



Witkacy: 21st Century Perspectives

By -

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*****.Stanislaw Ignacy Witkiewicz Witkacy (1885-1939) was a Dramatist, Poet, Novelist, Painter, Photographer, Art Theorist and Philosopher. He was one of the most colourful personalities to come out of twentieth century Poland. Perhaps the most incredible facts about this remarkable man's life include the knowledge that; he not only experienced the Russian Revolution first hand but that his amazingly prescient work was in effect rediscovered and found profound resonance in post-war communist Poland. In this context he was championed across Poland as part of a strong and spirited reaction against Socialist Realism in theatre in particular. During his lifetime Witkacy was to work at a furious rate completing more than thirty plays, several novels, numerous philosophical works, and some two thousand portraits and a huge number of photographs. He also left us; an extraordinarily large amount of; strange, grotesque, humorous poems and sketches. Furthermore, Witkacy exerted a profound influence on Tadeusz Kantor of Cricot 2, who was arguably the most widely known exponent of the Contemporary Polish theatre tradition. At a certain point during the...

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