

The 33rd edition of The International Festival of Theatre Schools

SETKÁNÍ/ENCOUNTER, organized by the Janacek Academy of Music and

Performing Arts, is coming. Save these dates: from the 28th of March to the 1st

of April 2023.

At the end of March and beginning of April next year, the 33rd edition of the International Festival of Theatre Schools SETKÁNÍ/ENCOUNTER will take place. For a week, Brno will once again become the epicentre where theatre artists from all over the world concentrate and connect every year. That is why the theme **Anthills** was chosen for this edition of the festival.

'An anthill is a space of concentration and cooperation. Concentration in one place contrasts with today's individualised and overcrowded society. In opposition to globalization stands the concentration at one point, the centre and its immediate surroundings. Calming and anchored in one point. To connect these concentrated points means to collaborate and to rest around a centre of gravity to which we can return. A meeting of schools is a meeting of ant colonies. Swarming is a way of being, the pulse of life, and a common goal.

What is necessary for this common swarming? An anthill is a place of strict hierarchy. Each ant has its own place and task. However, is this hierarchy sustainable in the world of theatre? What are the roots of this hierarchy? In what situations can a hierarchy be useful? And in what cases is it merely an artificially maintained habit?'

The director of the festival will again be doc. MgA. **Michal Zetel**, Ph.D. The festival's venues have also been kept, namely the stages of the Experimental Theatre Center: Husa na Provázku Theatre, Sklepní scéna, and HaDivadlo, as well as the JAMU theatres at Studio Marta and Divadlo na Orlí. For this 33rd edition, unlike in

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previous years, three ambassadors have agreed to participate – three as a symbol of many anthills around us. Three TV and theatre actors and JAMU graduates – Jana Plodková, Václav Neužil and Jaroslav Plesl – have accepted the role of the faces of the festival and will appear together in the festival's TV spot.

Specific information related to the program and the further course of the festival will be provided in the next press release. News and updates can be found on our social networks: Facebook SETKÁNÍ/ENCOUNTER, Instagram @setkani_encounter and on the website www.encounter.cz

The project is co-financed by the governments of the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia through Visegrad grants from the International Visegrad Fund. The mission of this fund is to promote the ideas of sustainable regional cooperation in Central Europe. Furthermore, this festival is created with the financial support of the City of Brno and the State Fund for Culture. The festival receives patronage from the Minister of Culture of the Czech Republic, the Governor of the South Moravian Region, and the Mayor of the City of Brno. The main media partner is Česká televize. Thank you for all your support.

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