

KAAI THEATER

LAILA SOLIMAN, STACY HARDY, NEO MUYANGA & NANCY MOUNIR MUSEUM OF LUNGS

DEDICATED TO NAGY SHAKER, FOR HIS INFECTIOUS BELIEF IN MAGIC

**3 & 4/10/2018 20:30 | KAAISTUDIO'S
THEATRE | 60 MIN | IN ENGLISH**

EXTRA Join us on **Thursday 4/10** for a post-performance talk with Laila Soliman, Stacy Hardy, Neo Muyanga and Nancy Mounir.



LAILA SOLIMAN, STACY HARDY, NEO MUYANGA & NANCY MOUNIR

MUSEUM OF LUNGS

NL *Museum of Lungs* van schrijfster Stacy Hardy en regisseuse Laila Soliman verbindt trauma en ziekte met kapitalisme, kwetsbaarheid, samenleving en geschiedenis. Hardy's ervaring met tuberculose – de jaren voorafgaand aan de diagnose en de ellenlange en zware behandeling van de ziekte – vormt het vertrekpunt van een voorstelling die historisch archiefmateriaal uit Zuid-Afrika verzamelt. Het is een relaas over de kwetsbaarheid van het individuele lichaam én van collectieve zorg te midden van een politiek systeem dat nog steeds doordrongen is van koloniaal en systemisch raciaal geweld. Maar in *Museum of Lungs* tonen Hardy en Soliman ook hoe kwetsbaarheid en ziekte het begin kunnen betekenen van verzet tegen gewelddadige en onderdrukkende machtsstructuren. Samen met muzikanten Neo Muyanga en Nancy Mounir creëren ze een muzikale documentaire voorstelling over liefde, eenzaamheid, het fragile leven en de dood.

- Laila Soliman woont en werkt in Caïro en was eerder te gast in het Kaaitheater met *Whims of Freedom* (2015) en *Zig Zig* (2016). Stacy Hardy woont en werkt in Grahamstown. Ze is schrijver, journalist en multimedia-artiest. Neo Muyanga is een multi-instrumentalist en componist, die werkt vanuit Kaapstad. Hij staat zowel solo als met verschillende bands in concertzalen. Nancy Mounir is een multi-instrumentalist, componist en geluidstechnicus, met Caïro als uitvalsbasis.

FR La tuberculose est aujourd'hui la deuxième maladie infectieuse la plus mortelle dans le monde après le SIDA. En Afrique du Sud, le nombre de malades a quadruplé au cours des vingt dernières années, principalement en raison de l'extrême pauvreté et du système de santé défaillant. Dans *Museum of Lungs*, l'auteure et performeuse Stacy Hardy raconte sa vie avec la maladie, les années qui ont précédé le diagnostic et le traitement. Elle marie des confidences intimes et des archives historiques. Il s'agit d'un récit de vulnérabilité du corps individuel et des services publics dans un système politique toujours empreint de violence coloniale et raciale systémique. Mais dans *Museum of Lungs*, Stacy Hardy et la metteuse en scène Laila Soliman montrent aussi la façon dont la fragilité et la maladie peuvent signifier le début d'une résistance et d'un changement. Avec les musiciens Neo Muyanga et Nancy Mounir, elles créent un spectacle documentaire musical sur l'amour, la solitude, la fragilité de la vie et la mort.

- Laila Soliman vit et travaille au Caire et était précédemment à l'affiche du Kaaitheater avec *Whims of Freedom* (2015) et *Zig Zig* (2016). Stacy Hardy vit et travaille à Grahamstown. Elle est écrivaine, journaliste et artiste multimédia. Neo Muyanga est multi-instrumentalist et compositeur et travaille au Cap. Nancy Mounir est multi-instrumentalist, technicien de son et compositeur, localisé au Caire.

