THE DEER HOUSE

World premiere
Salzburger Festspiele, Perner-Insel, Hallein
28, 29, 30 July 2008 _ Tickets +43 662 8045 500

Jan Lauwers & Needcompany have two firsts for the Salzburger Festspiele this summer: the world premiere of both The Deer House and the Sad Face / Happy Face trilogy. The first two parts of this trilogy about mankind were Isabella's Room and The Lobster Shop, and The Deer House is the third. Past, future and present are brought together in three marathon performances.

I was prompted to write The Deer House by the sometimes tragic peripheral events that take place within the close circle of NC. While we were on tour somewhere in France, one of our dancers, Tijen Lawton, received the news that her brother, the war photographer Kerem Lawton, had been shot dead in Kosovo. Her tragic death provided the starting point for a play about a group of theatre-makers who are increasingly faced with the harsh reality of the world they travel around in. Everything is politics, but art isn't. Yet, art always gets caught between the pages of history: it is futile and has no influence on any events at all, which is where the mysterious necessity for it lies.

Jan Lauwers

Closer in time is the tour of The Porcelain Project. In October Grace Ellen Barkey elicited a great many reactions with this performance, which spans the border between dance and art.

The glorious romantic ballets of yesteryear pale in comparison to this, an erotic dreamland, becoming seduced by yearning, moments of love and a wonderful tenderness, forgetting time and the world. The beholder disappears into Barkey's heart just like into a fairytale with numerous threads.

Danielle De Regt / De Standaard

THE PORCELAIN PROJECT

MaZ, CC Brugge
17 January 2008 _ Tickets +32 50 44 30 60
PACT Zollverein, Essen
15, 16 February 2008 _ Tickets +33 320 61 96 96
Tramway, Glasgow
13, 14 May 2008 _ Tickets +44 845 330 3501

The Porcelain Project (Needcompany/Werkstatttheater/OHNO Cooperation) - was received with wonder at the SPIELART festival at the haus der kunst in Munich. It presents a unique world where the fascination for the two media I work in is magnified.

According to one spectator: “This was the Manifesto of Banalism, the big hit of the festival. Absolute rubbish at its best – no – the contemporary form of Dadaism!”

Katharina Heudorfer

THE BALLAD OF RICKY AND RONNY – A POP OPERA

La Rose des Vents, Villeneuve d’Ascq
22, 23, 24 April 2008 _ Tickets +33 320 61 96 96

In January Lemm&Barkey will be taking part in the group exhibition ‘I am your private dancer’, curated by Luk Lembrechts for the Strombeek Cultural Centre, which includes work by Bruce Nauman, Franz West, Mario Garcia Torres and others.

The Ballad of Ricky and Ronny – a pop opera by MaisonDahlBonnema will be on in Villeneuve d’Ascq.

THE LOBSTER SHOP

Espoo City Theatre, Espoo (Tapiola)
19, 20, 21, 22, 23 March 2008 _ Tickets +571 320 14 48 and +571 2 17 45 77
Taipei Arts International Association, National Theater, Taipei, Taiwan
22, 23, 24, 25 May 2008 _ Tickets +886 2 2392 5322

In addition to the tours of The Lobster Shop, Isabella’s Room, The Deer House and All is Vanity, Needcompany is increasingly becoming a company where several theatre-makers can develop and show their own work. Lemm&Barkey, MaisonDahlBonnema, OHNO Cooperation: in 2008 they have all made a clear statement. Undoubtedly to be continued.

ISABELLA’S ROOM

XI Festival Iberoamericano de Teatro de Bogotá
19, 20, 21, 22, 23 March 2008 _ Tickets +571 320 14 48 and +571 2 17 45 77
Taipei Arts International Association, National Theater, Taipei, Taiwan
22, 23, 24, 25 May 2008 _ Tickets +886 2 2392 5322

In my work with Needcompany I am always experimenting with time. For instance, I create museum installations (deconstructions) in which we put on performances lasting a whole day, and the observer decides for himself how long he wants to watch a particular action. The place (in this case a museum) and the action (theatre) are deconstructed by the subjectivity of the time involved in observing. So their deconstructions are the essential bridge between the two media I work in.

Jan Lauwers

THE LOBSTER SHOP

Espoo City Theatre, Espoo (Tapiola)
26, 27, 28, 29 February 2008 _ Tickets +558 9 439 3388
Teatre Lliure, Barcelona
6, 7 March 2008 _ Tickets +34 902 10 12 12
Kornjijke Schouwburg
11 March 2008 _ Tickets +32 56 23 98 55
Duhbelkelp/30CC & STUK, Stadsschouwburg Leuven
14 March 2008 _ Tickets +32 16 20 30 20
Tramway, Glasgow
16, 17 May 2008 _ Tickets +44 845 330 3501

In 2007 they have all made a clear statement: the world premiere of All is Vanity, which was received with wonder at the SPIELART festival at the haus der kunst in Munich. It presents a unique world where the fascination for the two media I work in is magnified.

According to one spectator: “This was the Manifesto of Banalism, the big hit of the festival. Absolute rubbish at its best – no – the contemporary form of Dadaism!”

Katharina Heudorfer

I’M YOUR PRIVATE DANCER

Strombeek Cultural Centre
4 January to 3 February 2008 _ Information +32 2 263 03 43

NEEDCOMPANY

With the support of the Flemish authorities.
THE DEER HOUSE
Jan Lauwers
With: Viviane De Moynck, Grace Ellen Barkey, Anneke Bonnema, Hans Peter Dahl, Tijen Lawton, Misha Downey, Taka Shamoto, Maarten Seghers, Inge Van Braeystegem, Julien Faure, Benoît Gob
Produced by Needcompany and the Salzburger Festspiele and coproduced by the Schauspildhaus Zurich.

SAD FACE / HAPPY FACE
A TRILOGY
PART 1: ISABELLA’S ROOM (THE PAST)
PART 2: THE LOBSTER SHOP (THE FUTURE)
PART 3: THE DEER HOUSE (THE PRESENT)
Jan Lauwers
Produced by Needcompany and coproduced by the Schauspielhaus Zurich.

THE PORCELAIN PROJECT
Grace Ellen Barkey
With: Misha Downey, Julien Faure, Benoît Gob, Tijen Lawton, Maarten Seghers, Taka Shamoto, Lemm&Barkey
Produced by Needcompany and coproduced by Théâtre Le Quai (Angers), La Rose des Vents (Scène Nationale de Villeneuve d’Ascq), PACT Zollverein (Essen) and Kaaitheater (Brussels).

THE BALLAD OF RICKY AND RONNY
– A POP OPERA
MaisonDahlBonnema
With: Hans Petter Dahl and Anna Sophia Bonnema
Produced by Needcompany/MaisonDahlBonnema, with the assistance of Kaaitheater (Brussels) and ImPulsTanz (Vienna International Dance Festival).

I’M YOUR PRIVATE DANCER
Exhibition Strombeek Cultural Centre. Curator Luk Lambrecht.