

DOGMA THEATER – profile of activities



Dogma Divadlo (ex Kolomaž Theatre) is the oldest professional independent theatre in the era of independence of the Slovak Republic in Trenčín and has been operating since 1995 with occasional breaks until today. The original Kolomaž Theatre was founded in 1995 by Kamil **Bystrický**, Andrej **Ďurík**, Tomáš **Plánka** and Ján **Šimko**.

From 1995 to 1998 it staged the original movement performances "EGON (1995)", "MOTHERS" (1996) and "DISTANCE - DISTANCE" (1997), as well as a performance between staged reading and performance "RUBIKON - PANTA REI" (1998). During this period, members successfully participated in domestic and international festivals, theatre improvisation competitions and theatre workshops. From 1998 to 2002 the theatre did not formally operate, its members were students of art colleges, to return to staging original scripts "SHALLOWNESS" (2002) after 2002, and the theatre for the first time invited the director T. **Hudcovič**, which resulted in the successful production for children "RED LINE", which is still in the repertoire of the theatre today. In the same year, cooperation with director E. **Kudláč** began, resulting in the productions "ANGLE" (2003) and "REDIRECTED" (2005). In 2009, the theatre staged an original non-verbal monodrama "WELLNESS" (2009). Since 2012, Kolomaž Theatre has also started to reach for textual templates, staging the Slovak premiere of the dramatization of P. Ouředník's text "EUROPEANA" (2012), the monodrama "BLÁZON [The Fool]" (2014), based on a text by the French playwright and director P. Gregoire, as well as the premiere of the author's text entitled "KOMUNÁL [The Municipality]" (2014). In 2015, the Kolomaž theatre presented an author's performance for children and youth with the characteristic title "THE WORLD'S HISTORY". In 2016, it changed its name to **DOGMA DIVADLO** and staged a new completely revised version of the older performance "EUROPEANA" under the new title "EUROPEANA - THE HISTORICAL HISTORY OF THE 20th CENTURY" (2017). This was followed by an original interdisciplinary production with the telling title "LOCAL" (2017). In 2018 Dogma Theatre collaborated with Czech writer and playwright D. Zábranský, who wrote two theatre texts commissioned by the theatre. These became the basis for the creation of two productions, "VISEGRAD -1" (2018) and "CONSERVATIVE (ON THE CENTENARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE Czechoslovak Republic)" (2019). In addition, in 2019 Dogma Theatre staged a staged reading of the comedy monodrama by the most awarded contemporary German playwright W. Lotz "FASHION AND REALITY" and at the end of 2019 premiered an original production for children entitled "THIS IS THEATER!" In 2020 and 2021, Dogma Theatre was busy with reprising, streaming and hosting, as the pandemic situation allowed. At the end of 2020, Dogma Theatre lost its home stage at Club Lúč, and has since been temporarily operating in the former Vážka Gallery, which it shares with several entities. Nevertheless, during 2021 two new author's productions "TOP DOGS" and "RE: CAPITULATION" and an evening of author's staged reading "BLAHOREČ(n)enie" dedicated to Blaho Uhlar were created.

Dogma Theatre's latest venture is an original production, "BINDING PERFORMANCE", which premiered in September 2022. Apart from Trenčín, Dogma Divadlo regularly presents its work in cultural centres and independent theatres in Slovakia (Stanica Záriečie Žilina, Malý Berlín Trnava, A4 Bratislava, Wave Prešov, Tabačka Košice, Akropola Kremnica, Barmuseum Martin, Divadlo Pôtoň, Divadlo Kontra), as well as in other theatres...), but also at international festivals abroad.

www: <https://dogmadivadlo.sk/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/dogmadivadlo.sk/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiY4gABRg0ksbJHXIMzgqsg>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/dogmadivadlo/>

Selected performances of the DOGMA THEATER (ex Kolomaž Theater):

Angle (2003)

Time and space shift of actions/situations that usually have existed and continue to exist side by side. Exploration of individual sequences from a space-time perspective. Parallel and synchronous stories of man and woman, analysis of the ephemeral basis of their existence - their relationship. Comparison of shifts with reality, enabling identification of the root of the problem and the disharmony of their existence/relationship.

