

Power to Hurt

A cinematic-musical-trip after William Shakespeare

We know the immortal master in describing power and pain of a criminal outcast: William Shakespeare.

All his “monsters” (at first sight) have one thing in common: “The power to hurt”, seemingly inherent as with Richard III, seemingly learnt in pain as with Macbeth. Richard Gloster points it out very clearly in his first, famous monologue: The power to hurt himself and the others is basic condition for his monstrous behaviour.

The Austrian composer and sound/visual designer Christian Mair made ballads and songs using the lyrics of Shakespeare’s sonnets, but also of some historical plays. The outstanding singer/actor Raphael von Bergen performs this dark, but nevertheless sparkling musical fantasies.

Videos offer a third view of the topic. Scenes, seemingly born of weird and inspiring dreams accompany this stage performance of “the evil”.

“Power to hurt” is sort of a “cinematic-musical-trip” on a dark and mighty phenomenon, trying to infect both traditional and new Shakespeare-lovers, (and even the few, who are not addicted yet) with the genius of the unforgettable dramatist.

The evening draws a line from the first and gentle love-sonnets, to the political monstrosities of the famous anti-heroes and the late sonnets, full of passion and cruelty.

One thing comes out very clearly: Will is alive!

«"Power to Hurt" ist ein Stück für alle Sinne [...] Die Mischung aus Shakespeares Texten, Filmen und Musik ergreift die Zuschauer mit großer Kraft [...] Ein rockiger Hochgenuss, nicht nur für Shakespeare Begeisterte.» (Kulturwoche.at)

«Mit Fingerspitzengefühl und wehmütiger Melancholie sind kraftvolle Songs entstanden. [...] Ein Abend geprägt von monströsem Schmerz und der Unausweichlichkeit des Schicksals.» (Wiener Zeitung)

Stage-Cast:

Raphael von Bergen (voc., sax, clar.), Christian Mair (git., bass, key., loops)

Film-Cast:

Raphael von Bergen, Deborah Fasan, Hanna Gureczny, Luzia Oppermann, Carmen Schrenk

Stage & Light: Andreas Lungenschmid

Costume: Antoaneta Stereva

Live sound: Christian Reddeker

Music: saucybark (Raphael von Bergen & Christian Mair)

Visuals: Anna Maria Krassnigg & Christian Mair

Camera, edit: Christian Mair

Artistic support: Viktorie Knotková

Dramatic composition: Anna Maria Krassnigg

Produced by: Drama Shop

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Power to Hurt on youtube: http://www.youtube.com/view_play_list?p=F4215D1FEA091AA0

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