

Tickets

Box offices

Theater Spektakel Box Office

at Bellevue 8 July to 12 August |
MON to SAT 11:00 to 18:00 hrs.

On the first day of box office sales from
08:00 hrs.

Starticket Box Offices 8 July to 29

August | For full list of box offices and
opening hours check www.starticket.ch |
Booking fee: CHF 1 to CHF 3 per ticket

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8 July to 30 August | MON to SAT 11:00
to 15:00 hrs. On the first day of box
office sales from 08:00 hrs. During the
festival daily from 14:00 to 20:00 hrs.

Internet 8 July to 30 August |
www.theaterspektakel.ch or
www.starticket.ch | Book and print out
at home

Landiwiiese Box Office During the
festival open daily from 17:00 hrs.

No Booking Fee at the Bellevue box
office, Landiwiiese box office or for tickets
booked and printed at home via internet.

On-site box offices

Landiwiiese Open daily from 17:00 hrs
and one hour before the beginning of
afternoon performances.

Rote Fabrik Half an hour before the
beginning of each performance.

Werft The box office for performances
at the Werft is on the Landiwiiese.

Gessnerallee One hour before the
beginning of each performance.

Concessions

Students and those under the age of 20 can
purchase tickets for all performances at a
reduced price upon presentation of a valid
student card or ID. Applies only for tickets
bought at Bellevue and Landiwiiese box
offices.

Please note:

Tickets cannot be returned or exchanged
except for cancelled performances.
Tickets for cancelled performances can be
reimbursed at the Landiwiiese box office
before the end of the festival.
No admittance after performance has
begun.

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No admittance after performance has
begun.

Impressum

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Zürcher Theater Spektakel
13 to 30 August 2009



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Special events 30th Zürcher Theater Spektakel

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Theatergroep Max.

Jakop Ahlbom

Kassys

Sanja Mitrović

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Jeune Cirque

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Editorial

Dear visitors,

Welcome to the 30th year of the Zürcher Theater Spektakel!

We invite you to celebrate with us this milestone anniversary as well as the many and wondrous traditions whose growth the festival has encouraged over the years. This is a welcome opportunity to review past, present and future trends. Many artists who today dominate the international theatre and dance scene were learning their craft back in 1980. Today they use their artistic expertise to examine our world critically – a world that has changed significantly over the past thirty years.

The Netherlands provided an important artistic jump-start for the festival during its early years. This country's lively and alert theatre scene continues to fascinate and inspire us. The new Dutch theatre generation tackles topical issues with the same enthusiasm and experimentation as their forerunners and stages them in ways that are both surprising and authoritative. In their productions for both children and adults they transcend genres with a natural and playful grace.

We also continue a trend which we initiated last year: theatre and dance productions from the Southern continents. This year's focus is on Brazil, Argentina and Africa. We present a variety of innovative productions with sharply focused content. These are created by young artists – often under difficult circumstances.

The latest production of the acclaimed Swiss company Theater Klara is an attempt to find a theatrical expression that reflects current societal changes. How are lost values, once considered immutable, addressed on stage? How do artists worldwide tackle questions of identity, intercultural communication and the ambivalence between perceptions of self and society? These are questions that are pervasive throughout the entire festival and are approached from clear, new, and unconventional angles.

Delve into our festival world and let yourself be seduced by the delights of our many-faceted programme, which offers you a variety of unique and stimulating experiences.

We look forward to seeing all of you!
For the festival board: Sandro Lunin

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→ THEATRE

→ LANGUAGE Dutch with German surtitles

→ DURATION 5 hrs 30 mins

NETHERLANDS

Werft FRI 14 to SUN 16 August | 65.-

Toneelgroep Amsterdam

Romeinse tragedies

Coriolanus / Julius Caesar / Antony and Cleopatra

The idea is simple and brilliant. Ivo van Hove, stage and general director of Toneelgroep Amsterdam, relocates the Shakespearian Roman dramas, an unrivalled analysis of the mechanisms of power written in the 16th century, to a media lounge of the 21st century: conference tables, sofas, huge screens, computers, internet access, drinks and finger food – everything you would expect on today's political stage. For almost six hours, fifteen outstanding actors negotiate, machinate, strike deals, give interviews, set each other up, murder, love and die. The audience can move around freely, watch the events first hand, surf the internet or hang out at the bar. You won't miss any of the action: Breaking news on the screens will keep you updated on love, death and war. Shakespeare reloaded. Seldom do modern adaptations succeed so effortlessly. (esc)



6

→ THEATRE, CO-PRODUCTION

→ LANGUAGE Arabic, with English and German subtitles

→ DURATION 75 mins

EGYPT/SWITZERLAND

Nord THU 13 to SAT 15 August | 40.-

Stefan Kaegi

(Rimini Protokoll)

Radio Muezzin

When Swiss director Stefan Kaegi went to Cairo to look for muezzins for a new theatre production, the mosque criers had one specific concern: that no actors would participate. Devout Muslims consider actors unholy because they show «false life». Little did they know that their philosophy coincided with the basic tenet of Rimini Protokoll's documentary theatre: simply to present «experts in daily living». Kaegi's interest was aroused by the controversy surrounding Cairo's 30,000 muezzins whose prayer calls are to be replaced by one centralised radio muezzin. In «Radio Muezzin» four muezzins talk about their life and allow an insight into real life in Islam – as opposed to the distortions of Western views. (kdi)



7

→ THEATRE
→ LANGUAGE English
→ DURATION 75 mins
→ CREDIT An event promoted by the Theaterhaus Gessnerallee

