

WHS LÄHTÖ / DÉPART

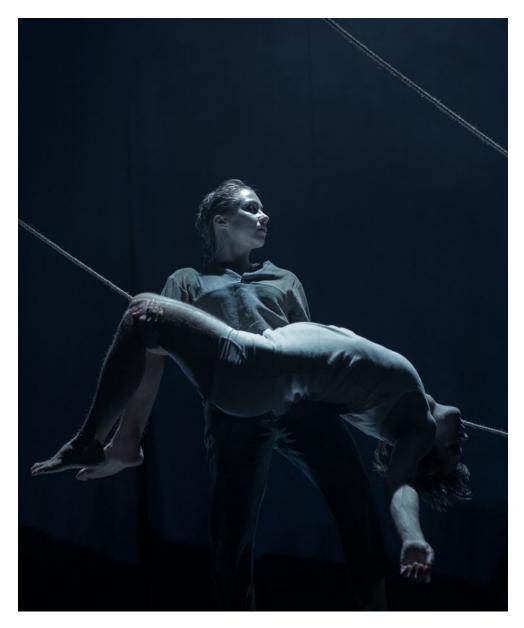
There is a woman and a man, who have a complicated relationship. Confused, they stand on a stage, surrounded by clothes. Feelings and thoughts are expressed through the movement of their bodies – and the movement of the clothes, which have a life of their own.

Lähtö / Départ is the latest production of visual theatre & circus company WHS. Directed by magician and visual artist Kalle Nio the performance brings to the stage a couple that has drifted apart from each other and is now floating in the middle of dreamlike imagery and illusions. Inspired by the work of 19th century magicians' stage illusions, the performance creates a mysterious atmosphere where absurd humor and tragedy alternate. The piece will provide a unique theatre experience in which circus, magic, dance, clothing design and visual arts merge.

Large-scale video projections enhance the piece. Twisted black and white cinema style and cinematic tricks and effects flow from the screen on to the stage. The furniture on the stage turns into constructions that challenge the laws of gravity, creating a space of instability where the couple tries to resolve their feelings. Everything is in constant state of transformation.

The piece borrows its themes from the intense depictions of Michelangelo Antonioni's films and asks whether it is possible to confront another person again and again as a stranger. The absurdness and miscommunication in relationships is brought into focus, as the performers communicate through the transformations of the clothing and the objects. The dreamlike, twisted soundscape of the piece is created by composer Samuli Kosminen.





Direction : Kalle Nio

Choreography : Vera Selene Tegelman & Kalle Nio Performers : Kalle Nio ja Vera Selene Tegelman Costumes : Mila Moisio ja Kaisa Rissanen Music and sound design : Samuli Kosminen Lighting : Jere Mönkkönen Videos : Matias Boettge & Kalle Nio

Production : WHS

Supported by : Les Migrateurs / Associés pour les Arts du Cirque, The Finnish National Theatre, Kone Foundation, The Finnish Cultural Foundation, Arts Promotion Centre Finland and Alfred Kordelin Foundation.

Pre-premiere March 28th - 29th 2013, Les Migrateurs, Théâtre de Hautepierre, Strasbourg, France

Premiere May 22nd - 25th 2013, The Finnish National Theatre, Helsinki, Finland

WHS is a visual theatre / contemporary circus group from Finland. The productions of the group have been a crucial factor behind the rise of Finnish new circus that has rapidly occurred in the past decade. In the performances of the group new circus has become a very modern, independent and continually changing form of expression, that other arts, especially video image, compliment. In the press the performances have been called avant-garde also in the larger contexts of theatre and art in general. The performances have been on the sharp edge of the latest developments of theatre as well as circus.

The group has taken their eight previous performances across 30 countries, visiting over a hundred world-famous festivals, circuses, theatres and puppet theatres in Norway, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece, Croatia, Serbia, Ukraine, Poland, Russia, Slovak and Czech Republics as well as USA, Brazil, Columbia, Argentina, China, South Korea, Taiwan and Japan.

KALLE NIO

Kalle Nio is a magician and a visual artist from Helsinki. In his work he examines the new kinds of expression possibilities provided by video image and its capacities related to time and space. He has he has graduated from The Finnish Academy of Fine Arts. As a magician Nio has specialised in developing new tricks and new kinds of magic. His inventions have been published in the most important professional magic publications such as the MAGIC-Magazine. Year 2000 he won third price in the world championships of magic (FISM) in the Inventions category. In addition to his work as a magician, Nio has worked as a director, editor and animator in TV programs, commercials and short films.

SAMULI KOSMINEN

Samuli Kosminen is one of Finland's top percussionists and sampling masters. As a drummer, percussionist, composer and producer, Kosminen has collaborated with a gargantuan array of artists such as Kronos Quartet (USA), Valgeir Sigurðsson (ICE), Jónsi (from Sigur Rós. ICE), KTU (USA-Finland), Emiliana Torrini (ICE) and many others. For the past decade his main collaborators have been Icelandic band Múm and Kimmo Pohjonen. As the Kluster duo with Pohjonen, they have performed in Europe, America and Japan. The Pohjonen / Kosminen duo were one half of the original KTU band with Trey Gunn and Pat Mastelotto (King Crimson) and they composed the award winning Jade Warrior filmscore. With Múm, he has toured Europe, America, Australia and Japan and recorded four albums. Originally a drummer, now an explorer of fleamarket percussion, beat devices, melody-making toys, clonky/clunky machines and tuneful data processors, Kosminen has discovered strange, new dimensions of rhythm and sound.

