

Helena Kazárová, Ph.D. reads lectures on dance and ballet history, dance aesthetics and teaches early dances as a Professor at the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague. She graduated from the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (Dance Theory and History), danced for some years as a professional dancer and then started to teach dance history, theory and aesthetics. She has published since 1982 over 100 articles, reviews and studies and is an author of two books.

Her theoretical research soon found results in practical reconstructions and presentations of historical dances and at first she concentrated on Baroque culture mainly. She studied and worked with international specialists in this field (B. Massin, M.-G. Massé, D. Wortelboer, E. Greene etc.) and especially with Marc Leclercq, with whom she collaborated on significant opera projects (*Castor et Pollux* of Rameau and *Sub olea pacis et palma virtutis* of Jan Dismas Zelenka) in the position of assistant of choreography. Since then, she has created and reconstructed many Baroque, Renaissance and Pre-Romantic dances for various prominent music and theatre festivals (Japan, Lithuania, Poland, Austria, Germany, Hungary) and also for ballet companies (*Entrée d'Apollon* of Feuillet and Pécour for National Theatre Ballet in Prague and Brno). From 1997 she is the artistic leader of the Hartig Ensemble – Dances and Ballets of 3 Centuries .

She founded also the Association of Historical Dance in the Czech Republic and teaches at international summer academies, she is a member of the European Association of Dance Historians. As an expert and researcher on the Baroque, Rococo and early 19th Century culture she gave papers at many international conferences (most recently 2014 Stockholm University, 2013-15 Oxford University, 2016 Rothenfels, Germany, 2017 Dresden, Germany etc.). For many years she works also with the singers and actors on the period acting techniques (gestures and stage movement) of the 17th and 18th century repertoire and some of the operas she has also directed. She collaborated with film and TV as a coach and advisor of period movement and choreographer (*Interlude in Prague*, dir. John Stephenson, Stalking Films - 2016, BBC 2 / Redgrave pictures document on Mozart's *Don Giovanni* premiere in Prague *Rolando Meets Don Giovanni* with R. Villazon, dir. Guy Evans – 2014, *The Skirt-Chasers* of Jiří Menzel, *This Hot Summer in Marienbad* of Milan Cieslar, film *Bathory* of Juraj Jakubisko, etc.).