

## **39th Theater Day at the Lake Friedrichshafen (Program descriptions in English):**

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*Blickwechsel, Munich*

### **Erwin Olaf Re: Works**

Works by Dutch photo and video artist Erwin Olaf are the starting point for scenic miniatures. In his pictures, Olaf creates enticing but artificial worlds in which the group is completely immersed: sometimes exhilarating, sometimes agonizingly painful processes. It is well known that works of art "speak" to us. What is new is that the group provides immediate answers, asks questions itself and puts itself in the picture.

It is the "Erwin Olaf" project group, which originally worked as part of a sixth form course. In the meantime, everyone has grown out of school, is in training or active as students. The actors have created their own scenes and the director has contributed a few more ideas, drafts and musical fragments. The play has been changed and developed several times.

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*Dramatic association for artistic creation, Tiznit, Morocco*

### **Black and White**

A gripping drama-comedy that deals with ongoing conflicts between black and white. Set in an abandoned garden, the story unfolds in a fierce competition for the affections of a woman. It is about peace, love, gender roles and social challenges.

DAAC Tiznit was founded in 2005 as the "Troupe des Amateurs de la Scène". The demands of the theater group are high, and the creative group has been able to participate in many national and international art events and present their productions.

The plot of Ubu Roi largely follows that of Shakespeare's Macbeth: an ambitious subject, egged on by his wife, destroys his own king and family during a banquet and turns into a bloodthirsty tyrant as soon as he ascends the throne.

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*Compagnia Teatro Instabile, Imperia, Italy*

### **UBU ROI**

The plot of Ubu Roi largely follows that of Shakespeare's Macbeth: an ambitious subject, egged on by his wife, destroys his own king and family during a banquet and turns into a bloodthirsty tyrant as soon as he ascends the throne.

Directors Livia Carli and Gianni Oliveri are teachers at Lo Spazio Vuoto in Imperia, a private theater that opened in 2009. The show "Ubu Roi" was created in 2022 with a group of young people. Coming from amateur theater, they qualified and offer theater courses for children, young people and adults. For the first time, a group from Imperia in Liguria, Friedrichshafen's twin city, is a guest at the Theater Days.

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*South African - German friendship project,*

*Eersterivier (South Africa) and Unterschleißheim*

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*Theater group "Vlbg.Spätlese", Hard, Theater 60+/-*

### **Confessions of a widower**

The performance is a monologue, a widower's memories of his marriage and his children, who have become estranged from him. Only in a few moments does he admit to himself what really happened. The widower does not appear once, but five times, because the intention is to show that there are many people in every person. The viewer learns to hate the widower, but he will also show empathy. Comments from a neighbor round off the story. The theater group "Vlbg.Spätlese" Theater 60+/- was founded in 2008 as a senior theater group. Its strengths are social theater, projects in social centers and remembrance theater with nursing home residents, fall prevention in cooperation with "Sicheres Vorarlberg" and world premieres in cooperation with Vorarlberg authors.

The group takes part in national and international theater festivals every year.

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*Inclusive theater group of the Kannwas Kollektiv and the youth dance ensemble of Tanzhaus Lindau*

### **The little prince**

The story of Kim, a 16-year-old hip-hop dancer who feels excluded from her friends. Kim meets a mysterious man in the park who has just finished his book "The Little Prince". The story she begins to read unfolds as a reflection of Kim's own experiences. When the man reappears to retrieve his part of the story, a special friendship develops between the two as they read together. The Little Prince, whose characters they immerse themselves in, helps them both to overcome their own self-doubt.

The Little Prince is a production that emerged from an inclusion project by the Kannwas Kollektiv in cooperation with Tanzhaus Lindau. The story was reinterpreted with the participants and a play was created. In an emotional and deeply moving way, a group of 26 people with and without disabilities tell a vision of an equal society at eye level.

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*Theater am EvRG, Erfurt*

### **wtf?**

The average teenager has sex for the first time at the age of 17.2. On average, a German has three to four relationships. But what exactly is "a relationship"? And are the two facts from the beginning related? And what's with all the asterisks? We ask embarrassing questions and remain anonymous if we want to. And we shout out loud to the world if we want to. It's about sex, love, relationships, gender, the Kinsey scale, porn and the question of how to deal with all this stuff.

Former pupils of the EvRG. The motto of the school's theater work is: "by/for/with students". Most of the members of the ensemble have also led their own theater groups. The premiere of this project took place in 2020, shortly before the group members graduated from high school. Due to the pandemic situation and then various stays abroad and FSJs, it was hardly possible to participate in festivals together. They are now all working and studying in Germany again and are ready to perform this special production again.

