

INVITATION TO AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Comical Types in Puppet Theatre (100 Years of Hurvínek)

9th June 2026, Západočeské muzeum, Pilsen, Czechia

18–20th June 2026, Osnabrück Figurentheater, Germany

Dear Madame/Sir,

On behalf of

Czech UNIMA Centre and UNIMA Ukraine
Department of Art History, Heinrich-Heine University, Düsseldorf
Osnabrück Figurentheater
Academy of Performing Arts, Prague
Západočeské muzeum, Pilsen
Divadlo Alfa, Pilsen
Loutkář/Puppeteer Magazine, Prague

we would like to invite you to the conference **Comical Types in Puppet Theatre (100 Years of Hurvínek)**

Research focus:

The conference will focus on the basic characteristics of comic characters in European theatre history and attempt their basic typology. Special attention will be given to the types that perform in pairs, in order to capture how their stage energy works with each other. The two-day conference uniquely combines Czech research dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the creation of the puppet character Hurvínek and Ukrainian research of the original Cossack type, the existence of which was forcibly suppressed at the time when Ukraine was part of the USSR. But the space is also open to comic types from other cultures! Do they work on the stage well even today? Are they still authentic and relevant to nowadays audience?

The first day of the conference will be held as a prologue of the national Czech puppetry showcase called **Skupova Plzeň** (from 10th to 14th June 2026). All the participants are cordially welcome to take part! For more information visit <https://www.skupovaplzen.cz/index.php>.