MILA MOISIO JA KAISA RISSANEN

The Finnish clothing brand TAUKO by Mila Moisio and Kaisa Rissanen is known for costume designs for various performing artists, theatre and new circus pieces, and installations. TAUKO builds their designs on recycled and often unconventional materials and techniques, which inspire novel ways to design and manufacture costumes. Environmental and social issues related to clothing are also present in their work.

JERE MÖNKKÖNEN

Jere Mönkkönen has graduated as a light designer from Tampere University of Applied Sciences. He has been collaborating with various groups and artists like: Alpo Aaltokoski Company, Circo Aereo, Cie Nuua, Race Horse Company, Savonlinna Opera festival, Kristian Smeds, Centre for Practise as Research in Theatre and WHS.

VERA SELENE TEGELMAN

Vera Selene Tegelman graduatet in 2009 from Department of Dance in Theatre Academy of Helsinki. As a student she already worked as a dancer with various choreographers including Virva Talonen, Heli Meklin, Tommi Kitti and Teemu Kyytinen. After graduation she has been working in productions by Dance theatre Tsuumi and Dance theatre Glims & Gloms. Latest collaborations has beem with choreographer Elina Pirinen 'Tanssitaideteos' and 'Nonfiction' by MIlla Koistinen.

MATIAS BOETTGE

Matias Boettge is a versatile film artist with a wide experience in experimantal and traditional film making. As a Director, cinematographer and editor he has been part of various film and stage productions, including WHS production Odotustila / Waiting Room.



18 MITTEN

Recension Scen

Tvåsamhet – en illusion?

NYCIRKUS Lähtö

Regi: Kalle Nio. Koregorafi: Vera Selene Tegelman & Kalle Nio. Kostym: Mila Moisio & Kaisa Rissanen. Musik och ljud: Samuli Kosminen. Ljus: Jere Mönkkönen. Video: Malias Bottege & Kalle Nio. På scenen: Kalle Nio & Vera Selene Tegeman. WHS premiär på Nationalteatern 22.5.

Slisk slask. Slisk slask. Det låter som om mannen skulle vada genom vattenpussar, som om svallvågorna som öser över fondväggen var riktiga och hade skvalpat över på scenen. Men nej, estraden är fortfarande så när som tom.

Nycirkusgruppen WHS föreställning börjar med att utmana hörselsinnet med kluriga ljudeffekter. Sedan fortsätter den med fler knep och knåp - armar som dyker upp ur ingenstans och kläder som plötsligt får liv. Kalle Nio - trollkarl, konstnär och regissör- har skapat ett stycke samtidstrolleri som inte sällan får en att gapa och spärra upp ögonen. I första hand är det förstås de skickligt utförda konsterna som väcker förundran, som när han och Vera Selene Tegelman balanserar massiva glasrutor på en hand eller fajtas med levande kragskjortor. Men hänförelsen kommer också från den skönhet blicken får vila vid. Sublima stormar och regnbyar som är mer poetiska än de verkliga väderfenomen som härjar utanför Nationalteatern. Dramatiska naturlandskap som kunde vara signerade den romantiska bildkonstnären Caspar David Friedrich. De skapar en fräck kontrast mot femtiotalsdetaljerna i kläderna och i filmsekvenserna som kunde vara lånade ur en film noir-rulle.

Lähtö – avgång – lyder titeln på föreställningen som under några dagar gästspelar på Nationalteatern. Utan ord formuleras en berättelse om ett parförhållande, en lek med nårhet och distans. Känslor förmedlas inte med repliker utan med rörelser och livfulla miljöer.

Alltid är det någon som sticker, antingen slänger nyckelknippen på bordet och klär på sig ytterrocken eller blir ett med det härjade strandlandskapet utanför. Kanske tvåsamheten bara är en illusion tänker jag när speglingen av Vera Selene Tegelmans sovande kropp försvinner ut i luften. Det är som en subtil variant på det klassiska tricket där troll-



MAGISKT PAR. Vera Selene Tegelman och Kalle Nio trollar på scenen i föreställningen Lähtö som gästspelar på Nationalteatern. том

SAMLIV. Föreställningen ställer frågor om närhet och distans genom rörelser och känslomättade landskap.. TOM HAKALA

Alltid är det någon som sticker, karlen i hög cylinderhatt trollar bort antingen slänger nyckelknippen på kvinnan på scenen med ett enkelt bordet och klär på sig viterrocken el-"Åbrakadabral".

Den finska gruppen WHS har gjort sig ett namn utomlands med sin säregna visuella teaterkonst. Så är också den internationella touchen och den höga standarden uppenbar i det senaste verket.