Music by: POO

Story by: Roman Ondák

Concept and directed by: Eduard Kudláč Cast: Kamil Bystrický, Ria Bobotová

Produced by: KOLOMAŽ (association for modern art) Premiere: September 2003

Selected festivals:

Attractive Theater Weekend in Zvolen (2005),

Festival of Czech and Slovak Mutual ties, Alfréd ve dvoře Theater in Prague (2004)



Photo: Kolomaž Theater: Angle, 2003, Eduard Kudláč

Redirected (2005)

Dismantling and reassembly of the icon of fear and pain creates a symbolic space in which memory and the process of remembering itself changes not only the contents and form, but even the author himself.

Music by: Coil

Concept and directed by: Eduard Kudláč

Cast and cooperation on a stage concept by: Kamil Bystrický

Produced by: KOLOMAŽ (association for modern art) Premiere: September 2005

Selected festivals: TNF Profil (2006) Švandovo Theater in Prague



Photo: Kolomaž Theater: Redirected, 2005, Eduard Kudláč

Little Red Riding Hood (2002, 2010)

Little Red Riding Hood, a dumb wolf and a hunter who has fallen in love are portrayed by means of expressive acting, with a surprising plot line and interestingly creative arrangement of dialogs about hunger, love and a desired motorcar. An authorial rewrite of the well-known fairytale Little Red Riding Hood. The play is full of visual effects and features a dynamic story with dance music. Children and adults are always having a lot of fun.

Directed by: Tomáš Hudcovič

Scenes by: Roman Anderle

Cast: Kamil Bystrický, Ivan Kubica / Martina Kedrová, Tomáš Plánka

Premiere: September 2002, Renewed premiere December 2010; more than 100 re-showings

Video trailer: <https://youtu.be/OI91TEY5miA>



Photo: Kolomaž Theater: Little Red Riding Hood, 2012, Radovan Stoklasa

Wellness (2009)

He lives a life in which he feels good. He regularly stimulates this feeling with resources offered to him by the world, from learned and useful conventions and habits to the latest fashions, which make good life even better. He exercises, has sex, meditates, breathes, dresses, smells, consumes, works with

utensils and looks exactly as he needs to look in order to maintain the quality of his very existence. Non- verbal performance.

Story by: Kamil Bystrický, Juraj Benko Concept and directed by: Kamil Bystrický

Music by: Richard Lalík, Milan Uhrík, Marek Svorada, Viktor Smutný Cast: Kamil Bystrický/Oskar Pompa

Premiere: September 2009 Selected festivals:

International one-man theater festival Alone on Stage (2009)

International monodrama festival BGMOT, Bulgaria (2010)

Presentation of modern Slovak theater in Brussels (2010)

International theater festival MONOAKT, Kosovo (2011)

International theater festival Pozorište bez Granica, Bosnia-Herzegovina (2011)



Photo: Kolomaž Theater: Wellness, 2009, Radovan Stoklasa

Europeana (2012)

Drama adaptation of the text by Patrik Ouředník about a century in which the need for hygiene–bodily, mental, individual and collective–was exaggerated. Instructions for achieving purity, harmony and prosperity were pushed more than they could have been absorbed in any century and more than any one person could survive in good health. Even if he did not survive, there could be another small and useful thing from him: soap. In Europe in the 19th Century, soap was used everywhere, inside and out, from left to right.

Concept, directed: Kamil Bystrický, Tomáš Plánka; Cast: Kamil Bystrický, Tomáš Plánka

Dramatization: Juraj Benko and T.U.K.

Imagery: Peter Kotrha

Music by: Matúš Homola

Produced by: KOLOMAŽ (association for modern art)

Slovak premiere: 30 Dec 2012, Lúč Club, Trenčín, Slovakia

re-showings: First Chamber Theater Scene, Trenčín; Pôtoň Theater, Bátovce; Záhrada, Banská

Bystrica; Tabačka, Košice

International theater festival Pozorište bez Granica 2014, Bosnia-Herzegovina

This performance was made possible in part by financial support from the Slovak Ministry of Culture.

