



Ivana Vujić

I was born in Belgrade and graduated as a theatre director from the Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Belgrade. In my theatrical work I have explored the phenomenon of directing through the work with actors – the work in which I have tried to dinamize the relationship between the director, the actor and the spectator, by going deep into the acting apparatus, and the actor's and the director's work on a character. As a theatre director I have conducted dynamic explorations and discovered new genre approaches to canonical texts by classical and modern playwrights – Sofocles, Euripidus, W. Shakespeare, O. Wilde, B. Nušić, J. Sterija Popović, B. Brecht, J. Genet, J.P. Sartre, S. Beckett etc. I have directed plays in all Belgrade theatres and in alternative cultural spaces of the city (Kalemegdan Fortress, Beton Hala Teatar, Student Cultural Centre etc). My productions participated at international and national theatre festivals in former Yugoslavia (BITEF, MESS, GRAD TEATAR BUDVA...) and abroad (Edinburgh Theatre Festival, Mittelfest, La Mama Festival in New York, and many others in Italy, Germany, France, Holland, USA, Slovenia, Croatia, Mecedonia, Albania, etc).

Besides directing theatre performances, I tended to combine each working season with further learning and researching of the phenomenon of directing in different environments than my home country. Through study trips and residencies I developed intellectual curiosity and a professional need for confronting theatrical acts - past, avanguard, present, postmodern and intercultural. I studied semiotical analysis with professor Ane Ubersfeld at Theatre Institute at Sorbone in Paris in 1983/84. As a holder of Fullbright Fellowship I studied at the Department of Performance Studies, University of New York, with professor Richard Schechner in 1988/89.

With my colleague dr. Aleksandra Jovičević I translated and edited Richard Schechner's book *Towards Postmodern Theatre* (Institute for Theatre, Film, Radio and Television, Faculty of Dramatic Arts, Belgrade, 1992), and Eugenio Barba's and Nicola Savarese's *The Secret Art of the Performer* (Institute for Theatre, Film, Radio and Television, Faculty of Dramatic Arts, Belgrade, 1996). I also published essays in theatre journals SCENA, TEATRON and theatre newspapers LUDUS, on European and North American theatre scene whose work I consider inspiring for our further theatre practice, research of theatre directing and cultural policy.

I was the artistic director of Bitef Theatre in Belgrade, artistic director of new Festival FIAT in Montenegro and curator of theatre program for Belgrade Summer Festival (BELEF). In 2000 I founded Beton Hala Teatar, independent theatre which based its work on contemporary European and domestic playwriting and presented a space for work of young theatre artists and students.

I taught at the Faculty of Dramatic Arts since 1990, at the Department of Theatre Directing where today I am a professor. I was also a lecturer at the Academy of Art in Utrecht (Netherlands), University of Arts in Belgrade, Belgrade Open School (Serbia), Theatre Academy in Stockholm (Sweden), as well a lecturer and moderator of numerous panel discussions, round tables and congress sessions at Berlinterreffen (Berlin, Germany), Avignon Festival (France), European Theatre Convention (Saint Etienne, France), Grotowski Centre (Wroclaw, Poland), Volksbuhne (Berlin, Germany) etc. I was vice-rector on the University of Arts. Now I am coordinator of the MAIPR programme in Belgrade.