

Press release | 8 August 2022

The tenth Theatre Night with the theme of Heroes

The annual tenth Theatre Night will traditionally take place on the third Saturday in November – 19 November 2022 – with the theme of HEROES. The biggest theatre festival will offer tours, theatre workshops, discussions with the creators, shows, and performances for free or a symbolic entrance fee. The retrospect of the past years of the event in photos and texts can be found in the book *Theatre Day and Night*, which you can buy in the [PROSPERO e-shop](#). More information at www.nocdivadel.cz.

Theatre Night 2022 | Heroes

The topic of this year's Theatre Night is Heroes. The visitors will have a chance to meet the heroes of the plays as well as theatre work and backstage. Like every year, the topic will reflect current social issues that are mirrored in theatre. *"The political development in Europe in the past few months has strongly affected the Czech Republic as a stable part and the presiding country of the European community and demonstrated that we need heroes more than ever before. The Theatre Night invites the theatres and audiences to reflect on the heroism of everyday life and the new normal that the current climate, political and health crisis challenges us with,"* says Martina Pecková Černá from the Arts and Theatre Institute who has coordinated the Theatre Night in the Czech Republic since 2013.

The Theatre Night is part of the international project [European Theatre Night](#), which started with Noc Kazališta in Croatia in 2008. The idea of a joint theatre celebration has spread to more than ten countries in Europe. The Theatre Night in the Czech Republic is the biggest project of the European Theatre Night as far as the number of visitors and participating theatres and institutions are concerned. The project aims to offer a comparable cultural experience to projects focusing on other cultural fields, such as Literature Night or Museum Night. The night of open theatres and extraordinary experiences has presented Czech theatre creatively in an unusual form for ten years.

10 years of the Theatre Night in the Czech Republic

The history of the Theatre Night in the Czech Republic is mapped in the Czech-English book *Divadlo dnem i nocí/Theatre Day and Night*, which provides a retrospective of the past editions in photos and texts. You can buy the book in the [PROSPERO e-shop](#) for CZK 219 and it will be possible to buy it in the **ATI** information center (Celetná 17, Prague 1) and selected theatres at the Theatre Night.

More than 80 companies from 24 Czech and Moravian towns participated in the first Theatre Night in 2013. The attendance exceeded 40,000 visitors. The second edition of the Theatre Night (**The Year of Czech Music**) with its scope and rich program became the biggest theatre celebration of Theatre Nights in Europe. The Theatre Night took place in 29 towns with 114 participating Czech and Moravian companies and theatres, with an attendance of 50,000 viewers. The third edition in 2015 referred to the power of community and solidarity, supporting the **Na dřevě** campaign. The Theatre Night has contributed to raising consciousness about the need for blood marrow donors for patients with leukemia and provided free tickets to participating theatres for those who enlisted in the donor registration centers. In 2017, the Theatre Night celebrated five years since its foundation and focused on young audiences with the motto **Forever Young** as well as workshops, educational activities, escape rooms, fighting games and popular afterparties.

The date of the 6th edition of the Theatre Night in 2018 symbolically took place on 17 November but was also associated with many historical anniversaries that are important for the Czech Republic: the 100th anniversary of the foundation of Czechoslovakia and 25 years since it became the independent Czech Republic and Slovakia. The topic was the **Czech-Slovak Theatre Cooperation**. The motto was chosen by the Theatre Institute Bratislava, the coordinator of the Slovak [Theatre Night](#). The 7th Theatre Night (**Theatre and Freedom**) took place on 16 November 2019 on the eve of the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution. The program featured discussions with the contemporaries and partakers in social and political changes after 1989, lectures, exhibitions, installations, performances, and other events.

The 8th Theatre Night had a significantly different form than in previous years. Theatre got together with audiences only through online platforms. The motto of the event **Theatre and Sustain-Long-Ability** became more clamant than the organizers expected due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. Last year's ninth edition promoted **Fresh Air** when the participating theatres presented fresh releases, innovative approaches and the reflection on the pandemic situation that has deeply affected live culture.

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