

## **Abstract:**

This thesis deals with the role and position of the spectator during the period of the Great Theatre Reform. It situates the phenomenon into historical context and surveys the changes the phenomenon went through at the turn of the 19th and 20th century. The thesis also describes the most important changes in the architecture of theatre buildings and in scenography that influenced and transformed the role of a spectator. Furthermore the thesis offers a number of examples of recognized theatre practitioners, not excluding their essays and treatises, that proves the shifts and movements in the debate over the extent of the activity of audience. Apart from theatre practitioners, this thesis also includes remarkable ideas of theatre and literary theoreticians from given time period.

## **Keywords:**

Spectator, Great Theatre Reform, theatre studios, active spectator, passive spectator