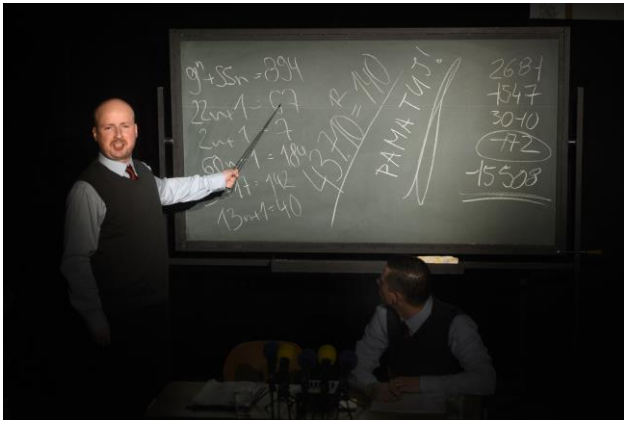


Photo: Kolomaž Theater: Europeana, 2012, Radovan Stoklasa

Blázon [The Fool] (2014)

A monodrama about a boy who is considered by everyone around him to be crazy. The main protagonist lives in his own inner world and does not realize what exactly is going on around him. An impressive story about the fate of a person who considers himself to be Jesus. The performance is in honor of the talented Czech actor Marek Matějka (1974–2011), who in 2004 translated, studied and under P. Gregoir's direction even successfully acted in the work.

Original text by: Patrick Grégoire

Translation by: Eva Duchamp - Koničková

Dramaturgy by: Kamil Bystrický, Tomáš Plánka

Music by: Martin Fačkovec, Richard Lalík

Narrations by: Marián Mitaš, Tomáš Plánka

Cast: Tomáš Plánka

Concept and directed by Kamil Bystrický

Slovak premiere: 11 Sep 2014, the First Chamber Theater Scene, Trenčín

re-showings: First Chamber Theater Scene, Trenčín; Stanica Zárečie, Žilina; International theatre festival MONOAKT, Kosovo (2016), International monodrama festival ALBAMONO, Albania (2018)

This performance was made possible in part by financial support from the Slovak Ministry of Culture.



Photo: Kolomaž Theater: Blázon [The Madman], 2014, Radovan Stoklasa

Komunál [The Municipality] (2014)

Komunál is a collectively authored theatrical performance, which focuses on municipal politics and public life in a town. The play also focuses on power practices and marketing strategies of local elite groups and their impacts on the nature, functioning and overall life of a small town. The Kolomaž Theater familiarizes theatergoers in a satirical manner with the character traits of people in public positions and the motives of their actions. It focuses on analysis of the phenomenon of hidden manipulation and playing with the illusion of a more pleasant future.

Scenes by: Juraj Benko, Kamil Bystrický

Cast: Ivan Kubica, Tomáš Plánka

Music by: Martin Fačkovec, Richard Lalík

Narrations by: Kamil Bystrický

Produced by: KOLOMAŽ (association for modern art)

Slovak premiere: 30 Dec 2014, The First Chamber Theater Scene, Trenčín

The performance has been made possible in part by financial support from the Slovak Ministry of Culture.



Photo: Kolomaž Theater: Komunál [The Municipality], 2014, Radovan Stoklasa

Europeana. Stručné dejiny 20. storočia. [Europeana. A Brief History of The Twentieth Century] (2017)

Europeana is an adaptation of the world-famous book by Patrik Ouředník “Europeana. A Brief History of The Twentieth Century”. It describes the great expectations prevailing at the end of the 19th century. The new century was to be an entirely different era in the history of mankind – more rational, more humane and more joyful. In the end, it all slipped out of hands like a wet bar of soap. The more tightly we tried to hold it, the more unpredictable it got. The soap....

From among the topics and plots mentioned in the book, the authors of the play chose to focus on the search for purity. The growing obsession with collective and individual hygiene went from raising the population's hygiene standards to the most perverse theories of pure race and class. Millions of those considered impure had a firsthand experience with the desire for a pure race. But, when felling trees, new trees need to be planted, and, when killing, reproduction is needed. Along with the sadism against others, there was the effort to be as good and effective as possible at giving birth to new generations.

After World War II, the focus on pure-breeding the collective transformed into individuals' focus on quality sex. The undying zeal to clean and improve something continued, however, the focus moved from purity at the collective level to purity of individuals and their souls. "And no one wanted to be poor anymore and everyone wanted to have a refrigerator and a cordless telephone and a dog and a cat and a tortoise and a vibrator and take part in sports and attend psychoanalysis."

Each topic is presented as a scene containing a minimum of scenic elements. Symbols, rhythm and dynamics dominate and the scenes share common sound and lighting elements. There is no story, only a continuous flow of sentences, words, gestures and images creating a news-like documentary snapshot of the life of man and society in the 20th century.

