

Press Release  
Prague, May 17, 2007

**New Project of the Theater NABLÍZKO and the Czech Chamber of Sign Language Interpreters presented in English/ Unique is also the method of theater interpretation**

# ZAHRADA / THE GARDEN INTERPRETED INTO THE INTERNATIONAL SIGN LANGUAGE

**Jiří Trnka – Apolena Vynohradnyková**

After successful, several years long cooperation, the Theater NABLÍZKO and the Czech Chamber of Sign Language Interpreters have decided to prepare an English version of this cult title of Czech literature for children interpreted into the international sign language. The performance has been played in its original Czech version since its Opening Night on December 5, 2006. During six months it has been played, the performance has captured hearts of many children and also adult viewers, and it was positively received by professional theater public.

**Opening Night Performance: May 20, 2007 at 5 p.m. in Small Nostic Theater/Malé Nosticovo divadlo (Permanent stage of the Theater Nablízko)**

*Stage Director and Dramatization: Apolena Vynohradnyková*

*Interpretation to the sign-language: The Czech Chamber of Sign Language Interpreters*

*Set design: Jiří Sopko*

*Music: David Hlaváč*

*Cast and Interpreters: Farah Bunninová, Tim Curry, Nad'a Dingová, Martina Mirovská, Petr Reif, Klára Richterová, Petr Vaněk*

*Translation of the Dramatization (A.Vynohradnyková): Robert Russell, the Czech Chamber of Sign Language*

*Language Supervision: Robert Russell*

*Sign Language Supervision: Tim Curry*

## INTERPRETATION TO THE SIGN LANGUAGE

What makes the Czech as well as the newly presented English version of the Garden truly unique is the completely **new way of interpreting to the sign language**. The performance is formed right from the beginning as a play of which the sign language is an integral part. Thus there will be performing five actors-interpreters and just two actors-non-interpreters on the stage. As a result of that the performance will offer full theater experience for hearing impaired children and adults also, without the regular public missing out on something.

The theater NABLÍZKO was the first one in the Czech Republic and the whole Europe, which used the 'shadow' interpretation in its successful performance of Tracy's Tiger. An initiator of this project - the Czech Chamber of Sign Language got inspiration from the experience of **theaters in the United States**. There, as well as in our theater, the plays were interpreted simultaneously. However, the presence of the interpreter sitting on the stage could distract hearing audience, and hearing impaired viewers couldn't be fully satisfied either because they were forced to roam between actors and the interpreter. So the new idea of 'shadow' interpretation has been created, when every actor has its shadow-interpreter, who is moving with him/her on the stage.

### THE GARDEN of Jiří Trnka

The Garden is the **family performance**. This charming story written by famous Czech artist Jiří Trnka, who also illustrated its first edition in 1962, will enjoy not only pre-school and school children, but also their parents. Scenic look of the magic world, which Jiří Trnka hid into the garden behind the rusted garden-gate, was significantly influenced by artistic design of Professor **Jiří Sopko**. He is referred to be one of the prominent representatives of Czech art grotesque. His typically strong colors and original style helped to create ideal atmosphere, where three boys can experience their remarkable adventure.

English version of the Garden is one of the projects of the theater NABLÍZKO prepared after significant changes this theater went through during the last fall. The theater has begun a new era by the festival **Anew...and completely without barriers!**, where there was, among others, presented the Opening Performance of the play **Shivering of Happiness** of the art director of the theater Apolena Vynohradnyková.

More information on [WWW.NABLIZKO.CZ/STRANKA/ZAHRAIDA](http://WWW.NABLIZKO.CZ/STRANKA/ZAHRAIDA)

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Art activities of the theatre are supported by:

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