En föreställning som föds här och

"Utan ord formuleras en berättelse om ett parförhållande, en lek med närhet och distans. Känslor förmedlas inte med repliker utan med rörelser och livfulla miljöer."

nu med rep, dukar och kroppar som bokstavligen smälter samman. Magi som inte skapas av paranormala krafter utan av något så normalt som människohänder – däri ligger storheten.

Isabella Rothberg 029 080 1381, isabella nvihberg@hbl.fi Lähtö kan ses i kväll och på söndag på Nationalteaterns lilla scen.

Togetherness - an illusion?

THEATRE REVIEW - Hufvudstadsbladet, 25.5.2013

Splish splash. Splish splash. It sounds as if the man would wade through the puddles, as if the surging waves pouring over the back wall were real and had slopped across the stage. But no, the stage is still nearly empty.

Contemporary circus group WHS begins its performance by challenging the sense of hearing with clever sound effects. Then it continues with more tricks and puzzles – arms that pop up out of nowhere and clothing that suddenly come to life. Kalle Nio – magician, artist and director – has created a piece of contemporary magic that regularly makes one gape and open eyes wide.

Primarily, of course, it is the skillfully executed stunts that evoke astonishment, as when Kalle Nio and Vera Selene Tegelman balance massive panes of glass on one hand or fight with live shirts. But thrill is also brought by the beauty one can rest one's eyes on. The sublime storms and showers of rain are more poetic than the real weather phenomena raging outside the National Theatre. Dramatic landscapes that could be signed by the Romantic artist Caspar David Friedrich. They create a bold contrast against the Fifties inspired details in the clothing and sequences that could have been borrowed from a film noir reel.

Lähtö - Depart - is the title of the visiting performance playing at the National Theatre for a few days. With no words a story is formed about a relationship, a game of closeness and distance. Feelings and emotions are not communicated through lines but through movement and vibrant surroundings.

Someone is always leaving, either throwing a bunch of keys on the table and putting on a coat or becoming one with the raging seafront outside. Perhaps togetherness is just an illusion, I wonder as the reflection of Vera Selene Tegelman's sleeping body disappears into thin air. It's like a subtle variant of the classic conjuring trick where the magician in a high silk hat only with a simple "abracadabra" conjures away the woman on stage.

The Finnish group WHS has made a name for itself internationally through its distinctive visual theater. High standards and an international touch is hence evident in their most recent performance. A performance that is brought to life here and now through ropes, cloths and bodies that literally fuse together. Magic that is not created by paranormal forces but by something as ordinary and normal as human hands - therein lies the greatness.

ISABELLA ROTHENBERG



Maagisia kuvia pariskunnan lähestymisestä ja erkaantumisesta

ohjaus Kalle Nio, koreografia pitkäksi aikaa. vierailuesitys Kansallisteatterissa 22.5.

esitys, kun visuaalisen teatterin ryhmätyönä syntynyt kokonais- tenkin vahvasti persoonallinen alkanut. näyttämölle maagisia kuvia toi- ta voi eikä ole mielekästäkään teet löytyvät esityksen omasta Lähdön maailmaa. Intensiivi- jien päällä sekä tilassa liikkuvat EEVA KEMPPI

sirkus sensa perään. Lähtö sekoittaa eritellä tarkasti. Esiintyläntyö ja tideoprojisoinnit liukuvat kauuniksi kuvastoksi, joka jää nikuuta vangitsevan kauniiksi kuvastoksi nikuuta vangitsevan kauniiksi nikuuta vangitsevan kauniiksevan kauniiksevan kauniiksi nikuuta vangitsevan kauniiksevan kauniiksevan kauniiksi nikuuta vangitsevan kauniiks nostalgista maailmaa

sa nissamin, valot šte monava nem, musikki ja šanet Samili ja lavatslaje puvustaja Anna mineet Michelangelo Antonio-nimistä mediataiteen näyttelyä. Osa näyttelym elokuvakohtaukge ja Kalle Nio. WHS-ryhmän ma kansainvälisesti menestynyt ne parisuhteineen. Muistumia sista on siirtynyt suoraan esisyntys myös melodramaattiisista tykseen ja osa on toiminut in-neel esitykseet ovat kieräneet yi mykkäelokuvista, Pina Bau-spiraationa esitykseessi nähtä-mittyvät juonettomaksi tarinak-kantuen toisistaan. Kohtaus ned engeset ota kernaneci ya mysa atoba tra i ja jopa ville kohtauksille ja kuville. si. Lähtö sai maaliskuussa ensi-Aki Kaurismäen elokuvien Tiibetin kielen sana bardo tar-

eurs-sirkuskeskuksessa. Lähtö on puhdasverinen Ennen kaikkea esitys on kui-nyt mutta seuraava ei ole vielä

omalla tavallaan. Mielikuvat traagisesta hukuttautumisesta, hyödynnetään kohtauksessa, arkisten tapahtumien puudut-tavasta toisteisuudesta aina ke-tavasta toisteisuudesta aina ke-

