

Johannes Müller / Philine Rinnert

Das Weisse Rössl am Central Park (In schlechtem Deutsch und ebensolchem Englisch)

05. - 08.04.2019 Sophiensaele Berlin



What happens to culture, when you have to flee your country? What do you take with you? What is left behind? How does the culture of the place you are leaving change and how do you build yourself a new cultural home? Johannes Müller and Philine Rinnert ask those questions in their new music theater hybrid by taking a historical detour: Hardly anyone knows that the legendary revue *Im Weissen Rössl* (1930) was not only performed in Berlin, but also in New York in absurd miniature versions created by Europeans fleeing the Nazis regime. One of those examples of cultural transformation is Jimmy Bergs' adaptation "*Das Weisse Rössl am Central Park - In bad German and bad English*", which was played at New Yorks emigrant meeting point "*Café Vienna*". The entire room of the café was transformed by Berg and his ensemble, the head waiter turned into the Emperor (the Deus-ex-machina figure of the original revue), who not only served the audience, but also awarded medals to everyone. In their project of the same name Johannes Müller / Philine

Rinnert search for traces of those long forgotten miniatures in places like Vienna, Berlin and New York, telling the story of their author Jimmy Berg. Archival artifacts, biographical fragments, interviews with Bergs friends and family and the music of the famous revue are intertwined into a mixture of music theater and lecture performance. In collaboration with author Daniel Sauermilch and the artist Leila Hekmat Johannes Müller / Philine Rinnert take the audience on an excavation field - a space of lost entertainment history, refugee experience and the sparkling reinvention of Heimat.

With Damir Bacikin, Jochen Carls, Sarai Cole, Misha Cvijovic, Leila Hekmat, Lixue Lin-Siedler, Hauke Heumann, Sabrina Ma, Jödis Richter, Shlomi Moto Wagner

Direction and concept: Johannes Müller, Set design and concept: Philine Rinnert

Music arrangement: Misha Cvijovic, Additional texts: Daniel Sauermilch, Liveries: Leila Hekmat, Production management: ehrliche Arbeit – Freies Kulturbüro

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