

POST-RELEASE I INTERNATIONAL PUPPET THEATRE FESTIVAL **«BALTIC PUPPETWHIRL»**

The «Baltic Puppetwhirl» International Puppet Theatre Festival took place in the town of Viborg, Russia from the 15th to the 22nd of September 2019 as a part of a big cultural programme in honor of The Year of Theatre in Russia and the 90th Anniversary of Union Internationale de la Marionnette (UNIMA), run with support of the Ministry of Culture of Russia and the Committee on Culture of Leningrad area.

Organizer of the Festival - «The Sacred Fortress» State Drama and Puppet Theatre

Project Supervisor – Eugeniy Tchaikovskiy, Chairman of the Committee on Culture of Leningrad area.

President of the Festival – Yury Labetskiy, Artistic Director of «The Sacred Fortress» State Drama and Puppet Theatre, Honored Artist of Russia.

18 theatres from 7 countries took part in the Festival. They came from Argentina, Spain, Norway, Poland, Russia, Finland and Estonia.

The main platform of the Festival was «The Sacred Fortress» State Drama and Puppet Theatre (4, Sportivnaya st., Vyborg), and other 6 welcoming sites of Leningrad area: House of Culture in Vyborg, The Forest stage in the «Monrepos Park» Museum Reserve, House of Culture in Vsevolozhsk, House of Culture in Svetogorsk, Cinema and Concert Hall in Priozersk, «April» Drama Theatre-Studio in Lodeynoye Pole.

During the week of Festival spectators of Vyborg saw over 20 performances, two of which were shown, out of the contest, by the organizer of the Festival – «The Sacred Fortress» Theatre.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE FESTIVAL:

- To revive the festival creative movement in the Baltic lands, which was launched in Vyborg in 1992 under the auspices of «The Sacred Fortress» Theatre, when there was held the first Puppet Theatre Festival in the Baltic called «Nord Balt Puppe», which later moved to and took root in the neighboring countries.
- To broaden professional skills of the festival participants.
- To strengthen personal and international connections among the creative individuals and theatre companies.
- To develop theatre arts and to show the audience modern creative trends and tendencies of the puppet theatre in different countries.

- Chairman of jury Nikolay Naumov – Dean of the Puppet Theatre Department of the Russian State Institute of Performing Arts (RSIPA), professor, Honored Cultural worker of Russia, Laureate of the «Apart» Theatre Award (Russia).

- **David Burman** – President of the International Festival KUKART, theatre director and producer, member of UNIMA, AVIAMA, ENCATC. Member of the Expert Council on non-state theatres of the Committee on Culture of the Administration of St. Petersburg.

- **Amela Vuchenovich** - Actress, director, playwright, senior tutor of the directing and performing arts department of the RSIPA puppet theater. Founder and artistic director of the «Baikamela» puppet theatre in Belgrade (Serbia).

- **Faina Kostina** – Actress of the E. S. Demmeni Puppet Theater, People's artist of Russia, member of UNIMA, laureate of «Golden soffit» - the highest theater prize of St. Petersburg.

- Anna Konstantinova – Theatre expert, theatre critic, Doctor of Art History.

- Sergei Murzin - Theater and cinema actor, senior tutor, associate professor of St. Petersburg State Institute of Culture.

- Catherine Ometsinskaya - Journalist, theatre critic.

AT THE END OF THE FESTIVAL THE JURY AWARDED:

«CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION» in

I INTERNATIONAL PUPPET THEATRE FESTIVAL «BALTIC PUPPETWHIRL» was awarded to:

- «FONARIK» PUPPET THEATRE (Estonia) for the performance of «The Gift of the Sea King»
- TEATRO LOS CLAVELES (Spain) for the performance of «Seven Goatlings»
- SMALL PUPPET THEATRE (Russia) for the performance of «Humpty Dumpty»
- «MAMI» THEATRE (Russia) for the performance of «Prague Legends»

- DOMOVOI THEATRE COMPANI (Spain - Russia) for the performance of «Domovoi»

- «BRODYACHAYA SOBACHKA» PUPPET THEATRE (Russia) for the performance of «Snow Maiden»

PERSONIFIED «CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION» in

I INTERNATIONAL PUPPET THEATRE FESTIVAL «BALTIC PUPPETWHIRL» FOR CERTAIN ARTISTIC MERITS OF PERFORMANCES AND THEATERS was awarded to:

- «RUSLAN VOLFSON THEATRE» (Russia) – <u>«For innovations in the development of the artistic</u> language of puppet theater» in the performance of «The Happiest Octopus»

- «RUSSIAN PUPPET THEATRE» (Estonia) – «For the culture of scenic speech» - actors of «The Golden Words» performance Anastasia Pylaeva and Roman Maksimuk



- TUULEVESKI THEATRE (Estonia) – <u>«For the culture of stage existence»</u> in the performance of «The Tales of an Old Mill»

- THEATRE GROUP TAIGA-MATTO (Finland) - <u>«For the original music accompaniment»</u> for the performance of «Saga about a small Viking, Audun».

LAUREATES of

I INTERNATIONAL PUPPET THEATRE FESTIVAL «BALTIC PUPPETWHIRL» IN NOMINATIONS are:

- <u>«Best Actress»</u> - **Sara Don**, for the role of the Warm in the performance of «Cirque du Gusanei», ALQUIMIA TITERES (Argentina)

- <u>«Best Actor»</u> - **Wagner Gallo**, for the role of the main hero in the performance of «ERROR 404», ANGELES DE TRAPO (Spain)

- <u>«Best Director's concept of the play»</u> - **Jacek Malinowski**, the performance of «History of Prince H.», BIALYSTOK PUPPET THEATER (Poland)

- <u>«Best acting Duo»</u> - **Kjersti Iversen** and **Jimenez Palacios**, the performance of «Because I love you», SKROMLEHJULET FIGURTEATER (Norway)

- <u>«Best scenography»</u> - **Maria Gladkikh**, the performance of «Tales of Chaliapin», «BEZ ZANAVESA» THEATRE (Russia)

GRAND PRIX of

I INTERNATIONAL PUPPET THEATRE FESTIVAL «BALTIC PUPPETWHIRL» IN NOMINATION <u>«Best performance»</u> was awarded to:

- «Sigo aqui» performance, direction by Pablo Aguiar, ALQUIMIA TITERES (Argentina)

IN ADDITION, THE JURY OF THE FESTIVAL AWARDED:

SPECIAL JURY PRIZE - <u>«For the idea and organization of I International Puppet Theatre</u> <u>Festival «Baltic Puppetwhirl»</u> to «The Sacred Fortress» State Drama and Puppet Theatre (Russia).

«**CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION**» - For participation in the club (non-competitive) program of I International Puppet Theatre Festival «Baltic Puppetwhirl» was awarded to:

- TRAINING THEATRE of RSIPA (3^d and 4th year students in specialty «Puppet Theatre Actor», supervisors N.P. Naumov and A.Vuchenovich) for performances «Christmas Dream» и «Our Petersburg»

- «APRIL» DRAMA THEATRE-STUDIO IN LODEYNOYE POLE for the performance of «Tutta Karlsson + Ludwig XIV =»

The organizing committee of the Festival thanks for the support: The Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, the Government of Leningrad area, the Committee on Culture of Leningrad area, Municipal Union «Vyborg district of the Leningrad area», the Union of Theatre Workers, the International Union of Puppet Theatres «UNIMA», the Federal Party Project «Culture of Homeland», the Consulate General of Spain in Russia, participants and spectators of the Festival!

See you at the «BALTIC PUPPETWHIRL»!