Original text by: Patrik Ouředník

Directed by: Kamil Bystrický

Adaptation by: Juraj Benko, Kamil Bystrický, Tomáš Plánka

Conceived by: Kamil Bystrický, Tomáš Plánka

Cast: Kamil Bystrický, Tomáš Plánka

Music by: Matúš Homola using the song Horst Wessel Lied, Tomáš Plánka – the "Translator" scene

Narrations by: Kamil Bystrický, Tomáš Plánka, Ondrej Slivka, Martina Šimoňáková

Produced by: KOLOMAŽ (contemporary art association)

Premiere: 12.1. 2017, First Chamber Theatre, Klub Lúč, Trenčín, Slovakia

Selected festivals:

International festival of the alternative theater "Korifej", Montenegro, (2017)



Photo: Kolomaž Theater: Europeana – a brief history of the 20th century, 2016, Radovan Stoklasa

Locality (2017)

A preview and event that maps the story of creating a work of art, right up to the ceremonial unveiling.

Authors: Juraj Benko, Kamil Bystrický, Andrej Danóczy, Vlado Durajka, Matúš Homola, Martina Kedrová, Ivan Kubica, Tomáš Plánka, Pavol Prekop and unknown others...

Premiere: March 23, 2017 in the First Chamber Theater in Club Lúč, Trenčín

The project received financial support from the Slovak Arts Council.



Photo: Dogma Theater: Locality, 2017, Radovan Stoklasa

Visegrad -1 (2018)

The actor confronts the author based on the dramatized text he commissioned for himself. A provocative, offensive and extrovert monodrama. A monodrama with a dramatic starting point commissioned by Dogma Theater itself. The production, which fluctuates between irony and sincerity, is thematically focused on current political events in Europe. This play is provocative, sporadically offensive and extrovert, at its heart the relationship between actor and writer, alienation and the borders which should possibly never have been torn down. “I addressed the subject of Visegrad, I turned to face Visegrad, with pride. Who are we, what are we for, what is the role of the individual Visegrad countries? And finally – what is Slovakia’s role in Visegrad and in Europe? My basic idea of Visegrad was of a sort of “special school” within Europe. We associate special schools, entirely automatically, with bullying or running away. So just like that, I approached my proud confrontation with our third-rate countries... The text is political, down-to-earth, offensive, extrovert.” David Záborský

David Záborský is a writer and dramatist of radio and stage plays. He studied law and initially also practiced it in the non-governmental sector, where he worked in the Center for Civil and Human Rights, the Refugee Aid Organization and the Human Rights League. His literary debut, in 2006, was the novel *Slabost pro každou jinou pláž* (Any Beach But This), for which he was awarded the Magnesia Litera prize in the “First Book” category. He was again nominated for the Magnesia Litera prize for his wide-ranging novel “Martin Juhás or Czechoslovakia”, this time in the “Book of the Year” category. In 2017, he caused a stir in Czech literary circles with his controversial novel “Beyond the Alps”.

Conceived, directed and performed by: Kamil Bystrický
Author: David Zábranský
Direction and choreography: Tomáš Plánka
Script editing: Eduard Kudláč
Artwork: Vlado Ďurajka, Peter Kotrha
Production: Kolomaž (contemporary art association)
Slovak premiere: June 29, 2018
The project received financial support from the Slovak Arts Council.

festivals:

BITOLA international festival of monodrama 2019, North Macedonia (2019)
One Actor Theater, Cheb Theater, Czech Republic (2019)

video trailer: <https://youtu.be/dfPZbvMJLJO>



Photo: Dogma Theater: Visegrad -1, 2019, Radovan Stoklasa

The Conservative (On the hundredth anniversary of the foundation of Czechoslovakia) (2019)

The production lies somewhere between a visual installation and theatrical mash-up, and is about a brief halt and the futility of revolution and change. “This is apolitical writing, impractical, tame and strongly introverted. In 2018, the hundredth anniversary of the foundation of independent Czechoslovakia was celebrated in the Czech Republic, and a little less enthusiastically in Slovakia. My text, called The Conservative, was written to honor that anniversary. The main character is a man staring into the waves in the wake of a ship. It is a poetic text about the passage of time, a monument to those hundred years and reflections on their meaning and significance. It is not about our social history. This text is a riderless monument, a monument to honor a century, nothing more. It records the empty, post-celebration atmosphere. It is the eloquent silence that fell after the fight. At the end of everything there is, it seems, nothing.”

