



Marc Schnittger

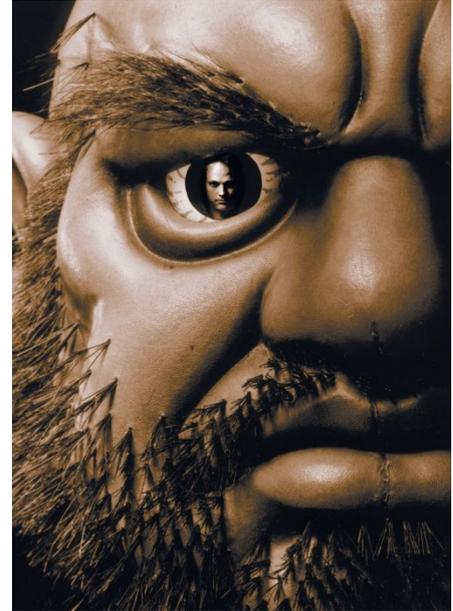
PRESS RELEASE

Hamlet

after William Shakespeare

The stage as attic: Hamlet's mother and his hated uncle marry shortly after the death of Hamlet's father. During the wedding ceremony Hamlet retreats on to the attic of the house and creates his reality. Through large puppets Hamlet expresses his thoughts and feelings. They represent the human beings of his real surroundings: his uncle Claudius, his mother Gertrud, the valet Polonius, his beloved Ophelia, her brother Laertes and his deceased father. In the course of the play the figures develop an ever-increasing own dynamic and noticeably seize possession of Hamlet's psyche. They finally make him intervene into the reality.

The direction team Katja Hensel (formerly of the bremer shakespeare company) and Christiane Pohle have converted »Hamlet« for the medium of puppet theatre in a really perfect manner and show Hamlet's inner soul. His gradual madness is personated especially forcefully by means of the puppet medium. With his almost man-sized and convincingly human-looking puppets made of leather, horsehair and glass, Marc Schnittger creates an immensely authentic atmosphere – A play filled with drama, yet also filled with humour.



In the year 2003 Marc Schnittger's adaptation of »Hamlet« was awarded the Grand Prix at the Third International Solo Puppeteers' Festival in Poland.

Press reviews:

Puppet theatre with powerful characters. Blickpunkt Nienburg

Rich inspiration and dynamic implementation: the best of what puppet theatre can offer today. Inform Hachenburg

Everything genuine! Life-size figures made of skin and hair. Schnittger's figures exude a ghostly life-force. Life like a birthday celebration. SH-Z Festival-News

Creeping puppet madness! Marc Schnittger's staging of »Hamlet« set key standards for the early Festival events. The Kiel artist used his almost life-size, lifelike puppets to create an unusually authentic atmosphere. The audience had to look very carefully to see that these were »only« puppets. A performance full of drama, but not without humour. Husumer Nachrichten

Rising from the underworld – This time only the beginning was silence, the rest was acclaim. This performance, intended as a preview, garnered ovations. Marc Schnittger seems able to lift the figures out of their puppet status. He fights them, caresses them, undresses them and tears them to pieces. A performance tour de force with a great deal of acting technique and use of body language. Kieler Nachrichten

Marc Schnittger (play, setting, puppets):

Marc Schnittger, born in 1966, is an actor, puppeteer and puppet designer. He has been developing his characteristic visual theatre style since 1988. His shows combine acting and puppet theatre with glove puppets and life-size figures. Schnittger's shows shift elegantly between scenic miniatures and powerful drama: they are sensual, lively and imaginative, placed on a fine line between profundity and humour. His repertoire consists mainly of one-man shows conceived for large and small stages. Schnittger assembles a specific artistic and technical team for each production.

Marc Schnittger
Hamlet

direction | script | stage set
co-director | stage light director
play | setting | puppets
music | soundscape
costumes
stage construction
technical set up
duration
premiere
new staging

Katja Hensel
Christiane Pohle
Marc Schnittger
Rainer Süßmilch, Jan-Peter Pflug
Claudia Bornscheuer
Arne Bustorff
Jörg Lippmann, Sophia Sellschopp, Arne Bustorff
80 minutes
16 November 1997
22 February 2003

contact

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Ministerpräsident
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