

**POSUDEK VEDOUČÍHO DIPLOMOVÉ PRÁCE:**

Příloha k protokolu o státní magisterské zkoušce.

**DIPLOMANT: DUMAS Elie Dominique**

**Obor: Režie ALD anglicky**

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Elie Dumas wrote about projects that work with machine instead of human body and about theatre without actor. Elie Dumas's thesis **Performing the Machine and Theatre Without Actor** shows very expended understanding of theatre and performance that goes from happening to sculpture as machine (performative object) to giant puppets. Examples include work in visual arts and theatre performance mainly from the 1960' to 1990'. Core examples of the work are represented by Jean Tinguely, Yves Klein, Tadeusz Kantor and Royal de Luxe.

Elie Duma's rightly points to the main questions connected to the topic that have dramatic potential, a certain kind of paradox, such as: machine and feeling, difference between human and machine and the question if that difference can be erased within work. Second important question Elie raises is creating new reality via the use of machine – making the unreal. Third important question is the question of control – control over machine, control over the feelings etc. that has great dramatic (dramaturgical) potential. And in the Royal de Luxe example especially: how puppets through becoming machines become humans.

Descriptions of projects are very clear as well as Elie Dumas's interest in the projects and the subject. The relation between the part 'performing the machine' and the part of 'theatre without actor' could have been organized differently in the thesis: not as two separate parts but as overlapping and interacting. This might have created more effective connections and collisions between the two very close subjects. And I also wish Elie included at least one contemporary example since especially 'theatre without actor' is one of the most interesting topics in contemporary performance practice and theory.

But what is important is that Elie Dumas thinks like an artist and organizes his thoughts like an artist. The thesis is maybe not organized in ideal way for theoretical thinking but it is a clearly organized inspirational material (for Elie's future work) and the question he raises clearly have potential for future creative work.

I recommend this thesis for evaluation.

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**Mgr. Sodja Zupanc Lotker**

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