

EUROPEAN PAPER THEATRE

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MAGAZINE EUROPÉEN DU THÉÂTRE DE PAPIER HET EUROPESE PAPIERTHEATER TIJDSCHRIFT LA REVISTA EUROPEA DEL TEATRO DE PAPEL

THE FLOOD

Papirteatret Meklenborg (Marie Thodberg & Søren Mortensen)

As the programme indicated, the viewer was invited to witness a journey into the universe of the English musician and poet Peter Gabriel: conception, birth, rocking horses, the power of love, the yellowish pains of jealousy, the seductive whisper of abundance. THE FLOOD - 8 carefully selected songs from the programme of the musician, which have been presented for decades, covered the wide range of inner world and outer world, from deep emotions, mental shock and despair, to political accusation, to the unmasking of the superficiality of modern man. This production was intended as a large-scale work from the beginning as many artists worked on all levels. Here nothing is created in a private family setting or by an artist alone.



Inspired by the videos that Peter Gabriel has repeatedly produced to his songs, Claus Bregengaard and Karen Strandgaard have designed a very unique, haunting scenography, with only a few moving elements, but also against a calm background with different, impressive colours, where the few, very abstract figurines could act to the music. Using few means, a depth of the stage area was explored, that offered a platform to the unsettling sounds and words of the songs, which would both intensify and soothe the sensations. Impressive!

The music newly arranged by the paper theater player Søren Mortensen and played with the musicians of the band UNDERTOWdk and two guest musicians is perfect. He managed to arrange and record Peter Gabriel's songs in such a way that the listener is carried away after only a few seconds and forgets that it is not the original music by Peter

Gabriel. Background sounds and voices from the historical events of our world place the individual songs in a new interpretive light.

The singular voice of the singer Jakob Dahn, powerfully rough and gentle, brought to life the demanding emotionality in every song and thus created a lasting impression.

Phenomenal!

Søren Mortensen and Marie Thodberg, the team from Papirteatret Meklenborg, succeeded in presenting an extraordinarily haunting and artistically unique performance that lasted 40 minutes and was announced from the age of 15 years. It was to be expected that it would certainly find critics due to the modernity, loudness and emphatically calm performance. However, those who shared my assessment and positive outlook said that they had goose bumps just like me and felt tears flowing with one or the other song. A terrific experience! Special thanks go to Per Brink Abrahamsen for having persuaded his theatre team to make this trip to southern Thuringia.

This production has once again shown that the paper theatre holds endless possibilities and one can look forward to the next production with joy.

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