

On searching for a guide, on positive pessimism and on the play "The Mycelium of Dreams"

3 current texts concerning our work

“Theatre as a tool for civic activity” – this was the title of the partnership project* that we implemented in the 2023/2024 season together with the Ted’ nádech a let’ centre from Prague, led by David Zelinka. The title of the project indicates an activist approach to theatre work, very close to both “Węgajty” and David. We have a lot in common, but we worked on different paths: While we, the Węgajty Theatre, remained on the path of carol singing, Shrovetide and Easter traditions, David's path has led towards Ukrainian refugees struggling with the effects of the war.

After returning from one of his Ukrainian theatre trips, during a joint conversation about his impressions and conclusions, a phrase emerged that was to stay with us: “What's the point?” We began to ask ourselves anew the question of the sense of making theatre in our safe Europe, in the face of the horror of wars taking place just below our borders. This question became the starting point of our Polish-Czech-Ukrainian panel at the end of the project.

Below we would like to present two statements from this panel that were particularly important to us: a text by Jana Pilátová from Prague's DAMU about searching for an external and internal guide in times of growing fear and uncertainty, and a presentation by Tomasz Rakowski about a new way of anthropological thinking, anticipating the layers of pessimism in human culture and about positive inspirations in art related to pessimism.

At this point, we would also like to give you an insight into our own, current theatre work. Joanna Sarnecka's text "The Underground Internet of Mushrooms - Towards That Which Cannot Be Seen" is a review of the play "The Mycelium of Dreams" directed by Waław Sobaszek, developed as part of the project mentioned at the beginning.

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