

TUTOR ´S REPORT OF MASTER ´S THESIS:**STUDENT: Aleinikovas Arnis****Study programme: Directing of Devised and Object theatre / MA DOT****MASTER ´S THESIS TUTOR: doc. MgA. Sodja Zupanc Lotker, Ph.D.**

In I am just cooking. Being, performative healing and the catastrophe in the times of COVID Arnis Aleinikovas describes developments in his artistic developments during the course of his studies at KALD DAMU Master in Directing Devised and Object Theatre, that was influenced by the spread of Covid-19 in the Czech Republic since March 2020.

Arnis explored performative presence and searched for different ways to connect in the times when being in the theater space together was forbidden for the most time. This presence and connections aimed at finding ways to provide oneself and other with possibilities of healing, of being heard, of being with others. The work can be described with three words the best: media, presence and healing. From live streaming everyday activities in Room and the Apartment that Arnis has experienced first by live streaming his own self and also with a group of his fellow students, to Pulse, and Fragmented Realities performances made for Zoom platform, Arnis explored presence of mediated audience, audience that is away yet watching, surveilling; and how he presence of that gaze influences everyday actions to become performance.

Healing in Arnis's work, does not come just from words but from moving together, it comes from rhythm, rhythm of being together, rhythm of breathing together.

Arnis has showed that he is capable of working with large groups of people, of inspiring them and leading them to create work that communicates. He also showed that he is capable of training non-dancers to create complex movement and rhythmic systems. His work with media dramaturgy, absences and presences, connections and cuts, shows great talent for working with fiction and reality in performance.

And in this thesis Arnis has showed that he is capable of describing his own needs, decisions and methods with depth of understanding as well as contextualizing with ideas of other artists and thinkers.

I recommend this thesis for the defense.

Date: 13.06.2022

.....

signature