

EUROPEAN POLYTHEATRE
PRESENTS

RAILROAD

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY

BRYAN REYNOLDS

REGIONTEATERN BLEKINGE KRONOBERG

OCTOBER 29 19:00, 2013

TICKETSALE: 0470-416 00, WWW.TICNET.SE

70 SEK / TICKET

FOR THE AGES 16 AND OVER



European Polytheatre is a collaboration between



TRANSVERSAL THEATER



Kompani Komedie

The performance is supported by



Länstrafiken
Kronoberg

Växjö Vandrarhem
Evedal

Gusto

REGION TEATERN
BLEKINGE · KRONOBERG

EUROPEAN POLYTHEATRE: EXPRESSION AND CULTURAL AWARENESS LABORATORY
Third International Meeting
Växjö, Sweden - October 26-29, 2013

CONCERNING “EUROPEAN POLYTHEATRE” AND GRUNDTVIG PROGRAMME

This is the third meeting of European Polytheatre, a multi-event project engaging issues of migration, cultural exchange, and xenophobia in Europe through the study, creating, and sharing of theatre and the European performing arts, aesthetic, and cultural traditions informing its production. During our first meeting in Rome, December 2012, we explored historical representations of migration issues in the form and content of Ancient Greek Drama that resonate powerfully with contemporary concerns. In Amsterdam, April 2013, we similarly learned about Commedia d'ell Arte and the impact it's had on cultural identity in Italy. Now we are in Växjö, where we are exploring the devastation, trauma, and pressure the Holocaust has caused Dutch and European Jewish culture and traditions, specifically, and the impact it continues to have on migration issues across Europe today, especially as it relates to people of marginalized or foreign cultures. European Polytheatre is funded by the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme. The Växjö meeting is also supported by Regionteatern Blekinge Kronoberg, Länstrafiken Kronoberg, Gusto samt Växjö Vandrarhem Evedal.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Railroad is a play of intense yet highly confined action (a narrow boxcar: imagine whirling atomic particles spiraling inward into a black hole) that explodes outward in the human dimensions of three living families from three cultures (Dutch Jewish, World War II German, and 21st-century American), four generations, and two eras. Centripetal, centrifugal, and reeling by turns, the play emerges from the defining center of the 20th century (the Holocaust, the nadir of civilized Europe) to create the wobbling imbalance of the present day on a “grassy knoll” in polyglot Battery Park, New York City. In design, acting, and production, we seek to create the pressure of confinement and the joy of childish hopes, the lack of air and the freedom of flight (emigration), the bleakness of the black German Lugar, and the audaciously bright colors of the American flag, all in their centrifugal/centripetal dance.

Bryan Reynolds, Artistic Director for Transversal Theater Company

CHARACTERS IN RAILROAD

Jewish-Dutch Family:

JOEL MAYER (30) performed by Niels Horeman

His wife HANNAH MAYER (26) performed by Anouk Briefjes

Their son DANIEL MAYER (7) performed by Pierre Henry

His sister LIBI MAYER (3) performed by Flore Fiers

German-Nazis Family:

KLAUS REINHARD (30) performed by Giovanni Morassutti

His wife MARIE REINHARD (26) performed by Anne-May de Lijser

Their son JANNI REINARD(7) performed by Bruno Mathelart

His sister SARAH REINARD (3) performed by Olga Koutsou

American Family:

HENRY (30) performed by Konstantinos Kounelakis

His wife LAUREN(26) performed by Michelle Croze

Their son STEPHEN(7) performed by Micke Klingvall

His sister LISA (3) performed by Stefania Toscano

GERMAN SOLDIERS performed by Fredrik Schirén

WOMAN HAWKER performed by Maria Papanikolaou

KAREN ZUCKERMAN performed by Lilia Lytra

Production Team:

Bryan Reynolds – Director, Playwright

Oscar Seip – Stage Manager, Lighting Designer

Anouk Briefjes – Musical Director

Stefania Toscano – Choreographer

David Backovsky – Sound Designer, Video Designer

Laila Burane – Costume Designer, Make Up Artist

EUROPEAN POLYTHEATRE: EXPRESSION AND CULTURAL AWARENESS LABORATORY
Third International Meeting
Växjö, Sweden - October 26-29, 2013