Text: David Zábranský,
Conceived and directed by: Kamil Bystrický
Cast: Juraj Bakoš, Ivan Kubica
Script editors: Kamil Bystrický, Juraj Benko
Choreography: Tomáš Plánka

Narrator: Dušan Jamrich

Music: Richard Lalík, Martin Fačkovec

Lighting design: Boris Adamčík Artwork: Alex Vido, Vlado Ďurajka

Slovak premiere: February 22, 2019

The project received financial support from the Slovak Arts Council and the city of Trenčín

video trailer: https://youtu.be/IqwO_2S0R3s



Photo: Dogma Theater: The Conservative, 2019, Radovan Stoklasa

This is Theater! (2019)

A play for the theater and about the theater. A performance about how the performance appears on the stage of the world. A comedy which uses a colorful palette of characters, a collage of images and a medley of sketches to gradually reveal to audiences both young and old what theater actually is.

Scripted and directed by: Kamil Bystrický

Cast: Kamil Bystrický, Tomáš Plánka

Narrators: Kamil Bystrický, Tomáš Plánka, Matúš Homola

Stage manager, costumes, artwork: Andrej Ďurík

Music: Richard Lalík, Martin Fačkovec

Production: Tomáš Plánka

Slovak premiere: 22 December 2019

The project received financial support from the Slovak Arts Council and the city of Trenčín

video trailer: <https://youtu.be/-Ux9h0rKOsl>



Photo: Dogma Theater: This is Theater! 2020, Radovan Stoklasa

Top Dogs (2021)

Dogs have lain at people's feet for centuries. We call them "man's best friend". But the truth is rather that dogs are a good servant or assistant. Only in recent decades have we started to take the assertion of "best friend" literally and accepted dogs as full members of our families. Many of us often sigh that it's a shame that dogs can't talk. Well, what if we took that sigh seriously and imagined a situation in which a dog really did acquire human language? Top Dogs is a play about human nature, about the need or desire to give or take orders, about state and other power structures. About the fact that something being over doesn't inevitably mean that you need to start something new immediately.

Text: David Zábranský, Juraj Bakoš, Kamil Bystrický
Performed by: Juraj Bakoš or Kamil Bystrický and Človek
Music: Richard Lalík, Martin Fačkovec
Production and choreography: Tomáš Plánka

Conceived and directed by: Kamil Bystrický

Dogma Theater's 20th premiere:

Slovak premiere: December 30, 2021

The project received financial support from the Slovak Arts Council and the city of Trenčín

Video trailer: <https://youtu.be/fUXA3JKwtMA>



Photo: Dogma Theater: Top Dogs 2021, Radovan Stoklasa

Re: Capitulation (2021)

What does theater mean to you? Does it even have a meaning? Company members answer this and many other unasked questions, one by one. The creators' video of the production with the central motif of investigating different perspectives of the theater as such. The theater collective considers the meaning of theatrical art, and not only looks back on more than 25 years of activity but also raises questions that have nothing to do with theater, at least on the surface.

Conceived by: Kamil Bystrický, Tomáš Plánka

Text: Juraj Bakoš, Kamil Bystrický, Martina Kedrová, Ivan Kubica, Tomáš Plánka, Oskar Pompa

Performed by: Juraj Bakoš, Kamil Bystrický, Martina Kedrová, Ivan Kubica, Tomáš Plánka, Oskar Pompa

Music: Martin Fačkovec

Video: Peter Kotrha, Dušan Bustín

Artwork: Vlado Ďurajka

Choreography: Tomáš Plánka

Director: Kamil Bystrický

Dogma Theater's 21st premiere:

Slovak premiere: December 31, 2021

The project received financial support from the Slovak Arts Council and the city of Trenčín

Video trailer: https://youtu.be/_mVi2ndwIIU



Photo: Dogma Theater: Re: Capitulation 2021, Radovan Stoklasa

Binding performance (2022)

A picturesque scenic collage performed by one actor and his shadow. A mixture of asymptomatic words, false emotions, and a game that leads nowhere. Meaning is lost in senselessness, the motives of the action are unclear. A discotheque of ego and pathological manifestations forced onto boards that should mean this so-called world. Theatre as a project full of twists, doubts, and babble.

Conceived and directed by: Kamil Bystrický

Performed by: Tomáš Plánka alt. Kamil Bystrický

Music: Martin Fačkovec, Richard Lalík

Dogma Theater's 22st premiere:
Slovak premiere: 28.9.2022

The project received financial support from the Slovak Arts Council and the city of Trenčín

Video trailer: <https://youtu.be/4PFoV90jXd4>



Photo: Dogma Divadlo: Binding performance 2022, Radovan Stoklasa