

interior 13 THEATRE ARCHITECTURE

Specialized Theatre Buildings and Venues in Slovakia

Theatre architecture in Slovakia has a rich history. The designers of historical theatre building projects were primarily foreign architects whose creative input into the Slovak environment was a great contribution to the development of the municipal and local culture. Their projects brought the latest trends in the European contemporary thought processes.

One of the oldest preserved theatre buildings in Western Slovakia is the historical building of the Slovak National Theatre in Bratislava. The creators of this unique work in 1866 were Viennese architects Ferdinand Fellner and Hermann Helmer. On the Petržalka side riverbank in Bratislava the distinguished, originally summertime Theatre Arena from the turn of the 20th century has been preserved. It has been associated with the early years of work of one of the most acclaimed personalities of the modern European theatre, director Max Reinhardt. A specific type of architecture from the late 19th century is represented by Reduta. Within the context of local architecture, Reduta and the theatre in Spišská Nová Ves occupy a special position. The city of Martin, the seat of Matica slovenská and Slovenský spevokol, plays an important role in the history of the Slovak theatre. Here, in 1888, the first Slovak architect and developer, Blažej Bulla, built the National House, today the residence of the Slovak Chamber Theatre, which also housed the above mentioned Slovenský spevokol. A prime example of the classicist architecture inspired by the Italian Novecento movement is the City Theatre in Žilina.

The building of the Andrej Bagar Theatre in Nitra is one of the modern standalone theatre venues. The building reflects contemporary ideas about flexible and complex theatre spaces. An example of modern architecture is the new building of the Slovak National Theatre in Bratislava. Three authors created a spatial concept by blending the classical order with abstract modernism. The overall space is divided into an opera stage, dramatic stage and experimental studio with flexible configurations of the stage and auditorium.



The Slovak National Theatre, historical building 1886
Architects Ferdinand Fellner, Hermann Helmer
Scale model Ján Čisárik, Ladislav Čisárik
Photo Theatre Institute Museum/Digital Museum Project



Interior of the historical building of the Slovak National Theatre
Photo Olja Triiška Stefanović/Theatre Institute Archive



Exterior of the Spiš Theatre in Spišská Nová Ves
Photo Lubo Stacho/Theatre Institute Archive

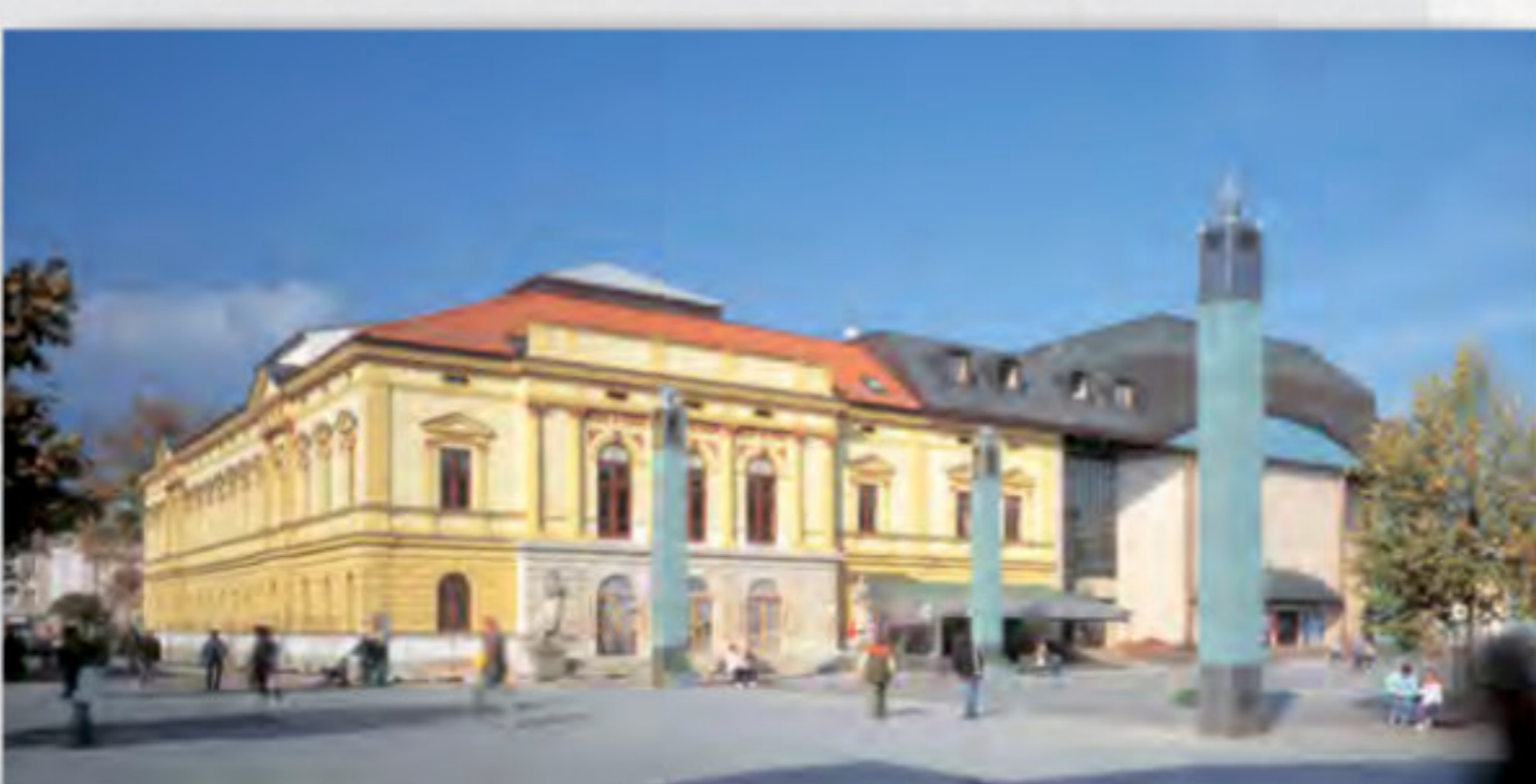
Exterior of the City Theatre in Žilina
Photo Lubo Stacho/Theatre Institute Archive



Exterior of the Theatre Arena in Bratislava
Photo Lubo Stacho/Theatre Institute Archive



Exterior of the Slovak Chamber Theatre in Martin
Photo Lubo Stacho/Theatre Institute Archive



Interior of the City Theatre in Žilina
Photo Olja Triiška Stefanović/Theatre Institute Archive



Exterior of the Andrej Bagar Theatre in Nitra
Photo Lubo Stacho/Theatre Institute Archive



Exterior of the new building of the Slovak National Theatre
Photo Lubo Stacho/Theatre Institute Archive



Interior of the Andrej Bagar Theatre in Nitra
Photo Olja Triiška Stefanović/Theatre Institute Archive



Architectural design of the new building of the Slovak National Theatre 1
Architectural design of the new building of the Slovak National Theatre 2
Photo Theatre Institute Museum

