POLISH CULTURE MINISTER'S AWARD: THE WINNERS



THEATER

MAJA KLECZEWSKA

don't like boring, safe and predictable plots in theater. Theater is precious because living people speak to other living people in a single space. After the theater, one should feel moved and spurred towards reflection, or at least conflicted with the authors or oneself. To consider a theater piece seriously, the audience must be considered as a partner.

I am very pleased because this award encourages anyone who is inclined towards taking a risk with theater. I'm happy that we still believe that theater is not merely a product and that culture should not be measured by box-office revenue."

• Kleczewska, 40, is a Polish theater director, a University of Warsaw psychology graduate and a graduate of the Ludwik Solski Academy for the Dramatic Arts in Cracow, where she studied to be a director.

She made her debut as a theater director in 2000 with Jordan by Anna Reynolds and Moira Buffini, staging the production at the Juliusz Słowacki Theater in Cracow to considerable critical acclaim. Her work staged in theaters across the country also met with a positive response. This included Ken Kesey's One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest at the Szaniawski Theater in Wałbrzych, Anton Chekhov's The Seagull at the Norwid Theater in Jelenia Góra, Shakespeare's Macbeth at the Jan Kochanowski Theater in Opole, and Sarah Kane's Blasted at the Stary Theater in Cracow.

In 2006 Kleczewska was among the winners of the Paszport award from the Polityka weekly magazine, one of the most important awards for young artists in Poland.

In February last year, Kleczewska directed Shakespeare's *The Tempest* at the Polski Theater in Bydgoszcz at the end of the 16th Shakespeare Festival in that north-central Polish city.