Lähtö sai maaliskuussa ensi-Kansallisteatterissa nähdään iltansa Strasbourgin Les Migra-seväitauden näätteeksi vaikut-teurs-sirkuskeskuksessa. Kansallisteatterissa nähdään liinat valuvat ja paita ärsyttää tässä ja nyt, ja todella uskallamsilittäjäänsä. Keskeisessä roo- me kohdata. ryhmä WHS vyöryttää pienelle taideteos eikä sen eri osa-aluei- kokonaisuus, jonka viittauspis- Bardo kuvastaa hyvin myös lissa ovat vaikuttavasti esiinty

välitiloissa, itsensä ja toistensa vät mutta myös säilyttää taikuu-

Magical images of a couple becoming closer and drifting apart

CIRCUS | Turun Sanomat 24.5.2013

Lähtö (Depart). Planning team, director Kalle Nio, choreography Vera Selene Tegelman and Kalle Nio, costume design Mila Moisio and Kaisa Rissanen, lights Jere Mönkkönen, music and sound design Samuli Kosminen, videos Matias Boettge and Kalle Nio. A visiting performance by the group WHS in the Finnish National Theatre on May 22.

The spring season of the Finnish National Theatre finishes with an impressive, high quality visiting performance as WHS, a visual theatre group rolls one magical picture after another onto the Small Stage. Lähtö mixes up dance, theatre, circus, film and magic into a compellingly beautiful imagery, that lingers to haunt the mind for a long time.

WHS is an internationally acclaimed group founded in 2002 by a pioneer in contemporary circus Ville Walo, magician-artist Kalle Nio and set and costume designer Anna Jämsä. The group has performed and received recognition in over thirty countries. Lähtö, directed by Kalle Nio premiered in Les Migrateurs circus centre, Strasbourg in March.

Lähtö is a full-blooded work of art arisen from teamwork and it can neither be broken down nor would it be worthwhile to thoroughly specify the different aspects of the production. The performance and video projections shift to become a part of the wistfully romantic and shamelessly nostalgic world created by sound, lightning and costume design.

Lähtö is in various ways evocative. The work group has drawn inspiration from Films by Michelangelo Antonioni and the doomed relationships in them. There are also echoes of melodramatic silent films, dance pieces by Pina Bausch and even compositions and minimalistic imagery from films by Aki Kaurismäki. Lähtö is par excellence a strongly personal unity with its reference points in the world of its own. However the charming transgression makes the performance also a tad introverted.

Caught in between

The idea of the performance was born when the group was working on a media art show called Bardo in 2011. Some sequences of the films shown in Bardo were directly transferred to Lähtö and others have inspired the scenes and imagery seen in the performance. Bardo is Tibetan word for a space or time in between, where time stands still, when something has already come to an end but the following has not yet begun.

Bardo is also a fine reflection of the world of Lähtö. The performance by Kalle Nio and Vera Selene Tegelman as a couple staggering and struggling in the spaces in between each other and in themselves is intensive and assimilated. The speechless performance allows for the viewer to imagine and experience the story of the couple in their own way. The images from the tragic drowning, the mind-numbing round of everyday life to the more care free moments of seduction overlap each other and form a plotless story.

Lähtö is filled with charming illusions and exhilarating surprises. Glasses drip, table cloths pour off the table and a shirt spites the one trying to iron it. A central part in the performance is played by the clothes that impressively move on the performers and on stage turning into persons, feelings, moods and memories. The performance both reveals how illusions are created and preserves the ambience of magic.

The most powerful images are created through applying Pepper's ghost – a technique developed in the 1860's – in a scene where the performers act with each other's reflections alternately becoming closer and drifting away from each other. The scene is a distressing display of how seldom we truly are at the same place at the same time with each other, how seldom we are here and now and actually dare to confront each other.

EEVA KEMPPI



Surrealistinen uni lumoaa katsojan

lo toimintansa alusta asti nykysirkusryhmä WHS on tuotannoissaan liikkunut eräänlaisella harmaalla alueella sirkuksen, teatterin, esineteatterin, tanssin ja taikuuden välimaastossa. Tällainen oman taidelajin luominen on sekä synnyttänyt lumoavia esityksiä että aiheuttanut välillä vaikeuksia saada esiintymistilaisuuksia, koska tilaajat eivät ole pystyneet määrittelemään tilaamansa esitystä. Uusien, vllättävien esityskeinojen ja tapojen lisäksi WHS on luonut myös uudenlaisia kontakteja eri ryhmien ja tiloien kanssa, Viimeisin esimerkki tästä on WHS:n uusimman tuo-

Sirkus

tannon, Kalle Nion Lähdön kantaesityksen paikka. Se oli Kansallisteatterissa. Tāmā ei sinānsā ole yllāttāvää, sillä nykysirkuksen tuotan-

not ovat usein monen eri kansainvälisen yhteistyökumppanin avulla syntyneitä. Tällöin on tavallista, että esityksestä

