

**ILDIKÓ GÁSPÁR (DIR.) / ÖRKÉNY**  
**ISTVÁN THEATRE**  
**HENRIK IBSEN: SOLNESS ('120)**

25 NOV 16:00

[@Örkény](#)

opened: 2022

In Hungarian with English subtitles/simultaneous translation



PHOTO: Judit Horváth

*"Ildikó Gáspár's minimalist staging, created for an intimate studio space, centres Ibsen's late drama on a generational conflict. In her reading, the once admired Solness has been transformed by midlife crisis into a cynical power technician, only really interested in how to prevent the younger generation, breathing down his neck, from thriving. He enamours even his young office manager (Emőke Zsigmond), who loves him dearly, not because it would bring him any pleasure, but because he wants to use her to crush the ambitions of her fiancé Ragnar (Csaba Polgár) to become an independent man. Pál Mácsai, the director of the Örkény István Theatre, masterfully portrays the narcissistic man who, for lack of real performance, is mostly clinging to his own personal cult: he brings his manipulative techniques to their climax in a dialogue with his child victim (Mária Szaplanczay), who returns after ten years, and expects even the audience to sing a song in his praise. And let us not think that Mácsai has been rewarded with a benefit performance in the institution he directs: the fact that Polgár, who plays Ragnar, is also the artistic director of the Örkény Studio, places his performance in a self-ironic perspective. With a tight dramaturgy and excellent ensemble acting, Solness makes essential statements about a problem that characterises not only the Hungarian public life (in theatres)." **Beatrix Kricsfalusi, curator***

**ILDIKÓ GÁSPÁR** is a Hungarian theatre director living in Budapest, working at Örkény Theatre and in several international productions in other European countries, like Germany, Sweden, Latvia, Lithuania, and Serbia. She does not only create productions as a director, but also does adaptations, translations, and rewritings for her productions.

She took part in scholarship programmes in the USA and Germany, and held workshops in theatre universities in Budapest (Hungary), Vilnius (Lithuania), Helsinki (Finland), Stockholm (Sweden).

**CONTACT**

Julcsi Szabó

[szj@orkenyszinhaz.hu](mailto:szj@orkenyszinhaz.hu)

+36 30 956 97 30

Web ▷▷ [orkenyszinhaz.hu](http://orkenyszinhaz.hu)

**CREDITS**

Halvard Solness, master builder: Pál Mácsai

Aline Solness, his wife: Gabriella Hámori

Doktor Leo Erdal, physician: György Bajomi Nagy / Sándor Terhes  
Bertha Brovik, formerly an architect, now in Solness's employment: Judit Pogány

Ragnar Brovik, Brovik's son, a draftsman: Csaba Polgár  
Frida Fosli, a book-keeper: Emőke Zsigmond

Hilde Wangel: Mária Szaplanczay

Director: Ildikó Gáspár

Dramaturgy: Barbara Ari-Nagy

Music: Flóra Lili Matisz

Set design, costumes: Luca Szabados

Film: Gergely Pálos, András Juhász

Media design: András Juhász

Assistant-stage manager: Henrietta Kovács

Prompter: Csilla Mészáros

Lights: Csaba Andor Balogh

Sound: Illés Baranyai, Tamás Móni

Video: György Ulrich, István Kónya

Translation: Ildikó Gáspár (EN)

Proofreader: László Móznér (EN)

**BASIC TECHNICAL INFO**

Stage: medium/large

Travelling crew: 27