ANTS Annual Conference 2025
Theatre and Natural Intelligence

Conference venue:
Lithuanian Theatre, Music and Cinema Museum
Vilniaus St. 41, Vilnius

Lithuanian Culture Research Institute
25–27 September 2025

DAY 1 Thursday, September 25

09:00–09:30 Registration

09:30–09:45 Welcome Address

09:45–11:15 Parallel Sessions

Panel 1 → Performing Memory and Reimagining the Past
Chair: Martynas Petrikas

Madli Pesti – Performative Strategies of Storytelling, Memory and Identity Politics. The Case of Internal Climate, Narva, Estonia

Kamilė Rupeikaitė – "No Applause, Please." Concert Programs of the Kaunas Ghetto Police Orchestra as Source of Storytelling and Memory

Helmutas Šabasevičius – Classical Ballet Heritage in Lithuania: Traditions and Experiments. Case of "Coppelia"

Hélène Ohlsson – From a Repentant Magdalene to a Societal Norm-Breaker in the Name of Love: The Unstable Memory of an Actress in Fiction and Historiography

Panel 2 → Voice and Identity in Lithuanian Performance
Chair: Asta Petrikienė

Laima Budzinauskienė – Multilayered Creativity in the Margins of 19th–20th Century Musical Manuscripts

Vytautė Markeliūnienė – Perception of Personality: the Footprint of Vlada Mikštaitė in Opera, Pedagogy and Directing

Jonas Vilimas – From Human as Mechanism to Conventional Patterns. R. Descartes, Musical Affektenlehre of Baroque and A/N Intelligence

Rasa Vasinauskaitė – Participatory Theatre: Between Mediated and Direct Experience

11:30–13:00 Parallel Sessions

Panel 3 → Soundscapes and Natural Perception
Chair: Annelis Kuhlmann

Małgorzata Budzowska – Thinking Between Breaths. Phenomenology of Stage Soundscape in the Finnegans W/Fake by Katarzyna Kalwat and Wojciech Blecharz

Leo Marko – Revealing the Concealing: Live Theatre and the Experience of Nature

Stephen Atkins – Carnality: Reframing Acting at the Threshold of Ambodiment and AI

Jūratė Landsbergytė-Becher – Intellect of Nature in Lithuanian Music: from Čiurlionis to the Hum of Light

Panel 4 → The Thinking Body: From Somatic Practice to AI-Enhanced Presence
Chair: Kamilė Rupeikaitė

Ramunė Balevičiūtė and **Agnė Jurgaitytė-Avižinienė** Exploring the Intersection of Theatre Studies, Psychology, Improvisation, and AI: A Multidisciplinary Approach to Theatre Practice

Kiki Selioni – Intelligent Body through Physical Training: The Case of Rudolf Laban

Dionysios Tsaftaridis – DMS / Dark Movement Human Spaces: Reclaiming Embodied Intelligence and Happiness in an Age of a Toxic, Artificial (audio)visual, Flattened Cosmos

13:00–14:00 Lunch Break

14:00–15:30	Parallel Sessions

Panel 5 → Digital Theatre and Revitalization
Chair: Anna McNamara

Rébecca Pierrot – Digital Theatre or the Art of Human Revitalization

Annika Ley – Performances in Museum

Marleena Huuhka – Performances in Virtual Borderlands: Case Gaza

Panel 6 → Limits, Empathy and Play
Chair: Małgorzata Budzowska

Goda Dapšytė-Šlektavičienė – (Im)Possibility of Uncensoring

Melanie Fieldseth – Practices of Memory, Empathy and Fallibility in Mette Edvardsen's Time Has Fallen Asleep in the Afternoon Sunshine

Riina Oruaas – The Ludic Laboratory of "Rat's Rumba": Play, Act, and Reflect

15:30–16:00	Coffee Break

16:00–17:00	**Keynote 1: Jeannette Ginslov – Through the Body, Beyond the Screen: Drawing Us Together in MR Encounters**
	Chair: Anna McNamara

