

NOVÁ DRÁMA

PRESS RELEASE | Bratislava, 14 June 2021

The Nová dráma/New Drama festival will be held in October 2021!

After the Nová dráma/New Drama festival was put off from May to October 2021, the Theatre Institute, as the festival organizer, now has some positive news to share: the festival *will* take place! It will be held between 11 and 16 October 2021 in Bratislava in a hybrid form – the organization of the festival so far has made it necessary to divide the programme into an online and offline section.

The pandemic affected the organization of festivals and mass events worldwide. “That’s why we are so delighted to announce that this year, the 17th Nová dráma/New Drama festival will take place in what is almost its standard form. If the epidemiological situation allows, it will be held live with supplementary activities in the virtual space. Of course, we are ready to quickly respond to a potential deterioration of the situation,” director of the Theatre Institute Vladislava Fekete said.

Productions from two selection periods

Because the 16th festival was held exclusively online, the organizers have now decided to merge the two production showcases – this will allow audiences to see the productions nominated in two selection periods.

The theatre productions are selected to be included in the main programme by the festival’s dramaturgical board. “Because theatres were closed for several months, we extended our dramaturgical selection. As a result, the main programme will include also productions that premiered between 1 February 2020 and 30 June 2021,” Vladislava Fekete added.

A novelty for international experts and viewers

The current situation is uncertain as regards the participation of international guests in the festival. Therefore, the organizers are setting up an online platform designed for the expert public, mostly participants from abroad.

“The online platform is intended for accredited theatre experts, who will be able to use it to watch recordings of Slovak theatre productions – not just productions staged in the last two years, but also older ones,” said Vladislava Fekete.

What can festival visitors look forward to?

In addition to the showcase of competing productions from the last two selection periods, the expert public will be able to attend a conference held in a hybrid form combining a face-to-face and online format. The Focus programme section, which has been a traditional part of the festival and is aimed at presenting theatre and drama of a chosen foreign country, will not be part of the festival in 2021.

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However, the traditional Masterclass *will* take place – it will be led by the festival's patron, playwright Andrei Kureichik.

About the 2021 Nová dráma/New Drama festival

The seventeenth festival, organized by the Theatre Institute, will take place between 11th and 16 October 2021 in Bratislava. The festival's main programme will include some of the productions selected by the dramaturgical board that should have competed for the Grand Prix in 2020. The Focus programme section will not take place in 2021.

The aim of the festival is to put Slovak theatres on the map not only to present how new drama is staged, but also to show the trends in contemporary Slovak drama and the tendencies in its staging. The festival's goal is also to support authors of contemporary drama in Slovakia. The Nová dráma/New Drama festival main focus is to highlight the approach to contemporary texts or dramatizations, and to point out inventive, inspiring, and inquisitive productions.

Up-to-date information about the festival will be regularly published at the [Nová dráma/New Drama festival website](#).

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