



Yuri Lyubimov International Theatre Award 2020 – Theodoros Terzopoulos

The Yuri Lyubimov International Theatre Award has been created in honour and memory of the outstanding Russian Theatre and Opera director Yuri Lyubimov (1915-2014), the extremely well-respected stage director who enjoys a high esteem in the performing arts community all over the world. His performances were innovative and unique, first in the Soviet Union and, after he lost his citizenship in his country of origin, also around the world. Due to his unique approach to theatre and opera, the best theatre and opera venues in Europe and the United States invited him to create his master pieces in their location – even though he was “stateless”, a migrant without legal documents. After the creation of the Russian Federation, Yuri Lyubimov could return to his home country, received a passport and could continue his work.

In the memory of his achievements, every year the Lyubimov Foundation and ITI are selecting an outstanding theatre personality to be awarded with the Yuri Lyubimov International Theatre Award.

In the past the Award was always given to at event around the birthday of Yuri Lyubimov at the end of September, the first in Moscow to Anatoli Vassiliev and the second one to Tadashi Suzuki in Saint Petersburg. Due to the pandemic there will be no event in 2020. The event will happen in 2021 as soon as travels are possible and such event can happen.



Nevertheless, the jury of the Yuri Lyubimov International Theatre Award (Katalin Lyubimova, Natalia Isaeva, Anatoli Vassiliev, and Tobias Biancone) decided to announce the Awardee 2020 to you.

Theodoros Terzopoulos

Theodoros Terzopoulos, Stage Director, Educator, Author and Founder of the Theatre Olympics.

Theodoros Terzopoulos is an outstanding theatre personality who has received local and international acclaim for his artistic and educational work. He is famous for staging Greek tragedies by Aeschylus, Sophocles and Euripides as well as contemporary plays for the most eminent European and Greek writers. He directed in Greece and abroad and collaborated with significant performers. Theodoros Terzopoulos and his Attis Theatre, that he founded in 1985, have presented more than 2100 performances all over the world throughout 35 years.

Since 2013 he is leading every year the international summer workshop "The Return of Dionysus - The Method of Theodoros Terzopoulos" for young performers and directors. He has been awarded with many Theatre Prizes in Greece and abroad. Books on his working method and Attis Theatre have been published in Greek, English, German, Turkish, Russian, Italian, Polish, Chinese, Mandarin, Korean and Arab. The book of his Method, titled *The Return of Dionysus* was published in 2015 and since then has been translated in many languages.

„Theatre has great power, and that power has to do with the body: the breath of a living organism on stage unites with that of the spectator, and the spectator

looks for this live relationship. Theatre functions more holistically, it stimulates and provokes much more." Theodoros Terzopoulos (Quote of an interview led by Penelope Chatzidimitriou in Critical Stages/Scènes critiques, The IATC journal/Revue de l'AICT, June/Juin 2017: Issue No 15



Theodoros Terzopoulos & Yuri Lyubimov at the Taganka Theatre in Moscow, 1993

The jury is happy that Theodoros Terzopoulos is accepting the Award. The Award Ceremony will happen in Delphi, in Greece, at an appropriate possible time in 2021 which will be announced in an ITI Newsletter.

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