

Today in Kadriorg, President Toomas Hendrik Ilves presented this year's President of the Republic's Young Cultural Figure Award. Today in Kadriorg, President Toomas Hendrik Ilves presented this year's President of the Republic's Young Cultural Figure Award to Marius Peterson.

The Estonian Head of State recognized Marius Peterson for his diversified activities in the field of Estonia culture, and for mediating Polish and French culture.

President Ilves praised the purpose of Marius Peterson's Theatrum home theatre: "Through dramaturgical and other texts, to delve into the intellectual world, point of view and sensibilities of various eras, and through educational and cultural activities, to cultivate the intellectual values contained therein, as well as to explore and creatively develop the early theatrical traditions of the Occident by making a connection with what's valuable and comprehensible in the entire world's theatrical traditions and searching for deep-seated connections between cultures." "What could be a better goal for Estonia, which has been reunited with Europe?" the President of the Republic asked.

Marius Peterson thanked the Cultural Foundation and said that the announcement of his receipt of the Young Cultural Figure Award caused a jumble of mental pictures in his mind. It made him to think about what he has received from one or another person and what he would lack if he had not had the good fortune to meet these people.

The Young Cultural Figure Award is 75,000 EEK and intended for Estonian cultural figures up to 35 years of age, whose artistic achievements have found broad recognition, and whose work and cultural activities has significantly contributed to the promotion of Estonia and its culture worldwide. The award is financed by Toomas Luman, a member of the Cultural Foundation Board.

The prize is being awarded for the eighth time. In previous years, the recipients of the Young Cultural Figure Award have included poet Kristiina Ehin (2008), ballerina Luana Georg (2007), composer Helena Tulve (2006), director Jaanus Rohumaa (2005), conductor Anu Tali (2004), literary critic Jan Kaus (2003) and composer Tõnu Kõrvits and folk musician Krista Sildoja (2002).

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