GREAT BRITAIN

Theaterhaus Gessnerallee THU 13 to SAT 15 August | 38.-

Forced Entertainment *Spectacular*

One would think that an actor dressed as a skeleton has come to proclaim the death of theatre. Normally, he says, there would be a set, an orchestra, plenty of actors. But tonight everything is different: The stage is empty, there is no sound, no light. A woman enters: she is about to rehearse a dying scene that will last the entire performance. The British company Forced Entertainment is, of course, far from paying its last respects to theatre. Quite the contrary: over the past 25 years, author and director Tim Etchells' company has lost none of its fresh and radical verve. «Spectacular» conjures up spirited theatre out of thin air – quite unspectacularly. (kdi)



8

→ DANCE
→ DURATION 50 mins

BRAZIL

Werft WED 19 to SAT 22 August | 45.-

Bruno Beltrão & Grupo de Rua *H3*

«The dance world has been waiting for someone like him», a German critic wrote and the *Süddeutsche* compares his impact on dance with that of William Forsythe. The 29-year-old Brazilian Bruno Beltrão is indeed an outstanding choreographic talent who has opened up new dimensions of dance. He and his company Grupo de Rua are well-known stars in Brazil's hip hop scene. Over the years, Beltrão has deconstructed, defamiliarized and redefined this street dance and created a unique, powerful and awkwardly beautiful language of movement. In «H3», which premiered at the Kunstenfestivaldesart in Brussels, he takes things a step further and moves away from the hip hop philosophy of solo dance. The performers no longer «compete» but find intense and fragile moments of dancing with each other. (esc)



9

→ DANCE, WORLD PREMIERE, CO-PRODUCTION

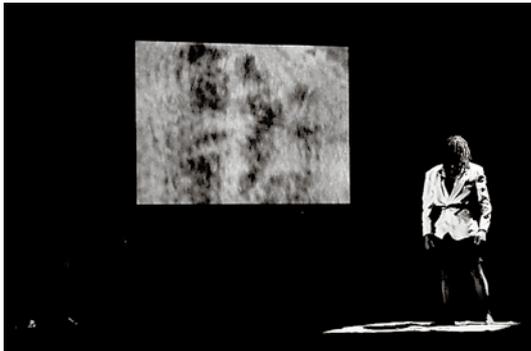
→ DURATION 60 mins

SOUTH AFRICA

Rote Fabrik, Aktionshalle SAT 15 to MON 17 August | 33.-

Boyzie Cekwana *Influx Controls: I wanna be wanna be*

Boyzie Cekwana, along with Faustin Linyekula (see page 29), is one of Africa's most acclaimed choreographers. His works haven't been presented at the big European dance festivals and he has toured world-wide with his artists collective founded in 1996. At the festival, he presents the world premiere of his solo «Influx Controls: I wanna be wanna be», in which he examines his identity against the backdrop of Apartheid and global colonialism. Cekwana, who grew up in Soweto, bases his latest work on the «influx controls», a system of rigid pass laws implemented by the South African government in 1923, which prevented black Africans from settling in cities and dominated their economic, political, educational, social and cultural reality for years. «I can't escape history», says Cekwana. (esc)



→ DANCE

→ DURATION 50 mins

ALGERIA/FRANCE

Nord SUN 16 and MON 17 August | 37.-

Cie. Nacera Belaza *Le cri*

«A scream that leaves you speechless», several critics wrote about Nacera Belaza's dance performance «Le Cri» presented at the Rencontres choréographiques internationales in Paris last year. The Algerian self-taught choreographer and devout Muslim has found an autonomous movement language that complies with the regulations of her faith. Reminiscent of the trance-like and increasing intensity of the Sufi dances, Nacera Belaza and her sister Dalila move to a tantalising soundtrack of intoned Arabic psalms and the splendid voices of Maria Callas and Amy Winehouse. «Le cri» is characterised by its restraint. The dancers seem to be riveted to the floor as their bodies slowly begin to sway and are gradually infused with life. Repetitive and hypnotic, minimalist but expansive, Nacera and Dalila Belaza's duet touches austerity as well as pleasure, spirituality as well as a discrete form of sensuality. (esc)



→ DANCE PERFORMANCE

→ DURATION 50 mins

BRAZIL

Süd THU 20 and FRI 21 August | 33.-

Cristina Moura

Like an Idiot

«A duet with myself» is how the Brazilian choreographer and dancer Cristina Moura describes her charming and provocative solo «Like an Idiot». The third partner is the audience. «I am here to dance. You are here to watch me.» Vulnerable and almost naked she steps into the limelight and exposes herself to the eyes of strangers and to her own questions. Prompted by various impulses – a movement, a melody, a subjective emotion or a concrete object such as a children's bicycle or a bottle of water – she tries to discover for herself her identity as a woman, an artist and a black Brazilian. Moura created this «choreographic self assessment» upon her return to Brazil from Europe where she had danced with renowned artists and companies such as João Fiadero and Ballets C. de la B. (esc)



12

→ DANCE PERFORMANCE

→ DURATION 60 mins

ISRAEL

Werft FRI 28 to SUN 30 August | 40.-

Yasmeen Godder

Company

Singular Sensation

Ever since she won the prestigious Bessie Award in 2001, Yasmeen Godder has been considered as one of the most talented and promising of contemporary choreographers. Her creations are hard-edged and provocative. They show people in times of war and violence. In her latest work, «Singular Sensation», the Israeli artist investigates the numbing effects of sensual and sensory overload on human beings. A challenging performance well worth one's while. (kdi)



13

→ MUSIC THEATRE

→ LANGUAGE Italian with German subtitles

→ DURATION 90 mins

→ CREDIT In collaboration with the Festival La Bâtie, Geneva

ITALY

Werft MON 24 to WED 26 August | 40.-

Emma Dante

Le pulle *Operetta amorale*

The acclaimed Sicilian actress and director Emma Dante has dedicated her latest piece to the whores, «le pulle» as they are called in Palermo. Her «amoral operetta» presents us with a night in a Sicilian brothel: Five transvestites, accompanied by three fairies, talk about themselves, their bodies, their lives, their dreams and nightmares. Their stories are depressing, full of misery and violence, and bear witness to the very things that continue to dominate life in Sicily: the church, the mafia, tradition and poverty. «Le pulle» is a grotesque melange of music, dance, colour and poetry and an overpowering plea for the freedom of the individual. (ron)



