

SAMUEL BECKETT AND TADEUSZ RÓŻEWICZ: A COMPARATIVE APPROACH

EXERCISES

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Cover: Przemysław Wasilkowski
rehearsing his performance "SAM"
in Teatr Boto in Sopot
at the Between.Pomiędzy Festival.





Exercise 1

Realism in the absurd. Describe situations in which the most irrational and unexpected events turn out to be an everyday experience. Think of paradoxes of everyday life and situations in which the unexpected and absurd become reality. You may wish to present this in the form of a film, essay, short-story, a sequence of photographs, or any other form that you find of interest.

Exercise 2


A single image to describe the world today. For Beckett, it is a stage covered in rubbish. Can you think of the one that would work today? Would it be more optimistic? Can it be less?

Exercise 3

What was the last situation in which you were struck by silence around you? Where would you go to experience silence? Is it easy to find such a place in the world today?

Exercise 4

In a small group, try to sit together, in a circle or otherwise, for a couple of minutes. Find a good place for this. Make sure your intention is not to escape the presence of others – be as much together as possible in this mode of speechlessness. Describe the experience afterwards to others in the class.



Group project

Devise an international campaign to promote the work of Tadeusz Różewicz in the global context. Your budget is at this stage unlimited but you need to estimate costs. What kind of media are you going to use? Whom you would like to get involved? Do you think poems and plays by Różewicz need international recognition? Why? Why not? Is your campaign limited in terms of geography and cultures involved? Do you think references to internationally recognised figures such as Beckett may help in the campaign? Formulate the main slogan and the title. Suggest a logo concept. Is there any image that might be emblematic for your campaign?



All This This Here by the Sopot Dance Company. Photograph by Piotr Czarnecki