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*Freier Theaterverein Heidelberg e.V. ; GenerationsTheaterClub*

## **Mirror, mirror ... if you don't want to suffer, you have to be beautiful**

Everyone is beautiful! Acceptance is the most beautiful make-up. We love body positivity and every ounce too much of us, because true beauty comes from within.

In the age of Brazilian butt lifts, Lash Sensational Sky High mascara and permanent hair removal, we simply try to be ourselves. If it weren't for the sobering fact that we see our own reflection in the mirror every day: Everything beautiful is fleeting. So why not quickly post a selfie so that at least the internet will remember you as young and beautiful?

The Klub des Freien Theatervereins Heidelberg developed this play over a period of nine months. The overarching theme of beauty serves as a guideline and creates space for individual approaches and discussions. A participatory working method enables all participants to contribute text and movement to the development of the play.

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*WildWuchs Theater, Bamberg*

## **1984**

1984: Winston Smith, a simple member of the totalitarian ruling state party of Oceania, tries to secure his privacy despite the omnipresent surveillance. He wants to find out something about the real, uncensored past and the non-ideologized reality and thus comes into conflict with the system, which finds out about him. Published in 1949, George Orwell's dystopia is still one of the most important books in world literature. The gloomy vision of power structures, surveillance and control is perhaps more relevant today than when it was written.

Started in 2009 as a student initiative in search of artistic forms of expression, the theater collective has developed into an active force in Bamberg's cultural landscape. With over thirty plays and numerous readings, performances and cultural projects as well as a cultural festival (Schall und Rauch), it has focused on both existential and real-life topics and the development of its own visual and stage language. In 2022, the group received the jury prize at the Theatertage am See among others.

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*Madeleine von Prost, Grenoble/Heidelberg*

## **GraftWerk**

Inspired by plant grafting, the group explores the phenomenon of "grafting": a slow process that makes it possible to create strong connections while preserving one's own identity. They stage a story in which two communities meet and experience an exchange. The refinement is also evident in the combination of different disciplines: theater, dance, music and language.

The Madeleine von Prost collective was created after the Rencontres du Jeune Théâtre Européen theater festival in Grenoble in 2022. Three performers come from Heidelberg (DE) and four from Grenoble (FR). The participatory approach allows everyone to contribute creatively to the development process. In addition to using different languages, we use elements of dance, movement and music.

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*Volxtheater of the Theaterwerkstatt Bethel*

## **PeopleMonkeysLove**

A monkey that can speak, think, feel and love like a human. - Is that possible? A monkey who only falls in love with humans and hopes for the fulfillment of his wishes through a special ability. A story of humans and apes who tell us what has to be given up in order to live a fulfilled life as an individual. The production deals with the question of human nature and the dynamic between humans and animals. The idea is based on texts by Franz Kafka and Haruki Murakami. In an artistic exploration of texts, images, music and views, the ensemble and director pose the question: What makes a person human?

Volxtheater is theater from the people and for the people. It is nourished by the great diversity of life experiences and ways of thinking of all those involved. The theater group takes up current topics, reworks thematic and literary material, brings ideas and imaginary worlds to the stage under professional guidance and direction. The play is based on what interests the participants about a topic or text or what they consider particularly worth communicating to an audience. A diverse and inclusive ensemble was found for MenschenAffenLieben.

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*COMEDYexpress, Sommeri, Switzerland*

## **"ODYSSEE" - a musical odyssey through 20 years**

### **COMEDYexpress**

We all know the story: Odysseus has fallen foul of the gods and is sent on a year-long odyssey as punishment by Zeus & Co. He has to pass life-threatening tests, gets into tricky situations again and again and it is not known whether he will ever be able to hold his beloved Penelope in his arms again. The gods are furious because he has dared to play the song "Highway to hell" with his band "Heartbreakers". Odysseus is given the task of touring the 20-year history of the COMEDYexpress and paying a visit to all 12 of its own productions.

The COMEDYexpress is a Thurgau theater ensemble with actors and actresses with disabilities from the Sommeri educational institution on the Swiss shores of Lake Constance. With the director/theater educator Peter Wenk and the cultural manager/theater educator Ambrosia Weisser, the COMEDYexpress has a professional management team with experience and a wealth of ideas. The best basis for creating humorous productions of their own through improvisational work, some of which inspire with their authenticity and originality.