14

→ THEATRE, CO-PRODUCTION

→ LANGUAGE Argentine with German subtitles

→ DURATION 90 mins

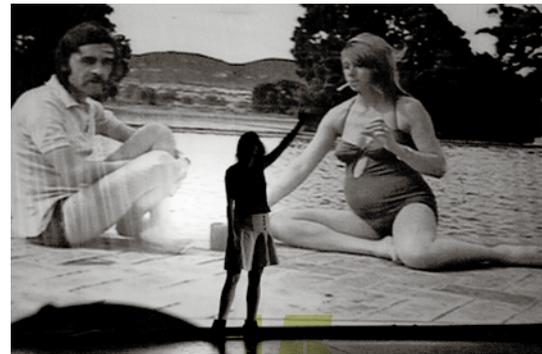
ARGENTINA

Rote Fabrik, Aktionshalle THU 20 to SAT 22 August | 37.-

Lola Arias

Mi vida después

What was my country like when I was born? What was my parents' generation like? And what about my own generation? Such questions assume a different importance when addressed by author and playwright Lola Arias and the protagonists of «Mi vida después» (My life after). Lola Arias was born in Buenos Aires in 1976, the year the military rose to power in Argentina. Her actors are all about the same age. On the basis of childhood memories, family pictures, letters and old clothes, the sons and daughters of guerrilleros, news readers, members of the secret police, priests and exiled intellectuals examine the past in order to learn something about the future. «Mi vida después» is a multi-layered kaleidoscope of individual memories and political reality and impressively bridges the gap between personal and national history. (esc)



15

→ THEATRE

→ LANGUAGE American with German surtitles

→ DURATION 90 mins

USA

Nord WED 26 to SAT 29 August | 40.-

Young Jean Lee's Theater Company *The Shipment*

Whoever thinks that skin colour is no longer an issue in Obama's post-racial America will be taught a sharp lesson by Young Jean Lee in her latest offering «The Shipment». The winner of the ZKB Patronage Prize 2007 dissects cultural images and stereotypes of black America – from the minstrel down to the crack dealer – in a masterful and pitiless way. Be it with subtle sophistication or with absolute bluntness, the Korean-American playwright and director undermines politically correct attitudes, ridicules clichés, exposes prejudices and plays with our preconceived images of black and white until we no longer know if we should, can, may or ought to laugh. (esc)



16

→ THEATRE

→ LANGUAGE Argentine with German surtitles

→ DURATION 60 mins

ARGENTINA

Süd TUE 25 to FRI 28 August | 37.-

Claudio Tolcachir & Timbre 4 *Tercer cuerpo*

Nominated for the ZKB Patronage Prize 2009

The Argentine director, author, and theatre pedagogue Claudio Tolcachir along with Teatro Timbre 4 has created a piece based on the format of a TV soap, full of tempo and humour. «Tercer cuerpo» presents a situation many inhabitants of Buenos Aires have to endure: due to economic reasons they are forced to flat share with others. Work, feelings, frustration and relationships – everything takes place within a tight space. Privacy is unaffordable. The audience is seated in the middle of the living room, which is simultaneously an office and a café, and takes part in the lives, the dreams, the longings and ultimately the solitude of Sandra, Moni, Hector, Sofia and Manuel. (ron)



17

→ THEATRE, CO-PRODUCTION, WORLD PREMIERE

→ LANGUAGE German

→ DURATION 100 mins

SWITZERLAND / GERMANY

Rote Fabrik, Aktionshalle FRI 28 to SUN 30 August | 37.-

Klara, Theater Freiburg / pvc Tanz Hochstapler und Falschspieler

What is real? Who cheats? Who doesn't – or at least pretends not to? The latest production of Theater Klara investigates the question of credibility: When inner values and outward behaviours are disassociated, cheating and conning can be profitable. Politics, economics, sports, as well as our private lives, provide plenty of illustrative material. During the past 20 years, Christoph Frick's acclaimed Swiss company has repeatedly tackled topical societal issues and has been in the vanguard in opening up new possibilities in theatre. «Hochstapler und Falschspieler» will premiere at the festival. (kdi)



18

→ THEATRE PERFORMANCE

→ LANGUAGE English

→ DURATION 60 mins

NETHERLANDS

Süd MON 17 to WED 19 August | 37.-

Kassys Good Cop Bad Cop

Nominated for the ZKB Patronage Prize 2009

With an uncanny gift for self-deprecation and a sharp eye for human frailties, the fearless young Dutch company Kassys presents the ironic and immensely funny show «Good Cop Bad Cop». Combining film and live performance in equal measure, they turn a deceptively simple story into a sharp comment on the human propensity to sensationalism and the omnipresent reality TV culture.



19

→ MAGIC THEATRE
→ LANGUAGE none
→ DURATION 75 mins

NETHERLANDS

Nord WED 19, FRI 21 and SAT 22 August | 37.-

Jakop Ahlbom

Vielfalt

«In order to give life back its magic, we need better tricks.» This statement forms a leitmotif which runs through Jakop Ahlbom's fantastic piece «Vielfalt» – a perfect combination of acrobatics, dance, music, theatre and magic. A flamboyant magician and his alter ego, an ordinary, rather mousy individual, are caught between illusion and disillusion and compete with each other for life and love. The successful Dutch/Swedish theatre maker Jakop Ahlbom creates in his play a surreal world where the impossible unbelievably becomes true. *(kdi)*



20

→ CHILDREN'S THEATRE
→ LANGUAGE German
→ DURATION 60 mins
→ AGE 8 years plus

NETHERLANDS

Süd 29 and SUN 30 August | Kids 13.- Adults 21.-

Theatergroep Max.