DAY 2 Friday, September 26

09:30–10:30	**Keynote 2: Stefan Kaegi – On Transplanted Performers, Remote Controlled Audiences and Digital Tools**
	Chair: Martynas Petrikas

10:30–11:00	Coffee Break

11:00–12:30	Parallel Sessions

Panel 7 → Systems, Imagination and Participation
Chair: Ramunė Balevičiūtė

Jurgita Staniškytė – Between Interactive Gaming and Social Engineering: Theatre and Participatory Turn

Weronika Żyła – New Relations Prototyping. Human and more-than-human Coexistence in Polish Contemporary Theatre

Mischa Twitchin – The Cave of Remembered Dreams

Panel 8 → Embodied Intelligences and Cross-Disciplinary Performance Practices
Chair: Rūta Mažeikienė

Lauma Mellēna-Bartkeviča – Hybrid Intelligence Enabled? Opera "Salome" by Alvis Hermanis

Gisele Edwards – Natural Intelligence: The Neuroscience of 5 Performative Action Spaces

Birutė Banevičiūtė and **Giedrė Subotinaitė-Gabriūnienė** – Bodily Kinesthetic Intelligence in Dance Performance as Means of Communication with Non-Verbal Children Audience

Monika Citvaraitė-Lansbergienė – Contemporary Circus as a Site of Natural Intelligence and Interdisciplinary Innovation

12:30–13:30	Lunch Break

13:30–14:30	**Keynote 3: Annie Dorsen – The Real Thing and the Fake Thing**
	Chair: Jurgita Staniškytė

14:30–15:00	Coffee Break

15:00–16:30   Parallel Sessions

Panel 9 → Actor's Awareness and Psychological Insight
Chair: Hélène Ohlsson

Annelis Kuhlmann – The Actor's Backbone. On the Natural Intelligence of "the System" in Stanislavsky's Works

Merilin Jürjo – We Are Nothing Without Psychology: Understanding Theatre through the Lens of Psychological Reception

Anna McNamara – Living Experiences and the Locus of Control: Natural and Artificial Intelligence in Contemporary Performer Training

Rūta Mažeikienė – Performing AI-Augmented Dramaturgy: A Case of "The Frankenstein Complex"

Panel 10 → Ritual, Architecture and Conscious Performance
Chair: Lauma Mellēna-Bartkeviča

Knut Ove Arntzen – Theatre in-between the Ritual and Digitalized Performance

Vicky Spanovangelis – Dancing Ancestral Intelligence / Living Ancestry: Virtual and Physical Museum Architectures as Bio-Choreographic Design

Milda Al-Slamah – Chasing the 'phi': Performance as a Conscious System

Berit Aarrestad – Nature Trail for Long-Term Thinking

DAY 3   Saturday, September 27

09:30–10:30   **Keynote 4: Michael Rau – Distant Viewing, Close Reading: AI-Assisted Analysis of Theatrical Movement**
       Chair: Asta Petrikienė

10:30–11:00   Coffee Break

11:00–12:30   Parallel Sessions

Panel 11 → Artificial and Artistic Intelligence in Music, Dramaturgy and Scenography
Chair: Melanie Fieldseth

Frank Pecquet – AI and Human Intelligence in Theatrical Music: Toward a Hybrid Creation

Laura Gröndahl – Scenographic Design as an Intelligent Artistic Process

Jane Tapper – Programming in Natural Intelligence and AIs – Creativity?

Panel 12 → Audiences in Transition: Perception, Accessibility and Belonging
Chair: Madli Pesti

Keiu Virro – Theatre, Accessibility, and Human Interaction: Rethinking the Theatre's Impact on Diverse Young Audiences

Justina Paltanavičiūtė – Audience Perception and Engagement / Beyond Tradition: Technology's Role in Shaping Audience Perception of Contemporary Opera

Deimantė Dementavičiūtė-Stankuvienė – Video Technologies and National Identity in Contemporary Lithuanian Theatre