

The UNIMA Research Commission

and

The Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava (Slovakia)

supported by the **Cultural and Educational Grant Agency of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak republic KEGA – project Nr 004VSMU-4/2016**

present:

Puppetry and Multimedia: A symposium on the influence of multimedia on contemporary puppetry and related forms

18th and 19th October 2017

The UNIMA Research Commission in collaboration with the Department of Puppetry at the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava, Slovakia, is delighted to announce a two-day conference exploring the influence of multimedia on contemporary puppetry.

We invite academics and practice-based researchers to propose papers on this theme or presentations of practice-based research.

Keynote speaker Prof. Didier Plassard, Université Paul Valéry – Montpellier, France.

One grant of 500€ is made available by the UNIMA Research Commission to assist participation in this event for young or early-career researchers (including those focused on practice-based research). Please note in your proposal if you wish to apply for the grant.

Themes to consider include (but are not limited to):

§ the uses and effectiveness of multimedia in puppet theatre performance;

§ the relationship (conceptual or scenic) between multimedia and puppetry in performance;

§ questions of performance and of performing alongside or with multimedia within puppetry and object theatre;

§ the effects and limits of multimedia within puppetry and object theatre;

§ new understandings of puppetry and object theatre terminologies and definitions due to the inclusion and exploration of multimedia in the 21st century.

Selected papers will be published as part of the proceedings of this symposium.

Please submit an abstract of no more than 300 words and a short biography of no more than 50 words to Ida Hledikova and Cariad Astles to these email addresses:

Ida.hledikova@gmail.com and research@unima.org. Please include your department or affiliation and any access and equipment requirements.

The deadline for proposal submission is Monday 17th July 2017.

The UNIMA Research Commission is a puppet theatre research commission which develops research into the history, theory, practice, criticism and practice-as-research in the field of puppet theatre, object theatre and related forms. The aims of the Commission are to encourage, promote and disseminate research into puppet theatre; to co-operate with professional theatre research bodies and individuals, to encourage, initiate and co-organise conferences, publication projects and sharing of research; to reflect a multiculturalism of puppetry forms and develop the participation of both experienced and young researchers and critics. For more information see: <https://www.unima.org/en/commission/research/>

The Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava, Slovakia is the highest accredited educational, artistic, scientific and research institution in the field of theatre, music, dance and film arts in Slovakia. It trains creative people for theatre (including puppet theatre), music, radio, TV and film and educates art theoreticians and critics. The Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava was founded in 1949. It is a public Higher Education institution with University status. It currently has three faculties: the Faculty of Theatre, the Faculty of Music and Dance and the Faculty of Film and Television.

The Department of Puppetry is one of the youngest departments of the Academy of Performing Arts (founded in 1989). The study programme has 3 study levels: BA, MA and ArtD, offering education in three areas: performing; directing and dramaturgy for puppet theatre; and stage design and technology for puppet theatre. The programme includes opportunities to explore different forms and approaches to puppetry; masks, physical theatre, site-specific performance and related arts. www.vsmu.sk

The Cultural and Educational Grant Agency KEPA is managed by the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic. It supports research activities within public Higher Education institutions in specified fields. The project Nr.004VSMU-4/2016 is supported through the promotion of applied sciences and creative and interpretation arts. www.min.edu.sk