Vorstellung, in der hoffentlich nichts passiert

Who would want to see this: «A performance during which, hopefully, nothing happens»?! A watchman locks the stage entrance and makes sure everything is safe. An actor arrives. It's time for his performance. But the watchman doesn't let him in. Nothing is supposed to happen on stage – nothing! Boss's orders. From this absurd situation the acclaimed Dutch company Max. evolves a highly amusing piece on theatre and the commitment of the actor to his role. *(kdi)*



21

→ CHILDREN'S THEATRE, WORLD PREMIERE → DURATION 60 mins
→ LANGUAGE German → AGE 6 years plus
→ CREDIT An event promoted by the Fabriktheater Rote Fabrik

SWITZERLAND

Rote Fabrik, Fabriktheater FRI 14 to SUN 16 August | Kids 13.- Adults 21.-

Kopp/Praxmarer/ Vittinghoff

«rettet Nemo!»

Nemo can't be found. How's that possible?! The puppeteers Armin and Vitti have thoroughly ruined this sweet Disney fairytale. What about the happy ending? The company Kopp/Praxmarer/Vittinghoff ruthlessly subvert popular children's stories with wit and fantasy only to create new and mysterious and worlds full of adventure. (*kdi*)

→ CHILDREN'S THEATRE → DURATION 70 mins
→ LANGUAGE Swiss dialect → AGE 6 years plus

SWITZERLAND

süd SAT 22 and SUN 23 August | Kids 13.- Adults 21.-

Eiger Mönch & Jungfrau

Am ahti ar Arche by Ulrich Hub

What do penguins do when it's raining at the South Pole? They open their umbrellas, what else? Little do they know that those few raindrops are the beginning of the end. The Swiss company Eiger Mönch & Jungfrau tells how three penguins with only two tickets for Noah's Ark manage to keep their feet dry during the great flood. (*kdi*)

22

→ CHILDREN'S THEATRE, WORLD PREMIERE → DURATION 60 mins
→ LANGUAGE Swiss dialect and German → AGE 7 years plus
→ CREDIT An event promoted by the Fabriktheater Rote Fabrik

SWITZERLAND

Circus tent behind the Rote Fabrik WED 26, FRI 28 to SUN 30 August |
Kids 13.- Adults 21.-

ASFALTprinzessinnen

Zirkus Mikkelikski
Based on a children's story by Alf Prøysen

A circus is like a festival; it comes and goes, but each arrival is a big event. And this circus is even more special: it only features forest animals. Just as the show is about to start, Olaf the stag is kidnapped by two villains. The circus band plays a fanfare - the story begins! (*kdi*)



23

→ BODY PERCUSSION SHOW, OPEN-AIR

→ DURATION 75 mins

BRAZIL

Seebühne THU 13 to SAT 15 August | 45.-

Barbatuques

Corpo do som

The lakeside stage opens with a drumbeat, only there is no drum: just one instrument - the human body. The fifteen performers of the Brazilian troupe Barbatuques conjure absolutely amazing sounds out of their bodies. In a one-of-a-kind show, they dance, sing, rock, rap and jazz. Moments of prolonged delicacy explode into a mix of Brazilian, European and North American melody. Human and animal sounds clash and blend with primordial and urban noises. With wit, enthusiasm and zeal, Barbatuques demonstrates that there really is music in their bodies. (ron)



24

→ NOUVEAU CIRQUE

→ LANGUAGE none

→ DURATION 70 mins

CHILE

Süd THU 13 to SUN 16 August | 33.-

En viaje –

Artistas de circo

Rueda *Un viaje entre cuerdas*

Nominated for the ZKB Patronage Prize 2009

The festival has a tradition of presenting Nouveau Cirque that goes back a long way. This year, it is the young Chilean company En Viaje who offers us a highly poetic and intimate circus piece. Three artists, with the help of a car tyre and various objects, create a rich world of images that talk about the highs and lows of human experience and feelings. During this «journey between the ropes», each detail, movement, object and sound, assumes a deeper meaning. (kdi)



25

→ NOUVEAU CIRQUE, OPEN-AIR

→ LANGUAGE none

→ DURATION 75 mins

FRANCE

Seebühne TUE 18 to SAT 22 August | 40.-

Jeune Cirque

Cie. Carpe Diem / Cie. Ki Productions / Cie. IETO

Nouveau Cirque has come a long way and is now a tradition of its own. But it is still as «nouveau» as it was back in the seventies. The festival pays tribute to this revolutionised form of traditional circus and clears the ring for young talent. «Jeune Cirque» showcases three performances from France, the native country of Nouveau Cirque. The young artists celebrate pure circus art. But their feats performed on the high pole, the trapeze or with wooden benches are not an end in themselves. Rather, they are embedded in little theatrical stories: poetic, dramatic and clownish. (kdi)



26

→ NOUVEAU CIRQUE, OPEN-AIR

→ LANGUAGE none

→ DURATION 60 mins

SWITZERLAND

Seebühne MON 24 and TUE 25 August | 40.-

öff öff productions Tubeland

The members of the Swiss company öff öff are known for their unique performance installations and daredevil assaults on gravity. «Tubeland» is somewhere between heaven and earth, a place full of possibilities and decisions, a place where one can be safe or at risk. Five transparent plastic tubes hang vertically above a circular pool. In this surreal «tubeland» the performers move with seeming effortlessness. Accompanied by live music their movements evolve into a hypnotic dance that oscillates between intimacy and aloofness. (kdi)



27

→ TAP DANCE, OPEN-AIR

→ DURATION 75 mins

GERMANY

Seebühne THU 27 and FRI 28 August | 40.-

Thomas Marek

Orchestra *Expansions & Dimensions*

Welcome to the sound of clicking heels, the spectacle of bodies responding to sweeping rhythms. The German choreographer and step-dance artist Thomas Marek presents «Orchestra». This is a fast-moving concert based on dance, of choreography responding to sound. Ten dancers move fluidly from elaborate arrangements to improvisation. Traditional tap dance patterns are opened up. Full-bodied dance and electronic music are melded together. This dancing «Orchestra» is sensually and poetically entwined with its own instrument – the dance floor. (ron)



