

Látókép Ensemble
Szabolcs Hajdu
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Introduction of company/director/choreographer, artistic statement:

Látókép Ensemble is a creative community led by Szabolcs Hajdu, producing works for theatre and film. It is an open community, where each artistic project brings about a new alliance between its members.

Director and scriptwriter **Szabolcs Hajdu** began his career as an actor. In 2001 he directed his first feature film, *Sticky Matters*, which received recognition at several Hungarian and international film festivals. It was followed by *Tamara*, a film based on Hajdu's successful theatre production of the same title. *White Palms* and *Bibliotheque Pascal* (the former premiered at the Cannes Film Festival and the latter at the Berlinale) received dozens of national and international awards, and were Hungary's Oscar nominees in 2006 and 2010, respectively.

Hajdu wrote and directed the theatre performance *Not the Time of My Life* in 2015. Based on the play, he produced a film with the same title, which received the Crystal Globe (the grand prize of the Karlovy Vary film festival), while Hajdu received the award for best actor. Following *Tamara* and *Not the Time of My Life*, *Kálmán Day* can be regarded as the third part of Hajdu's trilogy of chamber theatre performances.

If relevant, any other activities of artist – i.e. teaching practice, workshops, history as guest direction/choreography etc.:

Hajdu regularly holds workshops and masterclasses at universities and film festivals, in Mexico, Portugal, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Germany and Romania, to name just a few.



Title of production:	Kálmán Day
Year and place of premiere:	2017.04.24., Debrecen – Páholy Lakásszínház
Length:	90 min
Cast, creative team:	Writer and director: Hajdu Szabolcs
	Cast:
	Orsolya Török-Illyés
	Nóra Földeáki
	Domokos Szabó
	Imre Gelányi
	Szabolcs Hajdu
	Stage: Antal Balázs
	Music: Hevesi Nándor
	Production's coordinator: Eszes Fruzsina
	Light: Bántó Csaba
	Sound assistant: Teszler Tamás
Coproducers:	National Cultural Fund of Hungary, Páholy Lakásszínház
	– Debrecen, Regional General Arts Center – Szeged, B32
	Gallery and Culture Space, Budapest
Past international tours and	2017, TESZT Festival, Temesvár
festival presentations	
(venue/festival, city)	
Number of performers:	5
Total number of people on tour:	8
Basic technical requirements	
Size of stage (width x depth x height) technical rider attached	

Synopsis/Description of performance:

Kálmán Day is about the time of life when the characters realise that everything is just repetition, with no further important turns or twists to anticipate, and no more risk taking, only maintaining hold of what they already have, because there is no time or energy left to start again.

The stories are always the same, only as time passes, they keep reappearing in different refractions of light. In order to make these fundamental stories sound authentic, one has to find the suitable language and tone. This is a powerful motivation for all of us. To bring the archetypical characters to life and make them contemporary, so that they can be recognised and identified. The aim is to catch the present in the act, to seize it, and, through identification, to trigger further thinking and present a basis for solving problems.

The story – our story – is seemingly simple, a nuance, an extremely common case, a trivial matter. And it is precisely this tiny bit that we want to show. Because we believe that what is invisible on paper becomes visible on stage, that small things become larger, just the right size for them to be identifiable, to provide a basis, confirmation, or perhaps even consolation for the spectator.



Review extracts with links:

"...Hajdu and his team continue to speak genuinely about the problems of middle-aged intellectuals, but, similarly to Not the Time of My Life, they don't stop at raising a problem, but carry on to offer a solution. As in the previous works by Hajdu's ensemble, Kálmán Day is also imbued with an attitude towards life that says, 'we must move forward' and 'we must not give up'. Besides raising questions and making us think, they also recharge our energies, so we leave the theatre with a huge smile on our face. We can now dare, at last, to think that life is actually not that terrible after all."

http://artandgo.hu/2017/04/20/hajdu_szabolcsek_megint_megcsinaltak

"Kálmán Day is really good. There is probably not a single studio theatre or apartment in the country whose tiny audience would be able to resist its power. This bittersweet yet subtly funny diagnosis of middle age, a tragi-comedy of failures that compels us to grimace in discomfiting reflection, is bound to be a success. In our uneasiness all we can do is award this quiet and meticulous revelation of our grievances with lengthy applause." **Tamás Tarján, szinhaz.net,** http://szinhaz.net/2017/04/10/tarjan-tamas-mindig-van-valami/

"Hajdu has moulded his text in a way that allows the profound tensions of the 90-minute show to dissolve in humour; as a result, the shocking and funny moments alternate with a rapidity that makes the audience members feel as if they were caught in a rapid current, only momentarily able to stick their heads above the water. This rhythm strikes us with a sense of strangeness in the barren and minimalist space, where the actors have to rely almost entirely on their bodies alone to create the desired effect..." Árpád Kulcsár http://multikult.transindex.ro/?cikk=26663