

**71<sup>ST</sup> DUBROVNIK SUMMER FESTIVAL**  
2020  
CROATIA

**CITY PUPPET THEATRE SPLIT**

**Ana Marija Veselčić**

# **HOME DWELLERS**

*in co-production with the Split Arts Academy*

WRITTEN/ DIRECTED/ PERFORMED  
**ANA MARIJA VESELČIĆ**

MENTOR  
**GORAN GOLOVKO**  
*(associate professor)*

LIGHTING DESIGNER  
**ALEKSANDAR DENIĆ**

**CENTER FOR ADVANCED  
ACADEMIC STUDIES DUBROVNIK  
(CAAS)**  
17 JULY  
9.30 PM



*For her drama 'Home Dwellers', Ana Marija Veselčić won the 27th Croatian Theatre Award for Best Premiere of a Contemporary Croatian Dramatic Text or Best Dramatisation, Adaptation or Dramatic Text Interpretation or Dramaturgy of a Play.*

Home Dwellers is a colloquial term for children without adequate parental care who grow up in children's homes. According to the latest data, around 800 children in Croatia live in children's homes. After they turn 18, or 21 at best, they lose the right to accommodation and care provided by the institutions.

Home Dwellers is a project created for the final exam at the Split Arts Academy, Theatre Arts Department, Acting study programme, under the mentorship of Professor Gordan Golovko.

Home Dwellers is a play about invisible children. About children who could have better options than staying in children's homes, but while the system gets systematised, while it officially receives and processes documents, their childhood is on hold. Eventually most of them reach legal age, when they have to leave children's homes and, deprived of any kind of home, start living independently.

*'You leave our hole when you're eighteen. Unless you go to college - then you get to live in the home apartment. My brother Dario will be here for another ten years and I will be here for two more and then we'll both be independent. I think it's funny. Your birthday starts at midnight, you turn eighteen, get your papers, pack your things and leave to be independent.'*

*- Lela, 6 (excerpt from the play)*

Home Dwellers are real, they really exist and this is their story.

Actress and author of this play, **Ana Marija Veselčić** was introduced to audiences through a series of successful roles in Split theatres. She has also won a number of prestigious professional awards and recognitions: the Croatian Theatre Award for Outstanding Achievement of Young Artists Under Age 28 - Female Role for the role in Perplex, a co-production of the PlayDrama Theatre and City Youth Theatre Split; Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role at the 23rd Yugoslav Theatre Festival in Užice for the role of Bianca in the production of The Taming of the Shrew of the Croatian National Theatre Split; Best Actress Award at the Pozorište Zvezdarište Festival for the role of Tonka in the City Puppet Theatre Split production of Šporcki Špiro i Neposlušna Tonka. All plays were directed by Ivan Plazibat.