28

→ MUSIC DANCE PERFORMANCE, CLUB NIGHT

→ LANGUAGE French with German surtitles

→ DURATION 90 mins

CONGO

Club THU 13 to SAT 15 August | 33.-

Faustin Linyekula & Studios Kabako

more more more ... future

Nominated for the ZKB Patronage Prize 2009

«Future, what is that?» The 35-year-old award-winning Congolese choreographer Faustin Linyekula is considered to be one of the great innovators of African dance. In his native country, worn down by years of corruption and violence, most people have become jaded about the future. Linyekula and his company of musicians and dancers vigorously defy this attitude: «more more more ... future» is a wild fusion of club evening, punk opera and dance performance. It mixes the radicalism of European punk with the lively energy of Ndombolo, a Congolese pop music style. But most of all it makes an optimistic and empowering statement about the future of the Congo. The political prisoner Antoine Vumilia Huhindo, who contributed the texts, has stated: If you don't know what tomorrow brings, any future becomes possible. (esc)



29

→ THEATRE PERFORMANCE

→ LANGUAGE French with simultaneous German translation

→ DURATION 80 mins

GERMANY/CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Club WED 19 and THU 20 August | 28.-

Gintersdorfer / Klassen Betrügen



Nominated for the ZKB Patronage Prize 2009

A «theatre addict» is how the press describes the German director Monika Gintersdorfer, who has gained critical acclaim with her unique projects between fiction and reality. «Betrügen», developed with the visual artist Knut Klassen, is a rather clever and entertaining theatre experiment. It focuses on the «jet set» attitude of immigrants from the Ivory Coast: They take on stage names, claim to be famous stars and act accordingly. No money? No documents? Who cares about such small details? Life is a party and they are the VIP. Appearance above reality! Nonchalantly and with arresting imagination, three Ivorian jetsetters talk about their lives and substantiate their decadent lifestyle with almost subversive radicalism. Their performances are simultaneously translated and brilliantly «mirrored» by the German actor Hauke Heumann. A fantastic show about real theatre. (esc)



30

→ PERFORMANCE

→ LANGUAGE Arabic and German

→ DURATION 90 mins

EGYPT/SWITZERLAND

Club WED 26 and THU 27 August | 28.-

Duyvendak, Ghayatt & Borgeat Made in Paradise



What happens if «Yes, we can» meets «Inshallah»? Can one broach the issue of Islam without causing uproar? «When trying to meet the other, we risk to be ourselves», the dramaturge Nicole Borgeat comments on the artistic encounter between two performers with different cultural backgrounds. Yan Duyvendak, a Swiss-based Dutchman, spent three months in Cairo while at the same time the Egyptian artist Omar Ghayatt spent three months in Switzerland. The two performers have subsequently condensed their individual experiences into 15 fragments. Each fragment shows a specific aspect of the misunderstandings and irritations but also of the pleasant surprises and eye-openers which resulted from this culture clash. The audience becomes an active part of the performance and gets to decide which fragments it wants to see. (esc)



31

→ DANCE PERFORMANCE, WORLD PREMIERE

→ LANGUAGE German and English

→ DURATION 50 mins

→ CREDIT An event promoted by the Fabriktheater Rote Fabrik

ARGENTINA/SWITZERLAND

Rote Fabrik, Fabriktheater SAT 22 and SUN 23 August | 28.-

Laura Kalauz & Martin Schick

Title



A woman and a man are sitting on two camping chairs. In rudimentary English, they try to talk about something that isn't: some idea, some project, something that has happened in the past. With the help of their hands and feet, gestures, movements and a flip chart they try to explain themselves until the other finally gets it: «Oh, yes.» Based on Wittgenstein's quote «The limits of my language mean the limits of my world», the Zurich-based Argentine performer Laura Kalauz and the Swiss actor and dancer Martin Schick explore how to make sense in a creative act which involves body and space. (esc)



→ PERFORMANCE

→ LANGUAGE Serbian and German, with German surtitles

→ DURATION 75 mins

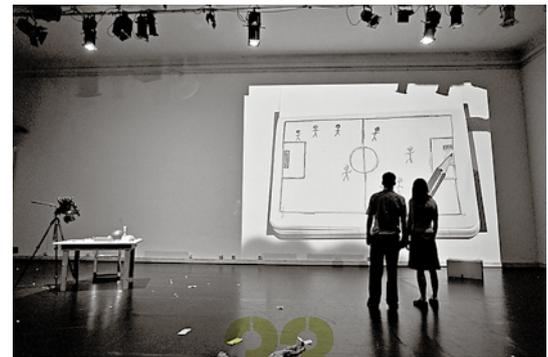
SERBIA/NETHERLANDS

Nord SUN 23 August | 28.-

Sanja Mitrović

Will You Ever Be Happy Again?

