

The Zoostage as an Ethical Blunder, too: Examples from the Croatian Performance Art and Theatre Stage

On the path of designating animals as Object + Subject + Symbol in neo-avant-garde and post-avant-garde art (Šuvaković 1999:387), an interpretation is offered in the article of the utilisation of animals as subjects (e.g. Montažstroj: *Timbaktu*, 2008); symbols (e.g. the use of a donkey in a Dadaist show, Croatia's very first "happening", *They Are Coming* of the high-school group Traveleri on 16 November 1922); as well as the slaughter of an animal (the animal as an object) on the Croatian performance art scene (e.g. Sven Stilinović: *Bloodthirsty Geometry*, 2000). Namely, from 1993 to 2001 Sven Stilinović performed six variants of the performance *Bloodthirsty Geometry*, whilst the performance in Dubrovnik (staged at the Lazareti in 2000) also featured the slaughter of a lamb during a solar eclipse.

Key words: performing animals, animal acting, ethics of animal acts,
performance art, happening