PARTNERS IN THE PROJECT



The Transversal Theater Company. (Amsterdam/Netherlands) The TTC approach is multifaceted and interdisciplinary. In addition to creating performances, we write academic books and articles, offer workshops on acting and other aspects of theater making, and organize conferences. Throughout our work, we not only engage research across the arts and humanities, but also from a variety of other fields, including cognitive neuroscience, robotics, and mathematics. The primary aim of Transversal Theater is to connect young scholars and artists with experienced academics and theater professionals, and, in effect, to foster exchanges, collaborations, and opportunities to learn, share, and explore new ideas, techniques, and insights. We have toured productions, given lectures, and taught workshops in fifteen countries altogether.

Ref. Bryan Reynolds | www.transversalttheater.com



“MACHINA” Drama Group (Thessaloniki/Greece) Is a non-profit organization established in 1995, implementing several drama activities in the framework of continuous learning promotion for people disadvantaged for socio-economic reasons/ unemployed, people in age 45 +, women, low educated, people without professions and immigrants. Throughout its existence MACHINA Drama Group: is functioning in cooperation with local municipality; has presented more than 25 performances; has cooperated with other European drama groups from Malta, Austria, Finland, Latvia for the production of cultural work and cultural exchange; has been distinguished in Pan-hellenic Drama Competition of Educational Company and “Art Theatre” (Theatro Technis), gaining the First Award the 1995, the Special prize the 1996; has gained the Second Award in the Pan-Hellenic Drama Competition of Ministry of Education and Lifelong Learning (2002). One of MICHANI main objectives is to enhance cultural and educational activities shared by Europeans through the development of cooperation, learning partnerships and to encourage transnational circulation of art, culture, knowledge and ways of expression.

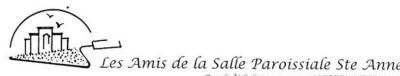
Ref. Maria Papanikolaou | www.dg-machina.com



MTM mimoteatromovimento (Rome / Italy). Is a non-profit organization that deals with theatre as a pedagogical tool for adult education. MTM uses traditional technique of Commedia dell’Arte in order to develop the capacity of the participants to express them- selves fully. MTM works in English and Italian. Since 1979 MTM has organized, produced and developed several activities in the field of theatre focusing on international programs like workshops, festivals and performances involving international actors and staff. Lidia Biondi , as the president of MTM, has a background in fine arts, dance and theatre.

Ref. Lidia Biondi | www.mimoteatromovimento.org

PARTNERS IN THE PROJECT CONTINUED



Les Amis de la Salle paroissiale Sainte-Anne (Dinant / Belgium). Association created in 1998 to re-dynamise a local hall that was more or less in ruins. The way we found to collect money and renew it was to develop the theatre company that had begun its activities some years before and had already gathered hundreds of people of all generations in preparing and performing local or regional (hi)stories. The Compagnie du Rocher Bayard was born and since then, its reputation has grown and has been recognized on local, regional and even national levels by the amateurs associations. We have a group of 20 teenagers working on the national Teens Stage Program lead by Promotion Theatre asbl; we work with a group of 30 adults on repertory theatre (Molière, contemporary writers, ...) and with a group of 150 people on historical plays that we perform in villages, woods, castles etc. We lead theatre workshops. Our specificity is to promote the participation of the local populations by rehearsing and performing in front of their houses.

Ref. Bruno Marthelart

Kompani Komedi

Kompani Komedi (Stockholm/Sweden). Non-profit organization established in 1995, dedicated to Commedia dell'Arte and Vulgar Comedy as theatrical forms. As a theatre group we are primarily an artistic and educational organization. Our goal is to play, establish and popularize physical theatre, Commedia dell'Arte and Vulgar Comedy in Sweden and internationally. Kompani Komedi strives for a deeper collaboration with other theatres and organizations in order to build and take part in a greater network where we think we can make a contribution with our knowledge. Kompani Komedi is organized from an idea about everyone's participation in the whole process. Only those who are active in performances and other work may be members in the non-profit organization. On the other hand everyone who works active within the group may be members. We want to create the biggest possible devotion in the work in the long run this way.

Ref. Fredrik Schiren | www.klingvall.com/e/KK-e.html

