Państwowa Wyższa Szkoła Filmowa, Telewizyjna i Teatralna im. Leona Schillera w Łodzi



Studia doktoranckie

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The summary of the doctoral dissertation entitled:

"Destruction of the personality of a socially engaged man on the background of xenophobic and anti-Semitic movements in creating the role of Jakub Kac in "Our class" by Tadeusz Słobodzianek

In the introduction to my work, I introduce the subject of my dissertation and I present the general assumptions of the drama entitled "Our class". I explain why I decided to write about the play by Tadeusz Słobodzianek. I mention how I built the role of Jakub, what methods I used (Bert Hellinger's system settings), how I dealt with the search for the key psychological factors leading to depression (destruction) and self-annihilation. I also draw the reader's attention to the popularity of the drama "Our Class" not only in Poland, but also in theaters around the world.

In the first chapter of my work, I present the characters of the creators of the show, Tadeusz Słobodzianek - the author and Onrej Spišák – the director. I present their professional lives, which have many points of contact in artistic terms. I describe their mutual fascination with creativity and subsequent stage productions made in team work.

In the second chapter, I pay attention to the role of history in the Słobodzianek's drama. I describe the historical background and the social moods leading to pogroms during World War II. I also present some archival press materials and descriptions by the witnesses of the Jedwabne pogrom. I quote what prompted T. Słobodzianek to write "Our Class". I describe the structure of the drama and characters, including Jakub Kac.

In chapter three, I introduce the whole role-building process, including the course of the entire creation in the performance. I begin with participation in improvising acting group workshops with other artists and moderators from various fields of science. I draw conclusions from these meetings. I give the report from the trip to Jedwabne in order to capture the topography of life of the inhabitants of that time, their torture and their burning in a barn. I find Jacob Kac's house and describe the first rehearsals at the Drama Laboratory. In the beginning of building the role, I refer to Bert Hellinger's system settings, which are invaluable in looking for the personality and character of Kac. I play the role in detail, scene by scene with my own reflections taking into consideration the tips of both the author and the director. While exploring the destruction of my character's personality, I look for answers in psychological studies describing similar clinical cases. I find the causes Jacob's depression there.

In the fourth chapter, I describe the alternative and anti-theatrical methods of work that were used during the production and presentation of the performance. Above all the term - "site vision" as the key word to conducting the staging.

In conclusion, I write about the impact of my role and the entire production on viewers. I describe the evolution of the performance over the ten years of operation. I draw conclusions and reflections for me as a man and an actor.