



JERZY LIMON

inspiration
dialogue
polemics

invitation

Dean of the University of Gdańsk
prof. dr hab. Piotr Stępnowski

Director of the Gdańsk Shakespeare Theatre
Agata Grenda

Vice-president of the
Theatrum Gedanense Foundation
Justyna Limon

and

Chairman of the conference Organizing Committee
dr hab. Jacek Kopcinski, prof. IBL PAN

have the honour to invite you to
an International Academic Conference

JERZY LIMON
Inspiration, Dialogue, Polemics

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27-28 May 2022
Gdansk Shakespeare Theatre

Conference Jerzy Limon: Inspiration, Dialogue, Polemics

Professor Jerzy Limon, an eminent theatre theorist and historian, literary scholar, writer, essayist and translator, passed away on 3 March 2021. Professor Limon was a renowned Shakespearean and scholar of Elizabethan drama, a historian of English theatre of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and the author of some pioneering works on the activities of English actors on the Continent (*Gentlemen of a Company: English Players in Central and Eastern Europe, 1590–1660*; *Gdański teatr “elżbietański”* [Gdańsk ‘Elizabethan’ theatre]), early modern public and court stage (*Dangerous Matter: English Drama and Politics in 1623/24*; *The Masque of Stuart Culture*) and Shakespeare’s frivolous wordplay (*Szekspir bez cenzury* [Shakespeare uncensored]). He was also a theatre scholar studying the communication situation and the ways of generating meaning in live theatre, radio theatre, and television drama (*Trzy Teatry. Scena, telewizja, radio* [Three theatres. Stage, television, radio]; *Piąty wymiar teatru* [Theatre’s fifth dimension]; *Obroty przestrzeni. Teatr telewizji. Próba ujęcia teoretycznego* [Revolutions of space. Television drama. Attempt at a theoretical approach], *Brzmienia czasu. O aktorstwie i mowie scenicznej* [Sounds of time. On acting and scenic speech]).

He also applied his theoretical findings to the study of the mechanisms of semiosis in performances of different epochs (*Między niebem a sceną. Przestrzeń i czas w teatrze* [Between heavens and the stage. Space and time in theatre]). His theoretical research was summarised in *The Chemistry of the Theatre: Performativity of Time* (Palgrave Macmillan). Jerzy Limon’s oeuvre also includes literary works written in the original apocryphal formula (e.g., *Münchhauseniada* [The Munchauseniad]; *Wieloryb. Wypisy źródłowe* [The Whale. Sources]; or *Koncert Wielkiej Niedźwiedzicy* [A Concerto of Ursa Major]) and translations into Polish of early modern and contemporary plays, including Thomas Middleton’s *A Chaste Maid in Cheapside* and William Shakespeare’s *Antony and Cleopatra* and *Troilus and Cressida* (with Władysław Zawistowski), and Tom Stoppard’s *Arcadia*, *The Invention of Love*, *Artist Descending a Staircase*, and *Shakespeare in Love*.

Jerzy Limon was also a visionary founder and director of the Gdańsk Shakespeare Theatre, a long-time director of the Gdańsk Shakespeare Festival, a university lecturer, and initiator of many scholarly and artistic projects.

A year after his premature death, we are planning to hold an international conference which will consist of several panel discussions reflecting Jerzy Limon’s respective fields of activity and academic interest: “Shakespeareana,” “Archives,” “Theories,” “Narratives,” “Translations,” and “Actions.” Using the ideas of *Inspiration, Dialogue, and Polemics* as our points of departure, we would like to invite you to a lively conversation on the selected aspects of Jerzy Limon’s scholarly output, literary oeuvre, and organizational activity. We strongly believe that the conference formula will reflect the style and disposition of Jerzy Limon, and the collected volume we are planning to publish will deepen the knowledge and understanding of his extraordinary achievement in Poland and abroad.