WHS Lähtö Suomen Kansallisteatteri, pieni näyttämö

Ohjaus Kolle Nio Koreografia ja esiintviät Vera Selene Teaelman ja Kalle Nio Puvut Mila Moisio ja Kaisa Rissonen Valot Jere Mönkkönen Musiikki ja ääni Samuli Kosminen Videoprojisoinnit Matias Boettege ig Kalle Nig

> myös ennakkoensi-iltoja. Ranskan Strasbourgissa maalis- omaisuus ovat esityksen tun- kaan tunnu yhtään yliampukeen teos nähdään seuraavaksi Italiassa, Georgiassa ja Rans-

kassa. assa. Voimakas visuaalisuus on Näyttämöllä nähtävistä näyistä ja asetelmista Lähdön keskeisimpiä ilmaitämöllä tapahtuu on alisteista

taa. Siis kuten taikuudessa kuu- 'ret tunteet jylläävät ja niitä ku- ja Vera Selene Tegelman ovat luukin. Nyt vain silmänkääntö- vastavat alas putoavat lukemat- pariskuntana yhtä aikaa sekä temput tehdään mahtavasti ja tomat verhot tai jättimäisten hyvin lihallisia että mykkäeloisosti ennen kaikkea tekniikan lasiseinämien luomat heijastu- kuvien lailla eteerisiä. ja videoiden avulla ei pelkällä mat.

sorminäpäryydellä, jota sitä-kin kyllä tarvitaan. Sanattoman esityksen alussa Sanattoman esityksen alussa toisiinsa ja elämäänsä kylläs-Näyttämöllä nähtävistä näyistä maailma, joka on täynnä aaliotynyt pariskunta istuu pöydän ja asetelmista voi halutessaan jen jylinää. Ja vaikka esityksen ääressä yrittäen tehdä eroa. löytää yhtymäkohtia niin Tita- rytmi on oikeastaan aika verk-Tuloksetta. Sitten kohtaus tois- nic-elokuvaan kuin taidehisto- kainen, se ei tunnu siltä. Pikemtuu, ja toistuu ja toistuu muut- riaan. tuen kuin varkain yhä oudom-on varsinaisen ensi-iilan lisäksi maksi, kunnes nainen katoaa mahtipontinen, mutta tyylik-Tai kuin katsoja olisi eksynyt

kuussa. Suomen esitysten jäl- nelman määräävät tekijät. Suu- valta tai vaivaannuttavalta. Nio

sukeinoja. Kaikki mitä näyt- voi halutessaan löytää yhtymäkohtia niin tamolla tapantuu on alisteista sille, miltä se näyttää tai vaikut-

Lähtö vyöryy pienen näyttämön lavalta kohti katsojaa kuin hyökyaalto. Tätä korostaa Sa-

ikkunaverhojen takana kuohu- käästi. Jokainen kohtaus pa- surrealistiseen uneen, jossa mi-Năin oli myös Lähdön suh-teen, jonka ennakkoensi-ilta oli Tämä outous ja kohtalon-suurta draamaa. Se ei kuiten-tää, ei edes silitettävä paita. rin elämästä on lähes pelkkää kään ei ole aivan sitä miltä näyt-

minkin vaikutelma on kuin ai-

Annikki Alku

Surrealistic dream charms the audience

Demari, 26.5.2013

The contemporary circus group WHS has from the very beginning done productions that move in a grey area between circus, theatre, object theatre, dance and magic. This kind of creation of a new kind of an art form has generated fascinating performances but every so often caused difficulties in finding opportunities to perform as the buyers have not been able to define the performance they've signed up for.

In addition to new surprising ways and techniques of performing WHS has also created new type of contacts between different groups and spaces. The latest example of this was the premiere of Kalle Nio's Lähtö (Departure) held in the Finnish national theatre in Helsinki.

This in itself isn't surprising as contemporary circus productions often arise from international cooperation with several different partners. In these cases it is common that a performance prepremieres before its actual premiere. This was also the case with Lähtö which pre-premiered in Strasbourg, France in March. After the performances in Finland Lähtö will be seen in Italy, Georgia and France.

A central medium in Lähtö is its strong visuality. Everything seen on stage is subordinate to what it looks or seems like – as it is supposed to be in magic. The conjuring tricks are big and spectacular. They are done par excellence by exploiting technology and videos – not only manual dexterity even though that is also been needed.

The speechless performance begins with a scene where a world weary couple sits at a table trying to separate. Without result. The scene is repeated again and again and keeps sneakingly turning more and more peculiar until the woman disappears in to the sea surging behind the window curtains. This peculiarity and fatefulness are the determining factors in the mood of the performance. The countless falling curtains or reflections mirrored on the gigantic glass wall represent the strong emotions churning inside the couple.

A stylish, spectacular whole

One can find points of resemblance to both art history and the film Titanic in the sights

and arrangements seen on the stage. As a whole the performance is dark and spectacular, but in a stylish way. Every scene from the couple's life is merely a big drama. However it doesn't feel a slightest bit exaggerated or embarrassing. As a couple Kalle Nio and Vera Selene Tegelman are at the same time both very carnal and ethereal as if in a silent film.

