

ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

***Time of Aretej* Documentary premiered at Jadran Cinema**

Dubrovnik, 21 August 2022 – The Croatian Radiotelevision documentary *Time of Aretej* was premiered **last night, 20 August at the Jadran Open-air Cinema**. The film was created on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the premiere of the play *Aretej* at the Dubrovnik Summer Festival, and along with the editor, screenwriter and director **Lada Džidić Barić**, the Festival's Artistic Director **Dora Ruždjak Podolski** addressed the gathered audience with a few words on the film and on *Aretej*.

– The play *Aretej* left a mark on the Dubrovnik Summer Festival and paved the way for a new, brave and uncompromising site-specific theatre. Thanks to Croatian Radiotelevision and the author Lada Džidić Barić, we have the opportunity to remember that exceptional production and celebrate that which makes the Dubrovnik Summer Festival special, namely the ambience and the setting. This play overcame the pitfalls of every possible spatial issue, but it also overcame time, making it truly unique in the Dubrovnik Summer Festival's history – said director **Dora Ruždjak Podolski**.

The documentary film *Time of Aretej* tells about the phenomenon of the play *Aretej*, which was performed for thirteen years, about the circumstances under which it was included into the repertoire, about its creation, the choice of the space in which it would be performed, the acting methods and the director's own concepts. The actors who performed it, their audience, extras, theatre critics, theatre experts, and the citizens who still recounts scenes that are a kind of symbol of the dramatic program of the Festival talk about the longest-running play at the Dubrovnik Summer Festival. Its importance is evidenced by the fact that the director Georgij Paro introduced contemporary writers precisely with this play into the drama programme of the Festival, which until then was based exclusively on the staging of classical works, thereby opening a new chapter of festival drama.

In addition to the editor, screenwriter and director **Lada Džidić Barić**, the rest of the creative team consists of sound engineers **Krunoslav Ljubanović** and **Mario Mačešić**, **Ivan Bilušić** and **Boris Zimšek** who did the lighting, composer **Eva Kalogjera**, director of photography **Damir Petričić** and lead editor **Mladen Radaković**.

The Dubrovnik Summer Festival – the centre of Croatian and global spirit and culture, a place of creation and not just a place of visit, a place of community, ideas and new artistic expressions, is traditionally supported this year by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Croatia, the City of Dubrovnik, the Dubrovnik-neretva county, Dubrovnik Tourist Board and numerous sponsors Euroherc, Mastercard, HEP, ACI club, ALH, Kraš, Coca-Cola, Croatia Airlines and TuttoBene and donors Caboga Stiftung foundation, OTP bank, and other benefactors who helped bring this most prestigious cultural event in Croatia to fruition.

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