

## SUMMARIES JULY 2006

### Opening Column

#### **MARK SOOSAAR. How Long Is the Ancient Roman Rule Divide and Rule Going to Last?**

Critical vision of a member of the parliamentary culture committee about Estonian cultural policy, where much depends on what field of art the minister is directly connected. Creative people are additionally dependent on the political party in power in their home region or on Toompea.

### Replies

#### **UDO KASEMETS**

Märt-Matis Lill's longer interview with composer and conductor Udo Kasemets who is of Estonian origin, but has been living in Canada for years. Kasemets, internationally known as the promoter and expander of the ideas of John Cage, was the guest of honour at this year's festival „Estonian Music days“.

### TV Nosy Parker

#### **KRISTA MAAJÄRV. Estonia of „Estonian Tales“**

The article tackles six last half-hour documentaries, made last year in the series „Estonian Tales“: Rein Kotov's „6 Hours“ about cruise tourists visiting Estonia, Liivo Niglas's „Julgi's Might“ about the young Livonian girl Julgi Stalte, Valentin Kuik's film „Direction“ about director Peeter Simm, Marek Miil's „Is the Best Enough?“ about judo wrestler Aleksei Budõlin, Aivo Spitsionok's „Forest Brothers at the Bed“ about Aino Lepp who has researched the guerrilla movement, and Madli Lääne's „National Sport“ about the internet portal Rate.ee.

### Persona Grata

#### **CHALICE**

Short portrait of the singer, composer and poet Jarek Kasar (b 1983) whose pen name is Chalice. The hugely popular musician has been busy in theatre as well: he composed music for Tiit Ojasoo and Ene-Liis Semper's „King Ubu“, and in autumn he will play Faust at the Von Krahl Theatre accompanied by his own music. Author of short portrait is Rein Pakk.

### THEATRE

#### **MADLI PESTI. Criterion – remarkable**

From 5 to 21 May Berlin hosted the 42nd the annual German-language festival Theatertreffen. According to the author, the main trends this year was documentary theatre and experimental interpretations of classics.

#### **PILLE-RIIN PURJE. One Year in Rakvere Theatre, from Spring to Spring**

An overview of the last season of Rakvere Theatre, called preparatory by the author. The keywords: restlessness, creative searching, sense of humour, eagerness to play, keeping close together and optimistic view of life.

### **EVA-LIISA LINDER. XXII Year**

Overview of the 22nd class graduating last spring from the drama department at the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre. Their supervisor was Priit Pedajas.

### **To be Responsible while Jolly and the Other Way Round**

The 22nd class talks about their studies and teachers.

### **MADIS KOLK. Manifesto of Non-play**

A group of Russians from Estonia graduated this spring from Oleg Tabakov's school-studio in Moscow, and according to previous agreement, they joined the Tallinn Russian Drama Theatre. Their first work in theatre was „We Won't Play Today” directed by Merle Karusoo and Toomas Lõhmuste. This continues Karusoo's trend of documentary biographical theatre, consisting of entries in the students' diaries.

### **PEETER RAUDSEPP. Refusing Motion I**

Collection of translated articles by various authors on Vsevolod Meierhold's biomechanics.

## **MUSIC**

### **VOLDEMAR OLTSVEL. Anthem to Violin**

The article reviews anthems of Russia at different periods of time.

### **HEILI EINASTO. Tales Written with Body and Sound I. Thoughts at a Performance of Finnish National Opera in Spring 2006**

The first part of the article examines the modern dance performances presented during the choreography festival of Nordic countries NOKO 2006: Kitt Johnson's solo „Passage”, Pär Isberg's „Bachspace”, Tommi Kitti's „Pasos nuevos”, Odd Johan Fritzo's „Frusen blomning”, and a performance outside NOKO dedicated to the Mozart year, „Mozart-balletit” : George Balanchine's „Divertimento 15” and Jiří Kylián's „Petite mort” and „Sechs Tänze”.

## **CINEMA**

### **LINNAR PRIIMÄGI. Worthless Film**

Very critical review of Jüri Sillart's (b 1943) new feature film „Golden Beach” (Taska Productions, 2006). The reviewer fails to find a single worthy or significant idea in Hans Luik's screenplay, and claims the film is full of primitive signs and clichés. Besides, allegedly eclecticism rules instead of ensemble.

### **JAAK RAND. Wow! Tallinn!**

Another review of Jüri Sillart's film „Golden Beach”. The writer firstly claims that whatever happens with or in an Estonian feature film, the critics nearly always adopt a negative attitude. He then reminds the viewer that a film must be received differently from the story, as the visual side plays an important role. The script here

nevertheless suffers of weak dialogues. At the same time he praises the acting, the abundant fantasy and video usage.

### **RAIT AVESTIK. A Lot of Ado About Nothing Much**

Review of Roman Baskin's (b 1954) TV-film „Visit of an Old Lady „(Estonian Television, MTÜ Kell Kümme, Exitfilm, 2006), based on Friedrich Dürrenmatt's play of the same title. The film also celebrated Ita Ever's 75th birthday. The writer remembers a lot of talk before the film was started and when it was being made, but the completed work has met almost total silence from the critics. The reviewer liked the material, timeless topics, exciting plot and actor-friendly characters. Alas, the scenes and dialogues often seem to stand apart, choosing prominent actors for the most insignificant roles is somewhat excessive, as they have nothing to play. However, the reviewer is very happy with the main characters and some actors in minor roles.

### **JAN KAUS. Superorganic Animation**

The longer article examines four animated films: Aina Järvine (b 1973) and Meelis Arulepp's (b 1965) animated film „Little Short-sighted Boa“ (A Film Estonia, 2006), Pärtel Tall's (b 1977) puppet film „The Carrot of the Theatre“ (Nukufilm, 2006), Riho Unt's (b 1956) puppet film „ Brothers Bearhearts“ (Nukufilm, 2005) and Mait Laas's (b 1970) animation in combined technique „Generatio“ (Nukufilm, 2005). The author focuses on „Generatio“, which also belongs in the joint full-length film of six former eastern bloc countries, „Lost and Found“ that connects five short features. The critic, chairman of the writers' union, considers „Generatio“ the best achievement of last year's animated films. Kaus argues with Jaan Tooming's recent opinion in the weekly paper Sirp who claimed it was not fashionable today to write about intellectual pursuits, truth, goodness and beauty, and emphasise these qualities in theatre and film.

### **ESTER VÕSU, PILLE JÄNES. Tadeusz Kantor's Re-personification in Animated Heterotopias**

Thorough analysis of Jelena Gurlin (b 1979), Mari-Liis Bassovskaja (b 1977) and Urmas Jõemees's (b 1963) puppet film „The Table“ ( Nukufilm, 2004). The critics, theatre semioticians, interpret the film from feminist point of view, also relying on Michel Foucault's treatment of „other“ rooms or heterotopias. They also introduce the theatre-related ideas of Tadeusz Kantor that are evident in the puppet film „The Table“ with an extremely complicated structure.

### **ANNIKA KOPPEL. Kira Muratova's Tuned World**

The article analyses the work of Kira Muratova (b 1934), one of the best known Russian film directors, focusing on her last full-length feature „The Tuner“ ( 2004).

### **ILJA HRŽANOVSKI. It is Difficult to Talk about Morals in the Context of Art**

Elen Lotman's interview with the Russian film director Ilja Hržanovski (b 1975) who was the guest at the one but last Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival. He talks about the making of his feature film „4“ (2004), the opposition of the authorities and about the situation in Russian filmmaking today.