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**LENA LAGUSHONKOVA RECEIVES  
THE EUROPEAN NEW TALENT DRAMA AWARD 2022**

**EMBARGOED until Sunday, 20 November, 6:30 p.m.**

The Ukrainian playwright Lena Lagushonkova has received the European New Talent Drama Award 2022 in Stuttgart. The prize money of 25,000 euros is awarded every two years by the SRH Holding Foundation.

Petra Olschowski, Minister of Science, Research and Arts, said the following on the occasion of the award ceremony in the Stuttgart Kammertheater:

"The European New Talent Drama Award sets an important emphasis on strengthening the focus on young European contemporary playwrights and thus modern drama. This award highlights the role of theaters as places that connect us across Europe and around the world, and through which we are in an intensive artistic, socio-political and cultural exchange on the current issues and events of our time. This year's winner, Lena Lagushonkova, in particular, shows how valuable the work of young authors is for contemporary drama, the examination of the present, and the relevance of theater."

Prof. Dr. Christof Hettich, CEO of the health and education company SRH, which funds the award, stated:

"In my view, one of the important roles of art is to illuminate society, subject it to critical scrutiny and generate new ideas. It is often young artists who contribute a different, fresh and particularly critical view of the state of society. They do not follow well-trodden paths but make new ones. Our aim is to reward this openness and readiness to take responsibility in society. That is why SRH funds the European New Talent Drama Award.

Lena Lagushonkova is an artist who does not follow beaten paths; she creates her own. As a 'path creator' she is a worthy recipient of the European New Talent Drama Award 2022."

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Schauspiel director Burkhard C. Kosminski declared the following in his welcoming words: “I have long had a special wish to promote young people in the dramatic arts. Lena Lagushonkova is a highly talented playwright with unique qualities that make her a deserving recipient of this award. I am especially pleased that we have been able to present one of her plays thanks to the work of a team from Ukraine during recent weeks in Stuttgart. This at least has opened an opportunity to become acquainted with her work. I hope that we’ll be able to continue our cooperation with Lena Lagushonkova. My thanks go to SRH Holding and its CEO, Prof. Dr. Christof Hettich, for again providing generous support.”

The European New Talent Drama Award, with its 25,000 euro prize money, is awarded every two years by Schauspiel Stuttgart. It is funded by SRH Holding, whose CEO is Prof. Dr. Christof Hettich.

This year’s sole juror was Marius Ivaškevičius, Lithuanian playwright, essayist, prose author, screenwriter, journalist and director, who also delivered the presentation speech.

The award winner Lena Lagushonkova was born in Stanytsia Luhanska, Ukraine, and studied at the History Faculty of the University of Luhansk. At present she is living in Poland. Her work to date encompasses eight plays, which were first performed in theatres in Kyiv, Kharkiv and Odessa. She worked with the Young Theatre and PostPlay Theatre, co-curated projects for the National Association of Theatre Activists of Ukraine and is a co-founder of the Theatre of Playwrights in Kyiv. She writes in her plays about life in the Ukraine against the backdrop of violent changes since the 1990s, the Maidan protests and the occupation of eastern Ukraine. Based on fragments from everyday life, her plays depict war, poverty and devastation in a spare, direct language that mixes comedy and tragedy.

Following the award presentation, Lagushonkova’s play *Мать Горького / Gorki’s Mother* was performed under the direction of Maxim Golenko. The premiere was in the Kammertheater on 18 November.

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The audio-visual installation *Kein Kirschgarten (No Cherry Orchard)* by Luda Tymoshenko and Anna Scherbyna opened on the same afternoon in the lobby of the Stuttgart Schauspielhaus. It will be there until the end of the year.

**PRESS PHOTOS**

Press photos of Lena Lagushonkova are available [here](#).  
Press photos of the award ceremony will be available [here](#) starting on 20 Nov 22, 8:00 p.m..

**TICKETS**

Online

[www.schauspiel-stuttgart.de/spielplan](http://www.schauspiel-stuttgart.de/spielplan)

Orders by telephone

0711 - 20 20 90

Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Box office sales in the lobby of the Schauspielhaus:

Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (without subscription)

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