual Stage of the Theatre of the Catholic University of Lublin, was a scholar of the Kościuszko Foundation in the USA. At the University at Buffalo, Department of Theatre and Dance, Mądzik, introduced as an "internationally acclaimed theatre director and designer", ran a theatre workshop and presented an exhibition illustrating the style and achievements of the Visual Stage. Several days later, it was on show at the Fine Arts Gallery, Georgetown University, where the company was described as a "theatre of non-verbal truth". Mądzik also paid a visit to Stanford University where he gave a lecture on the style and artistic projects of his company, and later to Berkeley University where the exhibition was shown again, this time accompanied by a lecture and video show. The New School for Social Research in New York was the organizer of a meeting with Mądzik. An exhibition illustrating his works was held in one of the school rooms. The crowning event of the Leszek Mądzik's visit to the USA was the opening of an exhibition of his work at the Kościuszko Foundation in New York.

---

## Seminar on Polish theatre

---

Professor Leon Brauner of Indiana University's Department of Theatre and Drama presented an interesting lecture entitled "Polish Theatre: A Theatre of Vision, A Theatre of Ideas" in the framework of the "Reports from Poland" seminar organized at the Polish Studies Center at Indiana University in Bloomington. During his one-year visit to Eastern Europe, Professor Brauner lectured at Warsaw University. His lecture was devoted to the differences between American and Polish theatre, with special stress on visual theatre from a designer's rather than a playwright's viewpoint. The professor concentrated on the peculiar qualities of artistic work of Polish theatre people combining direction with stage design (Kantor, Wajda,

Grzegorzewski, Szajna, Swinarski) and the characteristic "Polishness" of their artistic mission.

---

## "Hunting Cockroaches" by Głowacki on "Time"'s list of ten best plays

---

In its issue of 4 January, 1988, the *Time* magazine published a list of ten 1987 theatre hits including Janusz Głowacki's play *Hunting Cockroaches (Polowanie na karaluchy)*, cf. "Polish News from Abroad", *The Theatre in Poland*, No 3–5/1988). The play, premièred at the Mark Taper Forum with Swoozie Kurt and Malcolm McDowell, was later produced at the Manhattan Theatre Club in New York, and then at The Alley Theater's Hugo Neuhaus Arena Stage in Houston with Annalee Jeffries and Zach Grenier as the Polish emigrant couple. Both productions were enthusiastically received by the critics.

---

## "Theater der Zeit" on Polish theatre

---

In its 5/1988 issue, the *Theater der Zeit* (GDR) monthly brings a comprehensive article by Martin Linzer entitled "Ein neues Kapitel. Theatertreffen in Warschau", devoted to the 18th Warsaw Theatre Meetings. The article brings also a detailed programme of the event and photographs of the most interesting productions.

---

## Witkacy in Swedish

---

A volume entitled *Stanisław Ignacy Witkiewicz: Fem dramer* has been published in Swedish by the Uppsala Slavic Papers. It contains five dramas by Witkacy, *The Pragmatists (Pragmatyści)*, *The Water Hen (Kurka Wodna)*, *The Madman and the Nun (Wariat i zakonnica)*, *The Mother (Matka)* and *The Beelzebub's Sonata (Sonata Beelzebuba)*, translated by Andrzej Nils Uggla, Dag Hedman, Catherine Berg and Lennart Kanter. Andrzej Nils Uggla, the editor of the volume, is the author of the introduction full of interesting insights.

M. S.

Scena na dole



# MARIAN HEMAR

TEATR \* ATENEUM \*

w Warszawie

ul. Jarcza 2.

**WIECZÓR**  
Kabaretowy