Lähtö rushes over the viewer like a tidal wave. This is emphasized by the soundscape filled with rumbling waves created by Samuli Kosminen. Though the rhythm of the performance is actually quite unhurried it doesn't feel like it. If anything it appears as if the time had been streched. Or as if the viewer had gotten lost in a surrealist dream where nothing is quite as it seems, not even ironing of a shirt.

ANNIKKI ALKU

KULTTUURI

Huojuva talo unien maisemissa

Lähdön ennakkoensi-ilta sai suitsutusta Strasbourgissa, ja tyytyväiseltä näytettiin Helsingissäkin

SIRKUS Lähtö. Ohjaus Kalle Nio, koreografia ja esiintyjät Vera Selene Tegelman ja Kalle Nio, puvut Mila Moisio ja Kaisa Rissanen, valot Jere Mönkkönen, musiikki ja äänisuunnittelu Samuli Kosminen, videot Matias Boettge ja Kalle Nio, Suomen kansallisteatterin pieni näyttämö.

SAMA kohtaus toistuu. la toistuu, luupin lailla. Mies ja nainen tympääntyneinä ruokapöytänsä ääressä. Jompikumpi tekee lähtöä pois kuviosta, mutta aina palaa lähtöasetelmiin. Kunnes nainen lähtee ja katoaa mereen. Suomen kansainvälisesti menestynein nykysirkuksen tai visuaalisen teatterin ryhmä WHS toi uuden ensi-iltansa Kansallisteatteriin. Ennakkoensi-ilta sillä oli jo Ranskan Strasbourgissa, jossa se sai kovasti suitsutusta. Tyytyväinen tuntui olevan ensiiltayleisö Suomessakin.

LÄHTÖ on epätyypillinen kuvaus tyypillisestä aiheesta. Vieraantunut pariskunta huojuvassa talossaan. Kulisseja ja verhoja pidetään pystyssä ja kohennellaan kaiken aikaa. Joskus lasitalon seinät kuitenkin hajoavat tuhannen siruiksi, ja maailma joudutaan kokoamaan alusta alkaen.

Kalle Nio (entinen Hakkarainen) on tullut tutuksi taikurina, mutta on kehitellyt taidettaan visuaalisen teatterin suuntaan ja menee visioinneissaan aina vain pitemmälle.

Ei tee oikeutta tässäkään tapauksessa puhua "taikatempuista". Niitäkin nähdään, vaikka parempi sana olisi ehkä illuusio. Halutessaan voi esityksessä nähdä jonkinlaisen modernin version taikurien klassikko-



Kalle Nio ja Vera Selene Tegelman Lähdössä.

noin.

Audiovisuaalisesti toteutus on komea. Jylisevät äänimaisemat ja hienot jättiprojisoinnit

luovat illuusioita ja harhoja.

paikoin jopa dramatiikkaa tihkuva. Pateettinenkin siinä määrin,

että yksi pieni hymyn kare esiintyjän huulilla laukaisee katsojassa katharttisen huokauksen. Vera Selene Tegelman on ilmeet- Kalle Nion amerikkalaisessa

Täysin sanaton Lähtö on tun-

nelmaltaan tumma ja viipyilevä,

standardista "leijuva nainen", nyt valojen ja heijastusten keisaan kouraiseva.

> AUDIOVISUAALISESTI toteutus on komea. Jylisevät äänimaisemat ja hienot jättiprojisoinnit luovat illuusioita ja harhoja. Kerroksellisuus näkyy sekä sisällössä että visioissa. Mikä on "totta" ja mikä vain kangastusta?

tömän poissaolevassa läsnäolos- renttulookissa tekemä soolo silitystä vastaan hangoittelevan paidan kanssa on kyllä hersyvän hauska, mutta konkretiassaan jotenkin irrallisen tuntuinen. Muu kun on abstraktia ajelehtimista ja dalimaista valumista unenomaisessa maailmassa, jossa jokainen hetki on ladattu täyteen lähtöä ja kaipausta. Jussi Tossavainen

Unstable house in a scenery of a dream

REVIEW, Helsingin Sanomat, 24.5.2013

The pre premiere of Lähtö (Depart) was praised in Strasbourg, and the audience in Helsinki seemed pleased as well.

The same scene is repeated. And repeated again, in a loop. A man and a woman, weary, sitting at a table. One or the other trying to depart, to leave the pattern yet always returning to the starting point. Up until the woman departs and vanishes in to the sea.

Finland's most internationally successful contemporary circus and visual theatre group WHS brought its new premiere to the Finnish National Theatre. The performance pre premiered in Strasbourg and got high praises. The crowd at the Finnish premiere seemed pleased as well.

Lähtö is an untypical portrayal of a typical theme. An estranged couple in their unstable house. The set and the curtains are constantly being held up, straightened and adjusted. Yet sometimes the walls in a glass house smash into a thousand pieces and the world has to be built up from scratch.

Kalle Nio (formerly Hakkarainen) has become known as a magician, but he has been developing his art towards visual theatre and he keeps on going further and further with his visions.

