

Pressemeddelelse:

Merete Hegner prisen gik i år til den kunstneriske leder af Festival of Wonder Ulla Dengsøe



Ved åbningshøjtideligheden af Festival of Wonder d. 9. november overraskede Tine Eibye fra Randers Egnsteater den kunstneriske leder, Ulla Dengsøe, efter hendes åbningstale ved at overrække Merete Hegner prisen til hende.

Tine Eibye var sidste års modtager af prisen, som består af en statuette af Charli Rivel.

Da skuespilleren Merete Hegner (f. 1952) havde 25 års jubilæum på Aarhus Teater i 2006, blev der indstiftet en pris i hendes navn. Prisen består af en lille klovn, der forestiller berømte Charlie Rivel og er en slags kunstnerisk stafet, der tildeles til en ildsjæl inden for drama/teater eller tilsvarende kunstnerisk virke.

Tine Eibys tale er på engelsk, da en stor del af de 700 tilskuere var fra alle egne af verden.

Tine Eibye siger:
Dear Ulla – dear all guests celebrating this great Festival of Wonder. My name is Tine

Eibye, producer at Randers Egnsteater – and I have been allowed to take a few minutes of your time. A few, but important minutes, since I have a prize to award. A prize given to you, Ulla Dengsøe, for your unique and exceptional work realizing this fantastic international puppetry festival. A festival for grownups, for children in all ages, for ... people.

It is an important and respected professional artistic festival for the municipality of Silkeborg, but it is also a unique festival in a national and international context.

I could use hours to praise the importance of this festival's ability to present specular and innovative puppet

performances to a large audience. But Ulla, today I am here to salute you! You, as the unique artistic director, you are. You as an amazing woman, making dreams come through. For you – and for all of us! This prize is named after a great actress, Merete Hegner. When she celebrated her 25th anniversary as an actress, at Aarhus Theatre – this prize was ordained. And every year it is given to a very special artistic woman, making a difference, in the Danish theater landscape.

So it was easy to decide, that the prize should go to you! You are unique. You are uncompromising, when it comes to curating the best – only the very best – of theatre, for your AND Silkeborgs Festival of Wonder! Every year, you and Poul travel all over the world to visit festivals and to do the very important networking. So we, here in Denmark, can experience the very, very best of Puppet Theatre. In so many highly professional expressions.

Ulla, you are a member of a lot of committees and you have won several awards – you and the Festival of Wonder. But this prize, Hegner Prisen 2017, is **not** for the festival – it is **only** for you, Ulla! Because you are a wise, professional, artistic, visionary woman. You are a loving person and a gifted artistic director. This price has been given for several years, often to theater executives, such as Sarah Topsøe and Gitta Malling. This year it is for you, Ulla! Thank you! You are amazing!