The Amsterdam-based director and performer Sanja Mitrović describes her piece as a «docu-tale for one Serbian performer, one German performer and two cardboard boxes». «Are we ever going to be happy again», the German population asked themselves after World War II. Fifty years later, a significant part of the Serbian population is facing the same question in the aftermath of the Yugoslav War. Both nations have become the «villains» at some point in the course of their history. Based on autobiographical accounts, children's games, memories of school and sports events, Serbian-born Sanja Mitrović and the German actor Jochen Stechmann investigate how nationality affects one's personal identity. The result is an intelligent, expressive and artistically unique analysis of the phenomenon of nationalism which transcends the individual experience. (esc)



→ THEATRICAL CONCERT, WORLD PREMIERE

→ LANGUAGE none

→ DURATION 60 mins

SWITZERLAND

Club MON 24 and TUE 25 August | 28.-

compagnie drift

Schwarzer Peter – kein Konzert

Wasn't it fun to attach a piece of card in the spokes with a clothes peg and to enjoy the clattering noise our bicycles made? The delight in technical bricolage that creates wonderful sounds is the driving force of compagnie drift's latest work to première at the festival. If you happen to have seen the theatrical concert «machine à sons», you will also like this one. Watch and listen to Massimo Bertinelli, François Gendre and Peter Schelling tinker around with their noise machines. But these whistling-tinkling-clanking-hooting devices do not only have a sophisticated technical inner life, but also a poetic and somewhat stubborn mind of their own. And sometimes, so the three sound fiddlers tell us, they are even a little slippery. Let's see. (esc)



34

→ MUSIC THEATRE

→ LANGUAGE German

→ DURATION 60 mins

SWITZERLAND/GERMANY

Club FRI 28 to SUN 30 August | 33.-

Jürg Kienberger & Clemens Sienknecht

Alleinunterhalter (Mehrzahl)

No anniversary celebration without a glitch: The festival board would like to apologize that – due to a double booking – the audience has to put up with two instead of just one solo entertainer. It might be a quantum of solace to mention that Jürg Kienberger and Clemens Sienknecht seem to be doing fairly well as members of Christoph Marthaler's renowned company. Hence we shall accept the congratulations of this reluctant duo. (kdi)



35

→ FLIP-BOOKS
→ LANGUAGE German
→ DURATION 75 mins

GERMANY

Club SUN 16 and MON 17 August | 28.-

Volker Gerling

Bilder lernen laufen, indem man sie herumträgt

When Volker Gerling leafs through his flip-book, miniature art turns into great cinema. The Berlin concept artist projects photographed image sequences onto a screen: People and places in motion. Simultaneously, he tells the stories that go with the pictures. To collect his photographic tales, Gerling hikes around Europe and documents chance encounters with his camera – three images per second for the duration of twelve seconds. Thirty-six images make a story. Year after year, new vignettes are added to this magic book full of moments waiting to come alive again someplace – at the Theater Spektakel, for example. (ron)



36

→ ROLLERSKATE DISCO
→ PLEASE NOTE No rollerblades, except for the children's disco!

SWITZERLAND

Club FRI 21 and SAT 22 August | 15.-, children's disco 5.-

Crash Flow Rollerdisco

The Studio 54 Edition

Disco glamour at the Theater Spektakel! Ever dreamt of skating around the festival site dressed up as John Travolta or Bianca Jagger? This is your chance: Crash Flow Rollerdisco, aka Pool Simon, Patrick Crayze and Eve Rubbel, bring a touch of Studio 54 to Zurich's Lower Lakeside. DJs Bill Tscherno, Robby Naish, P. Bell and Rumory spin the discs from the Lost Days of Disco. Glam factor is added by party girl and host Alice La Boum and cult moderator Dr. Vanilje. The idols of that glorious era come alive again in short performances. The dress code is strictly seventies or eighties – «Dress spectacular!» – and roller skates in all sizes are for rent on the spot. (ron)

PS: On Saturday afternoon the skating floor is for kids alone.



37

→ CONCERT, OPEN-AIR

→ DURATION 75 mins

FRANCE

Seebühne SUN 16 August | 37.-

Soha

D'ici et d'ailleurs

The suburbs of Marseille produce not only awesome footballers, but also brilliant musicians and singers – such as Soha. This smooth-voiced singer has created her very own eclectic style, heavily influenced by her North African roots and nomadic background. Her fusion of Jamaican reggae, French chanson, Cuban and Brazilian rhythms, dub and rock, as well as soul and blues, has taken France by storm and sold out the Paris «Olympia». Now, Soha and her band of four perform on our lakeside stage. (ron)



→ CONCERT

→ DURATION 90 mins

SWITZERLAND

Club TUE 18 August | 28.-

Imperial Tiger Orchestra

Ethiopia Revisited

Jazz has never been so Ethiopian – and the other way round. When the six outstanding instrumentalists of the Imperial Tiger Orchestra get started, the magic of modern Ethiopian music mixes with the drive and groove of jazz. The result is a gripping approach to an unknown and hypnotising music: The melodies are interpreted by trumpet, saxophone and keyboard, the driving rhythms are sustained by bass, percussion and drums. The result: a true musical discovery – «Ethiopia Revisited»! (ron)

→ CONCERT, OPEN-AIR

→ DURATION 90 mins

GREAT BRITAIN

Seebühne SAT 29 August | 37.-

Oi va voi

Travelling the Face of the Globe

Klezmer, gipsy music, hip hop, rock and soul – the band Oi va voi (Yiddish for criminy) exemplifies that different cultures can both live together peacefully and create sweepingly beautiful music. The seven London-based musicians – all sons and daughters of immigrants – commingle their various cultural heirlooms. «Travelling the Face of the Globe» is the name of their latest album and what they are currently doing with great success. (ron)

39

→ THEATRE

→ LANGUAGE German

→ DURATION 15 mins each

Theater im Turm, 3rd and 4th floor FRI 14 to SUN 30 August | admission free

Friandises

Each evening of the 30th Theater Spektakel the audience is given a little present: A bit by bit showcase of Switzerland's past, present and future theatrical landscape (exceptions permitted!) Artists, who have been connected with the festival for many or not so many years, present a little delicacy to top off the programme. 15 minutes, no more, no less. The exuberant line-up features the award-winning company sihlpst and Fabienne Hadorn's Theater Kolypan, seasoned performers such as Luciano Andreani, Mark Wetter, Nina Dimitri, Silvana Gargiulo, Mark Rinderknecht and Margrit Gysin as well as Malika Khatir, Club 111, Andres Lutz, Lola Arias and Phil Hayes, to name but a few. The menu changes daily and varies from highlights of previous shows to tasty nibbles prepared on the spot. The best proof of how nonperishable such theatrical «friandises» are deliver Ueli Bichsel and Marcel Joller: Their legendary «refrigerator» act is as fresh as on its first day. (esc)



