

Soharóza – Dóra Halas – Fruzsina Nagy – Ádám Fekete – Márk Bartha – Emese Cuhorka



The Issue

opened: 2018.
catwalk-concert (70')

30 November 2019, 9pm
Trafo House of Contemporary Arts

'It is unusual in Hungarian theatre for the visual or audio elements to have an equal role with the text. The new genre of 'catwalk concert' is a fruit of an exceptional collaboration. One of the collaborators is the Soharóza choral ensemble, led by Dóra Halas, who uses improvisational and collective composing methods to create their own music. The other is costume designer Fruzsina Nagy, who has her own past in fashion theatre, and who regularly works together with director Viktor Bodó. The first collaborative work of the creators was the performance Taboo Collection, which focused on Hungarian social taboos. The Issue is a story of Kafkaian wandering in the absurd maze of Hungarian bureaucracy, as exemplified by the costumes of Nagy and the music of Halas and sound designer Márk Bartha. The musical structure of the 'fashion show' was inspired by a piece by Zoltán Kodály, one of the most famous composers and folk song collectors of the 20th century. His dramatic folk-ballad, The Spinning Room, is a series of etudes about rural life using Transylvanian folk music. Similarly, The Issue offers a glimpse into our lives through a chain of Hungarian folk songs in new arrangement, this time painting an abstract living picture of urban and modern society. The quirky, contemporary costumes and the songs accompanying them each have a 'story' of their own, contrasting iconic and elevated national values with everyday Hungarian reality.'

Noémi HERCZOG, curator

CREDITS

Performed by Petra AL-FARMAN, Szaffi ASBÓTH, Dániel BARTOS Judit BIKSZ, Ilona Liliána BIRTALAN, Tamás BOGDÁN, Dóra BOTKA, Fanni ECKHARDT, Judit Sára ELEK, Sarolta EÖRSI, Magda GÖTTINGER, Dániel JANKÓ, Laura JUSTIN, Roland KAROSI, Lóránt KÉGL, Ákos LOKODY, Ákos LOVÁSZ, Sarolta MAJKUT, Kata NAGY, Lilla NAGY, Zsófia NAGY, Dóra RÁCZ, Zsófia REMES, Anna SEBŐK, Júlia SIMON, András SIPOS, László SOMOGYI, Bálint SZALONTAI, Máté SZILVAY, Borbála TAMÁSI, Tamás TÁRNOKI

Musical director, composer: Dóra HALAS

Costume designer: Fruzsina NAGY

Music, sound design: Márk BARTHA

Dramaturgy, texts: Ádám FEKETE

Choreography: Emese CUHORKA

Set: Juli BALÁZS

Lights: Áron KOVÁCS

Headaddresses: 3rd year BA scenography students of the Hungarian University of Fine Arts

Folk singing tutor: Réka ANNUS

Sound: Viktor M. SZABÓ

Technical director: András ÉLTETŐ

Assistants to the directors: Jutka SZOKOL

Project assistants: Petra AL-FARMAN, Tamás BOGDÁN

Directed by Dóra HALAS, Fruzsina NAGY

Soharóza is a Budapest-based experimental choral ensemble, founded in 2008 by Dóra Halas at the suggestion of renowned theatre director Viktor Bodó. The group produces multidisciplinary performances through a completely new approach to choral music and collective singing, utilising special creative techniques. They experiment and improvise with the human voice, language, movement, rhythm and folk music as well as composed pieces. They continually search for new forms and sounds and use collective choral composition methods developed by themselves.

Dóra Halas, leader of the Soharóza choral ensemble, received her doctorate (DLA) at the Liszt Academy of Budapest in 2013. The theme of her DLA dissertation was choral improvisation, from which her current research topic arose. She experiments with collective choral composition and as such expands the limits of traditional choir music. Her main artistic interest lies in multidisciplinary performances. As conductor, singer and composer she has worked in numerous theatre and dance productions.

Fruzsina Nagy started her career in alternative theatre productions and over the past decade she has directed several individual performances using costumes as the 'main characters' on stage. She has worked with directors Árpád Schillig, Róbert Alföldi, Tamás Ascher, Gábor Máté, Viktor Bodó and many others, and has contributed to international productions. She is highly interested in the relationship between the human body and its surrounding world, working with costumes, masks, make-up, fashion and visuals. She received the 'Best Costume and Mask Award' at the Hungarian Theatre Festival in 2009 and 2013, and was chosen as 'Costume Designer of the Year' in 2016 for her Taboo Collection costumes. At the 2019 Hungarian Theatre Critics' Award Nagy was awarded 'Best Costume Designer' for The Issue.

In 2019 she was part of the Hungarian designer team at the Prague Quadriennale, where they received the 'Award for Best Exhibition of Countries and Regions' for their work entitled **Intinite Dune**.

CONTACT

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photo: Márton KOVÁCS

BASIC TECHNICAL INFO

stage: large

travelling crew: 42

CO-PRODUCERS

CAFe Budapest Contemporary Arts Festival,
Trafo House of Contemporary Arts

SUPPORTERS

CAFe Budapest Contemporary Arts Festival,
National Culture Fund, Mohai Audio Ltd.