

Abstract:

The aim of this thesis is to provide the reader with an image of contemporary French theatre intended for children and a young audience. The thesis is divided in two main parts. The first discusses contemporary French drama for this kind of audiences, its state, trends and tendencies, described using examples of individual plays written in the past twenty years, including the latest ones. The second part of the thesis details the facets of contemporary French theatre for children and a young audience, presents the most influential directors and their specific approaches to working with this kind of audiences.

From those two outlooks of the given topic, the thesis aims to present the phenomena and specifics of French theatre for children, including comparison with the Czech equivalent. For a better understanding of what the position of French theatre for children is within the context of French culture and what influences shaped it, a part of the thesis is also a brief history of this kind of theatre in France.

The author draws from numerous monographs and articles written on the subject, from her own experience with French theatre for children, from numerous topical French conferences she attended and from an internship at Théâtre de Villeneuve.