EN *Museum of Lungs* by writer Stacy Hardy and director Laila Soliman is a play about trauma, and illness as they relate to capitalism, vulnerability, sociality and history. Informed by Hardy's experience of living with tuberculosis – the years before the diagnosis, her isolation and the lengthy and difficult treatment regime – it draws on archive material from South-Africa. What you discover is a story about the individual body and of collective care in the midst of systems plagued by colonial and systemic racial violence. It questions personal culpability and asks if vulnerability and disease might initiate a resistance to power structures that operate through strength, violence and repression. Directed by Soliman and performed by Hardy, along with musicians Neo Muyanga and Nancy Mounir, *Museum of Lungs* is a musical documentary performance about love, loneliness, fragility, and death.

- Laila Soliman lives and works in Cairo and previously presented *Whims of Freedom* (2015) and *Zig Zig* (2016) at the Kaaistudios. Stacy Hardy lives and works in Grahamstown. She is an author, journalist, and multimedia artist. Nancy Mounir is a multi-instrumental, music arranger/producer and sound engineer, currently working and living in Cairo. Neo Muyanga is a composer and multi-instrumentalist, based in Cape Town. He writes music plays, chorus songs and works for ensembles, and performs both solo and in various band guises.

SONGLIST

Thina senza nje umasifun' imali - This is how we do when we want or need money
(unknown date between 1980s & 1990s)

Lyrics & composed by: unknown

Workers song, usually heard at strikes and marches by the working class.

The anaesthetist

(inspired by the traditional zulu lullaby *Thula sthandwa sami - Hush don't cry, my love*)

Text by: Stacy Hardy

Arrangement by: Neo Muyanga

Ana fi intizarak - I await you (1943)

Lyrics by: Bayram al-Tunisi

Composed by: Zakariyya Ahmad

We Are That Song (2018)

Lyrics by: Stacy Hardy

Composed by: Neo Muyanga

My body is bone, river, earth. It is tunneled by mine shafts, scarred by history, the death gasps of the dying. Home to thousands of life forms, haunted by ghosts and monster, infested by viruses and bacteria. My eyes seethe with ancestral conflicts and my head festers with the voices of dead comrades.

I am part cyborg. My brain is wired to the internet and I have a metal shoulder implant because of an accident – a ball of cobalt chrome and a stem made from titanium metal dug from the earth in the Congo.

How many lives were lost so I can hug you?

So that I can lift my arm to wave goodbye from a distance?

The hands that weigh my grief are implacable. Pain has no colour. My skin is white but when it is battered, bruised or broken it bursts. So many colors: yellows, blues, purples, blacks, reds. I didn't know that I could have so many different complexions.

— Stacy Hardy

CREDITS

DIRECTION Laila Soliman | TEXT & PERFORMANCE Stacy Hardy | COMPOSITION & LIVE MUSIC Nancy Mounir, Neo Muyanga | PUPPET Marius Kob | SCENOGRAPHY & COSTUMES Moira Gilliéron | ART WORK Bassem Youstry | LIGHT DESIGN Mirjam Berger | TECHNICAL DIRECTION Thomas Kohler, Mirjam Berger | PRODUCTION & TOURING Franziska Schmidt, produktionsDOCK | CO-PRODUCTION Kaaitheater, FFT, Kaserne, HAU, SPIELART | SUPPORTED BY Fachausschuss Tanz & Theater BS/BL, Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia, the Goethe-Institut South Africa | SPECIAL THANKS TO Adham Bakry, Ahmed Saaty, Bongani Kona, Chloe, Jonathan, Rose & Tara Padavatan, Dr Heba Hussein, Elijah Madiba & Ilam team, Eren Karakus, Hadia, Hajooj Kuka, Joseph, Noji & Luntu Gaylard, Juanita Praeg & Rhodes University Drama Department, Kai Wido Meyer; Lesego Chauke, Live Art Festival team (ICA), Lili Boulanger, Manar Ahmed, Mark Heywood & Section 27, Market Theatre team, Mohamed Talaat & El Nahda- Jesuit Cairo Team, Rucera Seethal, Ruud Gielens, Sandro Lunin, Sharon Ekambaram, Sherin Hegazy, The Socialists' Patients Collective, Staff at Archives & Special Collections (UJ Library), Tamara Guhrs, Waleed Nietzsche, Yusra Barden & Creative Fix team, Zainab Magdy, Zaki Idra & and all those who infected us and made us lovesick.