It would neither do any justice to talk about "magic tricks" in this connection. There are magic tricks in the performance, though a better word to describe them might be an illusion. One could also see in the performance a modern version of the magicians classic standard of a "floating woman", now created with lights and reflections.

The atmosphere in the entirely speechless Lähtö is dark and lingering, at some moments even overflowing dramatic atmosphere. Also pontifical in a way that the slightest trace of a smile on the performers lips makes the viewer emit a cathartic sigh. Vera Selene Tegelman in her impassively absent presence is riveting. The audiovisual execution is magnificent. Thundering soundscapes and gigantic projections create illusions and delusions. Stratification is apparent both in the content and visions. What is "real" and what a mere mirage? Kalle Nio's solo with a shirt resisting ironing is hilarious, but somehow feels disconnected in its concreteness. When everything else is abstract drifting and daliesque melting in a dreamlike world where each moment is packed with departure and longing.

JUSSI TOSSAVAINEN

From the stage: Lähtö (Finnish National

Theatre)

Pigeonnaire, Sunday May 26. 2013

The Small Stage at the Finnish National Theatre had a visiting production Lähtö (Departure) by a visual theatre group WHS this week. I had heard anticipatory buzz about the production and since there were only four performances I decided I would have to see it.

In Lähtö there is a couple, estranged from each other. The man (Kalle Nio) and the woman (Vera Selene Tegelman) are sitting at the table, eating. They are both leaving, departing both physically and mentally. The act of departing is done several times, the scene is repeated similarly until as if they gradually sink somewhere. Somewhere where reality is a reflection, and illusions and visions are reality.

The couple keep confronting each other time after time, tries and fails. The overall atmosphere is hopeless, final hour-like. And on the other hand very beautiful with all the waves, mirrors and shadows. Humor has either not been forgotten, it peeks out between the scenes every now and then, and even makes it to the stage in the form of a shirt resistant to ironing.

The illusions made my thoughts twist. I found myself looking for strings, ropes and attachments and not finding them. The execution was breathtakingly beautiful. Wine glasses pouring off the tables, raging sea, a man and a woman struggling in the maelstroms of their life. I watched the wordless performance as if I were under hypnosis. The grey and pale blue tones added to the dreamlike atmosphere of the performance, other colors were only used rarely and with consideration. The performance feels French, hazy and smells of cigarette smoke. And elsewhere the raging sea and wet sand, wet clothes and blank stares.

If another opportunity to see a WHS performance comes along I will grasp it without a second thought.

LINNEA TÖYRYLÄ

WHS: LÄHTÖ TECHNICAL RIDER

STAFF ON TOUR 2 actors - 3 technicians - 1 promoter

STAGE

The minimum dimensions of stage are:

- Height: minimum 7 meters to pattens 9 meters to grid
- Width: 9 meters (13 meters from wall to wall)
- Depth: 12 meters
- No more than 1° tilt of floor
- side wings 4 x both sides, width 2 meters or more
- black dance floor
- Total black out of the stage is required

- wireless intercom between back stage or wing and lighting board

- 2 rigging points (500kg), and 1 anchor point (250kg) for flying a person. See map for positionin.

The set up begins one day before the first performance and takes around 16 hours.

SET provided by company

- Grey Molton curtains 8 x 3m x 7m. rigged at flybar center stage.

- Back curtain (grey)
- gauze curtain
- Pulley system for curtains (9 ropes, 18 pulleys).
- 6 transparent screens 3m x 2m
- 2 tables with 4 chairs

VIDEO PROJECTORS

- Projector set up consist of 3 video projectors.

- 3 video projektors are provided by the company.

- 1 projector must be provided by the venue. The projector needs to be minimum 10 000 ansi lumens. With lens capable throwing 9 meters wide image at the grey curtains /cauze. Minimun resolution 1024 x 768. For example Panasonic PT-DW10000 / PT-D12000E

- projector rig for the projector of the venue.

- Direct electricity (not from dimmer) for video projectors. One to above stage, and second in centre of the back of the theatre,

behind/over the audience (2 schuko sockets). - Direct electricity (5 schuko sockets) for computers in FOH.

LIGHTING

Lighting equipment - Lighting console with memory

- -55 dimmer channels min. a ²kW,
- 4 x H-stands for sidelights
- 9 floor plates

INSTRUMENT COUNT:

- 28 x ETC Source Four, 750W, 36°
- 2 x ETC Source Four, 750W, 26°
- 1 x ETC Source Four, 750W, 19°
- 2 x ETC Source Four, 750W, 50°
- 12 x Fresnel 2kW (with barn doors)
- 5 x Fresnel 1kW (with barn doors)
- 12 x PAR 64, cp 62

Equipment must be in good condition, and equipped with accessories (shutters, barndoors, frames etc.)
black aluminium tape and black wrap for focusing

SOUND SYSTEM

- Quality PA-system, big enough for dynamic power and coverage for the venue. Full range speakers and separate subbass-speakers for strong low end. Well-known manufacturers preferred - L'acoustics, d&b, EV, Eaw, Nexo etc.

