

Literární noviny

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Nová dráma/New drama festival 2007

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Triumph and fall of New drama 2007

The last remarkable production of the festival New drama (awarded a special prize of jury) was the auctorial production of Slávka Daubnerová from Prievidza, *Cells*, standing on the edge of performance and coming out of the records of the artist Louis Bourgeois. Harrowing confession of a woman lost in her existence and forcing way to its sense, with occasional tendency to observe the self-evident, was extraordinary mainly for its elaborated visual concept and stern acting that was strongly in contrast with psychological acting prevailing not only in the Slovak theatre. Calm, even mechanical declamation coming strictly to the point and circulating in some mini-chorus culminated in a demoniac scream. Maybe it is the expression of resolution after the release from captivity of everydayness and its too obvious expectations, or the expression of anger, as the only way out, which is often very close to resignation not only to fight, but also to live. Director, and actress in one, worked systematically with her body like with a visual and spatial artefact. She didn't illustrate her inner feelings, she was moving very naturally on the stage, as if she was unconcerned about the audience at times. Somewhere in the background, we could feel the influence of German speaking drama art and its geniuses: Heiner Müller, Thomas Bernhard and Elfriede Jelinek. Actually, the whole festival was little in spirit of post dramatic theatre as a respected European teatrologist Hans-Thies Lehmann, the author of the term "post dramatic theatre", held here a lecture and a workshop.