PROGRAMME

27 May

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10.00–10:30**Conference opening**

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10:30–12:30**THEORIES: theatre theory as formulated by Jerzy Limon**

Panelists:

Jacek Fabiszak, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań

Tomasz Kubikowski, Theatre Academy, Warsaw

Patrice Pavis, Université Paris 8, France

Tomasz Wiśniewski, University of Gdańsk

Moderator: Sylwia Dobkowska, University of Gdańsk

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Coffe break

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13.00–15.00**ARCHIVES: Jerzy Limon's use of historical sources,
his findings in the field of theatre history
and his vision of time and history**

Panelists:

Patryk Kencki, Institute of Art of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw

Jarosław Komorowski, Institute of Art of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw

Olga Kubińska, University of Gdańsk

Dobrochna Ratajczak, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań

Stanisław Rosiek, University of Gdańsk

György Endre Szónyi, University of Szeged, Węgry

Moderator: Jacek Fabiszak, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań

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Lunch break

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16.00–18.00

**SHAKESPEAREANA: Shakespearean subject matter
in Jerzy Limon’s research on theatre and drama**

Panelists:

Michael Dobson, The Shakespeare Institute, Stratford-upon-Avon, Wielka Brytania

Marta Gibińska, WSE Kraków

Małgorzata Grzegorzewska, University of Warsaw

Jay L. Halio, University of Delaware, USA

Aneta Mancewicz, Royal Holloway, University of London, Great Britain

Ronan Paterson, Teesside University, Great Britain

Moderator: Agnieszka Żukowska, University of Gdańsk

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Coffe break

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18:30–19:00

**„A Tribute to Maddness” – opening of the exhibition celebrating
30-years of Theatrum Gedanense Foundation and the history
of Gdańsk Shakespeare Theatre.**

PROGRAMME

28 May

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10.00–12.00

NARRATIVES: Jerzy Limon’s literary output

Panelists:

Artur Blaim, University of Gdańsk

Małgorzata Jankowska, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań

Jacek Kopciński, The Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences,

Warsaw

Zbigniew Majchrowski, University of Gdańsk

Marek Wilczyński, University of Warsaw

Moderator: Stanisław Rosiek, University of Gdańsk

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Coffe break

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12.30–13.00

**Fragments of prof. Jerzy Limon fiction translated
and performed by David Malcolm**

13.00–15.00

**TRANSLATIONS: Jerzy Limon's translations of dramatic
texts and their stagings**

Panelists:

Anna Cetera-Włodarczyk, University of Warsaw

David Malcolm, SWPS Warszawa

Władysław Zawistowski, Gdańsk

Moderator: Małgorzata Grzegorzewska, University of Warsaw

Lunch break

16.00–18.00

**ACTIONS: Jerzy Limon's activities in the field of cultural
animation, including the Gdańsk Shakespeare Festival,
performances in the space of the theatre, and other
performative activities he inspired**

Panelists:

Nicoleta Cinpoes, University of Worcester, Great Britain

Robert Florczak, ASP Gdańsk

Javor Gardev, Sofia, Bułgaria

Justyna Limon, Theatrum Gedanense Foundation, Gdańsk

Phillip Parr, Artistic Director - York International Shakespeare Festival, Great Britain

Moderator: Katarzyna Pastuszak, University of Gdańsk

18:30–19.30

„Music for a while” - concert

Performing: Magdalena Gruszczyńska – soprano, Ireneusz Wojtczak – saksophones,
clarinet, flute, electronics; Tomasz Ziętek – trumpet, electronics; Mikołaj Wojtczak –
guitar, texts and David Malcolm – recitation

The conference organizers are the Gdańsk Shakespeare Theatre, Theatrum Gedanense Foundation and the University of Gdańsk, in cooperation with the Institute of Literary Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the Adam Mickiewicz Institute, and Adam Mickiewicz University. The Organizing Committee members are: Jacek Kopciński, IBL PAN (General Chair); Marta Gibińska, TEU; Jacek Fabiszak, AMU; Zbigniew Majchrowski, UG; Agnieszka Żukowska, UG and Marta Nowicka, GTS.