

KODÁLY ON STAGE



The news was received in May 2008 that at the time of the Hungarian Book Week, the *Kodály on Stage* volume, brought out by Osiris Publishers, won a certificate in the non-fiction category of the Beautiful Hungarian Book 2007 contest. For the cover of the book Dóra Kurucz, the technical editor received the László Tamás Memorial Award. This success is a great pleasure to us, and we congratulate to the editor Dániel Domokos Kis and Zita Burda, who contributed to editing the photos.

Kodály on Stage was a jubilee publication to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Zoltán Kodály's birth, whereby theatre history recalled the history of operatic performances. In addition to Kodály's two most popular theatre pieces (*János Hány* and *The Transylvanian Spinning Room*), two other less well-known performances are also introduced in this album, which is the pair to *Bartók on Stage*, our volume in the *Libri de libris* series published jointly by Osiris Publishers and the National Széchényi Library in 2006.

Using their representative designs, photographs and documents, the Theatre History Collection introduces the two emblematic Hungarian composers' stage

works to the educated public. "Memorial albums" revive the greatest masters of 20th century Hungarian opera and theatre, sharing with audiences some little known details. The albums contribute to painting an authentic picture of interesting chapters of our cultural history, concentrating on Bartók and Kodály and their stage productions. These sketches, however, are genuine and authentic, and they belong to the totality of Hungarian theatre, music and cultural history.

For the beautiful volumes and the high-quality photo reproductions, special thanks are due to colleagues at Osiris, with whom we have been cooperating for some time.

It is possible that we might continue our adventures into the operatic stage...

Related to the jubilee year, from November 2007 to September 2008, a chamber exhibition was held with the title *From János Hány to Panna Czinkó* in the display cabinets of the reading room corridors of the Theatre History Collection, including scenery and costume designs, playbills and photos of various productions.

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