

MIKOLA HOHOL (NIKOLAJ GOGOL')

Institute of Literature of the National Academy of Sciences of the Ukraine (Kyiv)

Date: September 29 till October 4,
2009.

Deadline: July 28, 2009.

Venue: National Academy of Sciences
of the Ukraine, Kyiv.

Co-organizers: Ministry of Culture
and Tourism of the Ukraine, Ivan
Franko National Academic Drama
Theatre, National University of
Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, International
Theatre Institute, the Ukrainian
organization »Prosvita« named after
Taras Shevchenko, and the foundati-
on »Our home is Ukraine«.

Interested scholars are invited to
send an abstract of about 300
words to Dmytro Drozdovskyy
(drozdovskyy@rambler.ru). Papers
presented at the conference will be
published after approval of the arti-
cles by the editorial committee. Papers
will be translated into Ukrainian and
published in both languages.

The conference languages will be
Ukrainian and English.

The International Theatrical Women Festival »Maria« takes annually place in Kyiv pre-
sented monodramas in memoriam of the great Ukrainian actress Marija Zankovetska. In
2009, the Festival is dedicated to the 200th anniversary of Mykola Hohol (Nikolaj Gogol'),
the great Ukrainian and Russian writer, humorist, and dramatist of the 19th century. His
early works, such as *Evenings on a Farm Near Dikanka*, were heavily influenced by his
Ukrainian childhood and identity. After the triumph of *Dead Souls*, Hohol came to be re-
garded by his contemporaries as a great satirist who lampooned the unseemly sides of Im-
perial Russia. Little did they know that *Dead Souls* was but the first part of a modern-day
counterpart to *The Divine Comedy*. The first part represented the Inferno; the second part
was to depict the gradual purification and transformation of the rogue Chichikov under the
influence of virtuous publicans and governors – Purgatory. Hohol became one of the most
influential figures in the Eastern European culture; his influence is apparent in the Ukrai-
nian, Russian, Polish and other literary traditions.

In addition to and during the Festival, the National Academy of Sciences of the Ukraine
will organize an international conference devoted to Mykola Hohol and his impact on the
literatures of Eastern Europe and all over the world. The key topics of the conference in-
clude:

- M. Hohol and world literature;
- M. Hohol and world art;
- M. Hohol: comparative issues;
- M. Hohol and imperial/anti-colonial/post-imperial (post-colonial) identity;
- European aspects of M. Hohol's writings;
- M. Hohol and translations of his works in the world;
- M. Hohol and the two-faced language (special features of M. Hohol's language);
- M. Hohol and archetypes;
- new interpretations of M. Hohol's writings;
- M. Hohol in the paradigm of New Historicism;
- M. Hohol and carnival theory.