

steirischer herbst 24/09 – 18/10/2009
Overview theatre / performance / dance

Information and tickets:

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Temple of Reason

A crisis-stricken total art work for the herbst opening

Thu 24/09, 7.30 pm, Helmut-List-Halle Graz

A temple stands at the beginning of the festival like a portal. A "Temple of Reason", developed by Theater im Bahnhof, raumlaborberlin and steirischer herbst, built for the opening of steirischer herbst 2009 in the Helmut List Halle. This is a place for questioning routines in life, learning new skills, marvelling, contradicting, repeating, measuring and giving answers. However, the priests in this Temple of Reason are all representatives. What is representation, what is authenticity?

Stefan Kaegi / Rimini Protokoll (D/CH)

Radio Muezzin

Fri 25/09, Sat 26/09 & Sun 27/09, 7.30 pm Festival centre

In Arabic with German & English supertitles

The opening production "Radio Muezzin" by Stefan Kaegi / Rimini Protokoll – known and internationally acclaimed for their documentary theatre – puts people on stage who feature as a cliché, if at all, in the heated debates on Islam: four Egyptian muezzins. They are the protagonists in a reconstruction of their own life, self-exponents of a religious culture whose many faces are often reduced to simple negative stereotypes in Europe.

deepblue (B/N)

you are here

Sat 26/09, Sun 27/09 & Mon 28/09, 7.30 pm, Dom im Berg

English language

"you are here" by the deepblue ensemble embarks in turn on a friendly journey into the inner workings of theatre at Dom im Berg. Poetic and fleet of foot, they join with us to explore the mechanisms of theatre as a black box in the double sense.

Philipp Gehmacher (A) / Vladimir Miller (D)

dead reckoning – Choreographic video installation

Sat 26/09, Sun 27/09 & Fri 02/10, 9.30 pm, Sun 27/09, Sat 03/10 & Sun 04/10, 5.30 pm

Heimatsaal im Volkskundemuseum

In maritime language "dead reckoning" refers to a method of navigation that is not based on absolute fixed points outside of the ship: lighthouses, stars or poles. The current position is estimated on the basis of the last determined course and elapsed time – orientation thus becomes a constant forecast, that works its way along from the last certainty. According to that, in Gehmacher's and Miller's installation, the supposed orientation is an illusion, the reconstruction of movement and space is always only possible in fragments.

Mette Ingvartsen (DK)

GIANT CITY & evaporated landscapes

Thu 01/10, Fri 02/10 & Sat 03/10, 7.30 pm & 9.00 pm, MUMUTH

In a very unusual way, the young Danish choreographer Mette Ingvartsen links the challenging tradition of conceptual dance with the playful curiosity of contemporary culture. She presents two premières at MUMUTH on the second weekend of the festival: While in "GIANT CITY" she explores emotions, intensities, speeds and forms of expression of nomadic bodies, in the second piece, "evaporated landscapes", she creates a landscape devoid of people.

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Forced Entertainment (GB)**Void Story**

Fri 09/10, Sat 10/10 & Sun 11/10, 7.30 pm, festival centre

English language

At long last the legendary British Forced Entertainment theatre company is visiting steirischer herbst – with “Void Story”, a black-humoured and always ambiguous photo-novel: A couple suddenly thrown out of their flat and their accustomed life flees through a disturbingly hostile world: a flight that feels like science fiction of the dark, mysterious kind.

Antonia Baehr (D)**Laughter**

Fri 02/10 & Sat 03/10, 9.30 pm, Dom im Berg

“Laughter” by Antonia Baehr is a mixture of experimental set-up, lecture, yet also very physical performance. Based on “laughter scores” written for her, the choreographer, director and performer questions the phenomenon of laughter as an individual and unique distinctive feature.

Federico León (AR)**Yo en el futuro (Me in the future)**

Fri 09/10, Sat 10/10 & Sun 11/10, 7.30 pm, festival centre

In Spanish with German supertitles

Director, actor and film maker Federico León is a central figure in the Argentinean theatre scene. He presents “Yo en el futuro” (“Me in the future”) on stage, an astonishing generation-mirror game reminiscent of fifties cinema.

Lola Arias (AR)**Mi Vida Después (My life after)**

Thu 15/10, Fri 16/10 & Sat 17/10, 7.30 pm, festival centre

In Spanish with German supertitles

Author, director and actress Lola Arias, also from Buenos Aires, is billing for the second time at steirischer herbst – and her play “Mi Vida Después” (“My life after”) also revolves around generation relations: With the aid of photos, letters, tapes and memories, six actors reconstruct the very different youth of their parents during the military junta. Arias condenses these true personal stories into a poetic, harsh and yet confident evening of theatre.

Hooman Sharifi / Impure Company (IR/N)**Lingering of an earlier event**

Fri 16/10 & Sat 17/10, 7.30 pm, Dom im Berg

English language

Choreographer Hooman Sharifi of Iranian descent operates in the realm between theatre, dance and visual arts; for him, unlike hardly any other contemporary choreographer, the motto is “art is politics”. The project “Lingering of an earlier event” tells the story of a country that tries not to go to war.

Berlin (B)**Moscow**

Thu 15/10, Fri 16/10 & Sat 17/10, 9.30 pm, Sat 17/10, 5.30 pm, Volksgarten

In Russian and English with German and English subtitles

Berlin, the Belgian multimedia artist's group, specialised in theatrical city portraits and billing at last year's steirischer herbst with their “Bonanza” installation, take their own idealised childhood memories of Moscow's national circus as the starting point for their research, and let cleaners, political activists, millionaires and acrobats tell of their Moscow. The result – on six movable screens and accompanied live by a string quartet and a pianist – is “Moscow”, a musical film portrait of the city that will be showing in a specially designed tent at the Volksgarten.

Press contact

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