

DESCRIPTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC (IN ENGLISH)

The Węgajty Theatre stays one of the most original phenomena of Polish theatre for the recent 35 years. The theatre's work is situated on the border of artistic and social activities. This project's objective is comprehensive development and analysis of source materials related to the collective's activities. The web archive, accessible for the general public, will assemble unique collections of iconographic materials, recordings, films, theatre objects and texts (including unpublished). The monographs will examine the different areas of the collective's activities. In addition to artistic activities, the collective's work includes cultural animation, education, art therapy and research. The team's publication (in the form of e-book) devoted to the original method of actor's work, called multi-authorship and deep democracy, will include texts by researchers and artists who have significantly influenced the evolution of the Węgajty Theatre, and comments of participants of the collective's activities coming from local communities. The source materials will be collected, analyzed and organized. In course of work on the monograph and the team's book, the materials will be supplemented with the results of field research and ideas gathered by participative observation of the collective's artistic and social activities.

The long-standing work of the Węgajty Theatre consists of a series of pioneering long-term projects, i.a. of the collaboration with the inhabitants of the Nursing Home in Jonkowo (since 1995) (the work of Teatr Potrzebny since 2009) and of caroling trips (in Christmas and Easter) to poor rural communities (Beskid Niski, Suwalszczyzna) made up also of persons at risk in social exclusion.

The ample archive of the collective's work will be an invaluable source of information for future researchers and theatre lovers. Intended books are meant to fill the gap in the publishing market. The collective's activity continues to inspire subsequent generations of creators and researchers (theatrolgists, sociologists) in Poland and abroad and deserves further analysis. The monograph of the history of the Węgajty Theatre and the study of the original method of actor's work will be a significant contribution to the theatre and performance research carried out in Europe.