

## **AMALIA TAKES A DEEP BREATH**

by Alina Nelega

stage direction and set design: **Tudor Lucanu**

Cast:

One-woman show with: **Anca Hanu**

stage manager: **Arhidiade Mureşan**

lights technician: **Alexandru Corpodean**

sound technician: **Marius Rusu**

Alina Nelega's monodrama presents episodes from the life of Amalia. She has passed through Communism in an aboulitic state, from its beginning to its lowest, darkest point, and has finally entered a new era of freedom, which proves equally confusing. The little communist schoolgirl – happy to be away from her German governess, the piano and French lessons – grows confused by the losses in her life. But the traumas do not drive her to self-pity. Instead, she remains courageous and charmingly candid.

Alina Nelega's play does not reject the past, with its obvious defects, but sets it under the scrutiny of the present, theatrically rebuilding the past 50-60 years of national Romanian history. This kind of production is "more direct, closer to a hyper-reality which is necessary in the theatre, film, visual arts and literature. It is a type of image which is built on a world, in a direct relationship with it, less oblique, less descriptive, less dynamic", the author observed in an interview.

This performance won actress ANCA HANU the *Best Actress in a Leading Role Award* at the UNITER Awards, 2015; *Best Actress Award* at the Short Theatre Festival in Oradea, 2014, and the *Best Actress in a Leading Role Award* from the Cluj-Napoca National Theatre, during the International Meetings in Cluj, 2014.

*Amalia takes a deep breath* represented Romania at the Romanian Cultural Institute (ICR) in Berlin on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2015, on the occasion of The Romanian Culture Day, and toured in France, USA and Germany.

A production of the National Theatre in Cluj-Napoca

Duration: 75 min

For the trailer see:

<http://www.teatrulnationalcluj.ro/piesa-649/amalia-respira-adanc/>