→ SCENOGRAPHIC INTERVENTIONS

SWITZERLAND

Turm terrace, 4th floor FRI 14 to SUN 30 August | admission free

Fernsicht

Scenographic interventions by Dalang Puppencompany

«I can see something...» – «Where?» – «Over there.» – «On the island?» – «No, to the right.» – «At the carousel?» – «No, closer by.» – «What is it?» – «Difficult to say, but it certainly looks weird.» – «Weird?» – «Yes, almost scary.» – «But where?» – «Directly below us...» – «Oh, my God...!!!!!»
The terrace of the most prominent festival venue, the Turm (as in tower), is equipped with telescopes this year. Enjoy the spectacular views and discover – subject to correct focal length – strange, bizarre and out of this world stuff conjured up by puppeteer Frida L. Beraud and actor Julius Griesenberg.

→ TALKING ABOUT THEATRE

→ DURATION 15 mins

Turm 2nd floor FRI 14 to SAT 29 August | admission free

Unter 4 Augen

Theatre is not always a comfortable pastime: It irritates and stirs up, it asks questions and raises to question. Sometimes one wishes that our post-performance conversations would go beyond the usual «Did you like it?» – «Yeah, it was quite interesting.» Wouldn't it be instructive to discuss one's questions and impressions with someone who is directly involved with the topics and the worlds tackled on stage? Throughout the festival, a wide range of experts make themselves available to interested spectators for a 15-minute private conversation. The list of dialogue partners includes a Middle East specialist, a representative of cultural affairs, a circus expert, a philosopher. Go to reception and book a session with your preferred conversational vis-à-vis. (esc)

41

→ WATER MUSIC PERFORMANCE, OPEN-AIR, WORLD PREMIERE

→ DURATION 50 mins

→ CREDIT In collaboration with the Festival FAR, Nyon

SWITZERLAND

Landiwiese, open-air SAT 15 and SUN 16 August | admission free

Dunkel & Homberger

Burleske

A choral water performance

When singer Christoph Homberger, director Jo Dunkel and musician Martin Schütz meet on the shores of Lake Zurich, we can be sure that they are up to much good. «Burleske» is a zappy musical farce starring Lake Zurich. The line-up also features: a choir (in danger of drowning), boats, real and fake swans, synchronised swimmers – and of course, music. Famous choral songs are deconstructed and reassembled, excerpts from Mahler's «Symphony of a Thousand» bob up, Martin Schütz pulls out his electro-cello, samples, loops and remixes and makes the waves surge up. But despite all the frolics, a breeze of melancholy surrounds this merry water spectacle: the end of summer is nigh. (ron)



42

→ WALK-IN SOUND AND LIGHT INSTALLATION, OPEN-AIR

→ DURATION 6 hrs

SWITZERLAND

Landiwiese, open-air SUN 23 August | admission free

Biennelectronic

Orchestra

Rustling, whistling and humming noises. Saxophone sounds, police sirens and voices. The twittering of birds, the burbling of water, the noise of traffic. The flickering and flashing of lights. For one afternoon and evening, the Swiss artists' collective Biennelectronic Orchestra transforms the Saffa Island into a walk-in installation of sound and light. Enter into a fascinating world of instrumental and computer sounds interspersed with random noises and experience the island as it is transformed by an ever-changing symphony of lights. (ron)



43

Landiwiese, open-air FRI 21 to MON 24 August | admission free

ZHdK Szenografie

Böse Räume

The strange-looking complex of rooms nested into one another at the heart of the Landiwiese will most probably attract your attention. Leave the idyllic festival site behind you and step into a refined labyrinth of rooms behind the doors of which the natural order of things will begin to go awry. The scenographic design students of the Zurich University of the Arts have created a fascinating world of spatial and borderline experiences that tell of our darks sides, obsessions and fears. (esc)

Theater der Künste, Gessnerallee 9 FRI 14 to SAT 29 August,
daily except Sundays and MON 24 August | admission free

Homestories

Hardly ever are there as many international directors, choreographers, actors and performers present in Zurich as at the Theater Spektakel. A series of informal «table talks» gives you the opportunity to meet and talk to those people about their work in a relaxed atmosphere. The talks take place at noon at the Theater der Künste in Zurich and are hosted alternately by Sandro Lunin (artistic director of the Zürcher Theater Spektakel), Rahel Leupin and Dagmar Walser (members of the programme board).

FRI 14.08. **Faustin Linyekula & Studios Kabako**, Congo | FrenchSAT 15.08. **En viaje**, Chile | Chilean/GermanMON 17.08. **Cie. Nacera Belaza**, Algeria/France | French,
and **Boyzie Cekwana**, South Africa | EnglishTUE 18.08. **Kassys**, Netherlands | EnglishWED 19.08. **Jeune Cirque**, France | FrenchTHU 20.08. **Gintersdorfer/Klassen**, Germany/Côte d'Ivoire |
German/FrenchFRI 21.08. **Bruno Beltrão**, Brazil, and **Cristina Moura**, Brazil |
Brazilian/EnglishSAT 22.08. **Lola Arias**, Argentina | EnglishTUE 25.08. **Emma Dante**, Italy | Italian/GermanWED 26.08. **Tímbré 4**, Argentina | Argentine/GermanTHU 27.08. **Yan Duyvendak**, Switzerland, and **Omar Ghayatt**, Egypt |
German/ArabicFRI 28.08. **Young Jean Lee**, USA | AmericanSAT 29.08. **Yasmeen Godder**, Israel | English

ZKB Patronage Prize 2009

Sustainability is a big word and a noble intention. It is on everyone's lips. And some would even say: Sustainability is a necessity. But as is often the case with big words and existential necessities, they are seldom followed up with action.