- 2 x monitor speakers, from 2 aux sends.
- good quality mixing desk, 2 x stereo channel.

- The sound for the performance comes from a computer trough a M-Audio Firewire interface and this needs to be connected to the FOH mixing desk with the DI-boxes or when possible straight with 4 pcs of 1/4 inch jack-to-jack cables.

CREW & PROPOSED SETTING SCHEDULE

The need of crew and the setting schedule are subject to local conditions. If your venue's circumstances require more time and/or personnel due to e.g. local union regulations, these numbers can be adjusted. Set up takes approximately 16 hours.

Total local crew needed:

1 x Stage Manager
 2 x Lighting technicians
 2 x Stage technicians
 1 x Sound technician

Local crew should be familiar with the venue and the house electricity feeds, dimmers, sound system, fly system etc. Crew must be free from other duties during set up times. The get-in should start one day prior to the 1st show. Here is an example of an setting schedule with 2 shows.

Get in day

9.00 - 9.30	Load in and unpacking
9.30 - 13.00	Light and video rigging, sound-system set-up, set
	preparations.
13.00-14.00	Lunch
14.00-16.00	Set preparations and focusing the lights
16.00-18.00	Focusing and programming the lights, video focusing.

Performance day

Programming lights, video testing 9.00-12.30 Sound check 12.30-13.00 Lunch 13.00-14.00 Rehearsals 14.00-16.00 Corrections (light & video focusing etc.) 16.00-18.00 Dinner 18.00-19.00 Warm-up & final preparations, cleaning 19.00-19.45 Doors open for audience 19.45 Performance 20.00 End of the show 21.05

2nd performance day

16.00-19.45	Corrections and preparations
19.45	Doors open for audience
20.00	Performance
21.05	End of the show
21.05-23.00	Strike down & packing

Duration of show is approximately 63 minutes. Strike down and packing takes approximately 2 hours.

Technical contact: jere@w-h-s.fi

ARTIST RIDER

ACCOMMODATION Accommodation and board for 6 people on the days of set up and performance

- 6 hotel rooms: 6 single rooms, min. 2 stars

DRESSING ROOMS

- 2 dressing rooms with shower (near the place of performance, heated if necessary, well lit, lockable or guarded, with chairs, a mirror, a WC)
- Bottles of water (minimum 4 small bottles for each

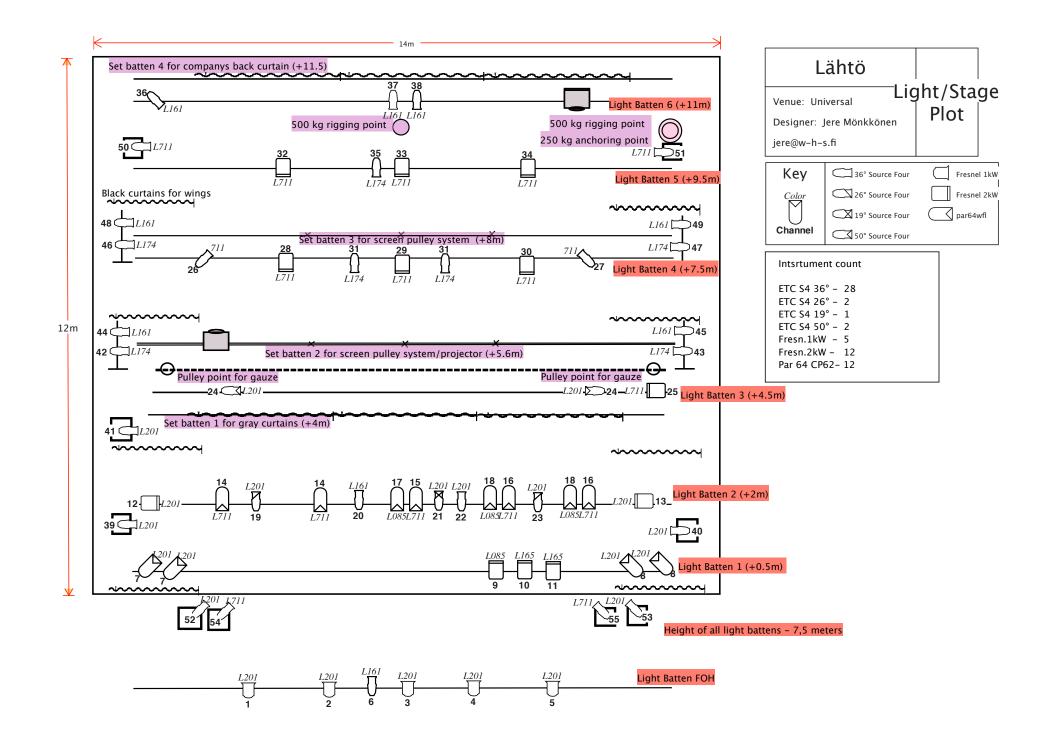
performance)

- catering: sandwiches, snacks etc. for 5 persons during set-up and 2 hours before performance (we prefer something local)vegetarian option also.

- 2 x towels

- hangers (10) for clothes, ironing board and iron





CONTACT

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