

Nada Kokotović, director and choreographer - president of the jury



Nada Kokotović was born in Croatia, and she studied classical and modern ballet, film and theatre directing and philosophy in Zagreb. Growing up in a culturally diverse, cosmopolitan and artistically experimental Yugoslavia, as a young dancer and

choreographer, she was given the opportunity to work with renowned contemporary composers (Bruno Maderna, Karlheinz Stockhausen, Milko Kelemen) and directors. He spent five years at the Accademia Musicale Chigiana in the class of Clotilde and Alexandre Sakharoff. She was a member of the HNK Ballet in Zagreb, a member of KASP (Chamber Ensemble of Free Dance, Zagreb). Talented and ambitious, in the late '70s, she received a two-year IREX and Ford scholarship in the United States, where she worked with George Balanchine at the New York City Ballet. She staged productions off-Broadway as well as at the New York City Opera (Alice Tully Hall).

After her stay in the USA, she introduced choreodrama into the Yugoslav cultural space as a new theatrical form and has since made more than a hundred productions. Together with Ljubiša Ristić, she founded the multiethnic, multicultural, multilingual theatre project KPGT. They toured Yugoslavia, Mexico, the USA, Australia and Europe. The war in Yugoslavia and the political disintegration of the homeland forced her, as a cosmopolitan by conviction, to abruptly terminate her career in this region. In 1992, Nada Kokotović emigrated to Germany.

Despite the loss of her language, longtime friends and colleagues, her creative power did not wane. As a freelance director and choreographer, she has been realizing her own productions, and together with her artistic and life partner Neđo Osman, they co-founded the TKO Theatre (Theatre Kokotović / Osman) in 1996 in Cologne, where, among other things, they worked on a series of plays "Postwar Dramaturgy" based on the works of Dubravka Ugrešić, Slavenka Drakulić, Biljana Srbljanović, Goran Stefanovski...

So far, Nada Kokotović has done 78 plays in Germany. She has performed and worked in many theatres: State Theatre in Tübingen, Saarland State Theatre in Saarbrücken, Dance Forum in Cologne, Stuttgart State Opera, City Theatre and the Constance Opera, Summer Theatre Überlingen, Mainfranken Theater Würzburg, Castle Theatre Moers, Komissarzhevskaya Theatre in St. Petersburg (Russia), Theatre in Kaiserslautern, Theater Rigiblick in Zurich (Switzerland), CZKD Belgrade, National Theatre Bitola (North Macedonia), Croatian National Theatre Ivan pl. Zajc in Rijeka (Croatia)...

Unfortunately, after 2000, grounds for her arrival and professional engagement in Serbia have been sporadic and rare.

Jasmina Dimitrijević, actress



She was born in Smederevska Palanka. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Acting from the Faculty of Arts in Pristina under the mentorship of prof. Milan Plećaš. She got her degree in English Language and Literature from the Faculty of Philology.

She attended a regional educational platform for musical theatre "11 countries" conducted by choreographer Bill Hastings in 2015.; several workshops in the field of: jazz ballet (Chat Walker), step dance (Mojca Horvat), jazz singing (Vladana Marković), vocal techniques (Ana Sofrenović) as well as Egon Savin's masterclass on directing in amateur theatre.

She is a permanent member of the Princely Serbian Theatre in which she has been performing from 1998 in almost 30 productions. Notable roles: Ana (*Doctor Shoemaker*, D.Kovačević), Vida (*The Bereaved Family*, B.Nušić), Angelique (*Hotel Paradiso*, Ž.Fejdo), Varvara Stritzesky (*Migrations*, M.Crnjanski), Dara (*The Cabinet Minister's Wife*, B.Nušić), Ecatherine Davidović (*Miracle by Joachim*, R.Z.Dorić), Catherine (*The Night in the Titanic Inn*, I.Andrić/N.Bradić), Jelisaveta (*Jelisaveta's Love Woes over a Painter*, M.Jelić), Jessie (*In Fact, a Theatre*, D.Bošković), Helena (*Midsummer Night's Dream*, W.Shakespeare), Edith Piaf (*Little Sparrow*, N.Ilić), Woman (mother, wife, daughter-in-law) /Pub Singer (*Two Hundred*, P.Mihajlović), Anna Andreyevna (*The Government Inspector*, N.V.Gogol).

She has also performed in productions of the National Theatre in Belgrade, Terazije Theatre, Opera & Theatre Madlenianum, Cultural Institution Palilula, Cultural Centre Rex, cooperating with directors such as Boro Draškovic, Kokan Mladenović, Jovica Pavić, Nebojša Bradić; also she performed at the Great School Class at Šumarice in 2017., in theatre troupes Shelter, Ariadne, Theatron and Comedy Theatre.

Awards: Annual Award of the Princely Serbian Theatre 2016 and Little Liska at Mostarska Liska Festival, both for the role of Jelisaveta (*Jelisaveta's Love Woes over a Painter*); Special Award for Partnership Play (with Nada Jurišić) for the performance *In Fact, a Theatre*, at the International Festival of Russian Drama "Friendship Bridge" in Yoshkar-Ola, Russia, 2016.

She has landed roles on film: *The Tour*, *6 Days Dark*, *Tears for Sale*, *Inside*, *Little Trader*; in TV series: *My Cousin from the Countryside*, *From the Lives of Famous Mathematicians*; in numerous radio dramas for Radio Belgrade and in cartoon synchronizations for Studio Loudworks.

She is also engaged in translating, especially English and French poetry.

Radmila Petrović, poet



She was born in 1996 in Užice. She grew up in Stupčevići near Arilje. She graduated from the Faculty of Economics in Belgrade, where she is currently completing her master's studies. As the laureate of the 42nd Lim River Poetry Evenings, she published

a collection of poems "The Scent of Earth" (House of Culture "Pivo Karamatijević", Priboj, 2014), and as the winner of the 22nd Poetry Competition "Desanka Maksimović" she published a collection "Cellulose Rock 'n' Roll" (SKZ and Valjevo Gymnasium, Valjevo, 2015). She has been represented in anthologies, domestic and international journals. She has participated in numerous festivals and poetry readings across Europe. Her third collection of poetry, "Mom Knows What's Happening in the Cities," published by PPM Enklava in early summer 2020, has sold over 7,000 copies. The same collection was published in North Macedonia in 2021, and the Polish and German editions are in the works. Her poetry has also been translated into English, French, Greek, Italian, Slovenian, Spanish, Hebrew and other languages. She has been a scholarship holder of the Government of the Republic of Serbia. She has stayed at writing residencies in Skopje (Reading Balkans) and Berlin (Traduki).