The Zürcher Kantonalbank has talked about sustainability long before green has become a trendy colour. And: It does not just talk about it, it acts accordingly. Continuity and long-term commitment – one could also call it reliability and trust in the partner – are values it practises not only in banking but also in sponsoring, especially in the area of cultural sponsorship. Making investments with not just immediate but long-term effects are paramount, especially in times like this.

The ZKB Patronage Prize, awarded for the 14th time this year, is a beautiful example of cultural commitment. Established by the festival board and the ZKB in 1996, it has proven to be a «sustainable» investment in every respect: The prize of 30 000 Swiss Francs awarded annually to a young, innovative company is explicitly conceived as a contribution towards a future production. The list of former prize-winners confirms that the jury has not been deluded by short-lived eye-catchers and artistic flashes in the pan. Director Stefan Pucher (1997), the-

atre company 400asa (2000), choreographer Sarah Michelson (2002) or the Chinese artists collective Living Dance Studio (2004) – to name but a few – have convinced with their subsequent artistic creations and justified the faith given to their innovative potential.

But sustainability is never preclusive. Not only the winners, but all nominees benefit from the Patronage Prize. The denotation «nominated for the ZKB Patronage Prize» has become an «award» in itself because it directs the audience's attention to the works of hitherto little-known artists.

Sustainability also means: to put one's cards on the table. Whenever possible, the prize-winners' subsequent works are presented at the festival. The ZKB and the festival board would therefore like to call your attention to the American-Korean director and playwright Young Jean Lee (see page 16). In 2007, she won the ZKB Patronage Prize with «Songs of the Dragons Flying to Heaven», a provocative farce about the cultural identity of Asian immigrants in the USA. Now she returns to Zurich to present her critically acclaimed piece «The Shipment». We invite you to seize this opportunity and to convince yourself of the sustainability of the ZKB Patronage Prize. Enjoy the festival. (esc)

ZKB Patronage Prize CHF 30,000

The Patronage Prize of the Zürcher Kantonalbank is awarded annually to an artist or a company working in independent theatre, dance theatre or performance art, who have distinguished themselves and shown innovation in the creation of new work. The aim of this prize is to support the chosen recipient in their future projects. The criteria for candidates is that the significant work for which the award is actually given has had its premiere within the past two years.

The festival board nominates five to seven productions from the festival's current programme. Precedence is given to artists who the board feel have yet to receive a level of public recognition that is commensurate with their achievements. Former winners of the prize are excluded from nomination.

ZKB Acknowledgement Prize CHF 5,000

The Acknowledgment Prize allows for additional recognition and support of a nominee whose work is considered to be outstanding. It is awarded to a company or an artist for extraordinary

achievement in such areas as choreography, dramaturgy, audience participation or acting.

Jury 2009

Mahmoud Aboudoma, Egypt

Born 1953 in Cairo. Studied drama at the Alexandria University. In 1989, he founded the «Alternative Theatre Group», one of Egypt's first independent theatre companies, for which he directed a number of shows. In 2004, he founded the International Association for Creation and Training (I-act), which he has since managed (www.iact-eg.org). He is the programming director of the Arts Center Bibliotheca Alexandrina and organises the annual Creative Forum for Independent Theatre Groups (Europe-Mediterranean), an independent theatre festival in Alexandria.

Zuleikha Chaudhari, India

Studied stage direction and light design at the National School of Drama in Delhi and at the Motley Theatre Design School in London and graduated in Vermont (USA) in 1995. Since the early 90s, she has directed various performances and investigated the works of Heiner Müller. Her more recent creations, site-specific installations based on texts by Haruki

Murakami, Shakespeare and Roland Schimmelpfennig, were presented at international festivals. In 2008, she was artist in residence at the Kunsten-festivaldesarts in Brussels.

Enrique Diaz, Brazil

Director, film and theatre actor, born 1969 in Peru. In 1990, he founded the independent theatre company Companhia dos Atores (www.ciadostatores.com.br) in Rio de Janeiro. For 12 years, he was its artistic director and continues to collaborate with the company. He is one of Brazil's most sought-after directors and his award-winning productions are gaining critical acclaim in Europe. In 2006, he opened the Brazil festival of the theatre «Hebbel am Ufer» in Berlin with the Shakespeare adaptation «Ensaio. Hamlet», which was subsequently awarded with the critics' prize for best foreign production in France.

Klaus Hersche, Switzerland

Born 1950 in Appenzell, Switzerland. In 1983, he co-founded the Festival Belluard Bollwerk International in Fribourg and acted as programme director until 2000. For three years, he directed the cultural centre Les Subsistances in Lyon, France. From 2003-2008, he was project manager at the Centre culturel

suisse in Paris. Since 2008, he has been a delegate of the cultural foundation of the canton of Thurgau and has realised various theatre projects with the Atelier de Gestes in Fribourg.

Simone Anne von Büren, Switzerland

Studied English and American literature, child and adolescent psychology at the University of Berne and drama at the Dartington College of Art, England. After working as a music theatre dramaturge at the Theater Biel Solothurn until 2002, she has since contributed as a dramaturge to numerous theatre and music theatre productions and has been a freelance writer for various publications such as *Theater der Zeit* and *Musik&Theater*. Furthermore she teaches at the Swiss Literature Institute at the Berne University of the Arts.

Nominees 2009

Faustin Linyekula & Studios Kabako, Congo: more more more ... future

En viaje, Chile: Rueda

Kassys, Netherlands: Good Cop Bad Cop

Gintersdorfer / Klassen, Germany / Côte d'Ivoire: Betrügen

Laura Kalauz & Martin Schick, Argentina / Switzerland: Title

Claudio Tolcachir & Timbre 4, Argentina: Tercer Cuerpo

Award Ceremony

The ZKB Patronage Prize and the Acknowledgement Prize 2009 will be awarded on SAT 29 August. The jury's decision will be published at around 18:00 hrs on www.theaterspektakel.ch.

