

Theater

NATIONAL KAUNAS DRAMA THEATRE

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The National Kaunas Drama Theatre is the oldest professional theatre in Lithuania which was founded on the 19th of December, 1920.

During its years of existence, this cradle of professional drama survived the change of different names. In November of 2012 it gained the status of the national theatre for nurturing national dramaturgy, consistent educational activity and repertoire which distinguished by its idiosyncratic creative touch. Thus, now this theatre is

called The National Kaunas Drama Theatre.

The history and the present of this theatre is marked by names of such eminent directors such as H. Vancevičius, J. Jurašas, J. Vaitkus, G. Padegimas and G. Varnas. Directors of younger generation such as A. Jankevičius, A. Areima, V. Bareikis, E. Kižaitė are also actively and productively creating and realizing their ideas. The theatre's troupe consists of 33 actors as well as visiting actors.

The theatre was established instead of the former "Metropolitan A cinema which was situated in an Art Deco style building, dating 1928. At present the interior of this building is revived and has changed after the renovation. Yet, it has not lost the aura of the former theatre. Spectators see the redecorated interior, new spaces for performances and the cafe. The main Stage Lobby is used for art exhibitions. After the renovation of workshops and the Main Stage, the modernization of stage equipment, sound and lighting systems and the establishment of a hall for rehearsals, the theatre has deserved the status of the most modern theatre in the entire Baltic region.

At present four stages located in the main building and the smaller stages in wing building are used. They are the Main Stage, the Small Stage, Ruta's Hall, the Long Hall. Each season about 350 events take place and 60 000 spectators visit the National Kaunas Drama Theatre. During a season spectators can enjoy 5 to 6 openings, an educational festival for young people "Dive Into the Theatre A and at least one international festival or project. In collaboration with BA and MA technical translation students from Kaunas University of Technology, some plays of the theatre are provided with a simultaneous translation, and in collaboration with the Institute of Languages, Literature and Translation Studies, Kaunas Faculty, Vilnius University, some plays are adapted for people with visual and hearing impairment.

The repertoire consists of 30 plays for children, young people and adults. The active season of the theatre lasts from September till June.