

Child's Eyes See Everything
Rače Primary school theatre group PA – – –

Katarina Simončič, *Head of the Regional Theatre and Puppet Theatre Department*

Matjaž Šmalc, *Head of the National Theatre and Puppet Theatre Department*

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Rače

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Date: 1st July 2015

The grade for Gledališka skupina PA – RA – RA – RA (PA – RA – RA – RA Theatre group) established by the Slovene AITA/IATA National Centre, which guarantees that they represent Amateur Theatre in Slovenia and approves the choice of the group and the performance at the 14th World Festival of Children's Theatre Canada 2016

(in accordance with the article 5 of the Application Process)

Though young, the Rače Primary school theatre group PA – RA – RA – RA is extremely perspective and propulsive group. It has won most prestigious national award – Zlata plaketa, and is therefore classified as the best children's theatre group in Slovenia.

A decision to select the Rače Primary school theatre group PA – RA – RA – RA was therefore a relatively simple one.

Katarina Simončič, *the Head of regional theatre and puppet theatre department* at Republic of Slovenia Public Fund for Cultural Activities, suggested that I nominate the Rače Primary school theatre group PA – RA – RA – RA for the preselection.

I have known this group for the last two years and the idea to nominate them for the 14th World festival of children's theatre did not surprise me. I have found that children in this group are extremely talented which they again proved on this year's Children's Theatre Group Meeting with a new and innovative performance, which once again completely mesmerised audience as well as professional public.

Their nominated show, *Otroške oči vidijo vse (Child's Eyes See Everything)* perfectly coincides with the festival's theme My world, our planet. The show emerged within eponymous arts and literary competition held each year at their school. The story highlights today's fast pace of living, where people cannot take time for our dear ones anymore, at the same time it thoroughly focuses the child's perception and emotions to various situations.

The greatest value of the performance is its non-classic presentation; all relations, situations and emotions are expressed with a movement and singing the "pa – ra – ra – ra" syllables to a melody of a well-known song. Different emotions are clearly represented by different dynamics and volume of singing, all accompanied by precise movements.

The play is very suitable for international audience because the plot has no words so the audience can easily follow the visual story.

Considering all these reasons, it was a pleasure to confirm Katarina Simončič's recommendation to send them to Canada to represent Slovenia at the 14th World Festival of Children's Theatre.

Matjaž Šmalc, *Head of the National Theatre and Puppet Theatre Department* at the Republic of Slovenia Public Fund for Cultural Activities and Chairman of Slovene AITA/IATA National Centre

