

Like a flowering tower



A vibrant story freely adapted on the book 'The flower and the tree' by Gioconda Belli for children over 6 years of age and adults as well.

Like A Flowering Tower
Contact



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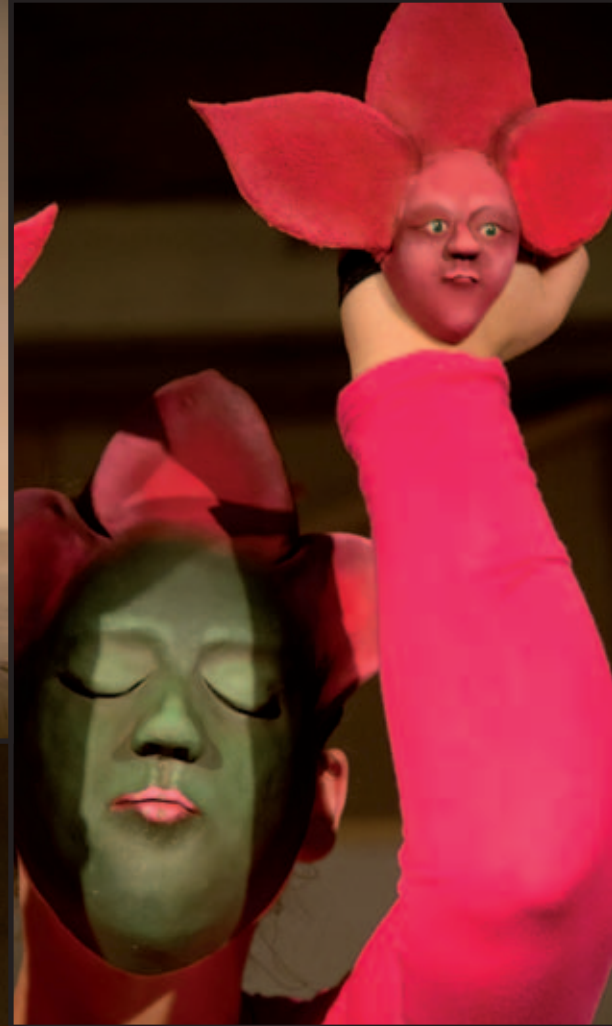


Announcement

- Title:** Like a flowering tower
- Subtitle:** A vibrant story freely adapted on the book ‚The flower and the tree‘ by Gioconda Belli for children over 6 years of age and adults as well.
- Text:** It’s the tale of a juvenile Bougainvillea and an elder pine tree in the middle of a big city. Both together discover the wonders of life.
- For the purpose of growth the curious, life-affirming vine needs the help of the thoughtful, lonesome conifer tree, whose perspective on life gets refreshed by the flower’s serenity.
- As time goes by both plants form a splendid symbiosis. But due to the imbalance in their mutual give and take, the splendor demands a high price from one of them...
- It is necessary to get a sense of the balancing act between narrowness and freedom – like in every relationship.
- „Like a flowering tower“ is an interdisciplinary theatreplay involving elements of dance, masks and objects. Performed by puppeteer Julia Raab and actor Thilo Herrmann the play is inspired by the children’s book „The flower and the tree“ by Gioconda Belli.
- Sponsorship:** This play is a cooperation with ŽiguŽajg International Arts Festival for Children & Young People 2014 Malta sponsored by the German Embassy Valletta, Malta supported by E35 e.V. Leipzig, Germany.
- Premiere:** November 21st 2014, ŽiguŽajg International Arts Festival for Children & Young People, Valletta, Malta
- Idea, concept & performance:** Julia Raab & Thilo Herrmann
- Props, costumes:** Team
- Building masks:** Julia Raab
- Décor, stage setting:** Carsten Bach
- Performance time:** about 60 minutes









The play's synopsis

Content

The plot of the juvenile vine and the life-experienced tree finds its counterpart in the story of the two narrating characters – a young woman, excited while moving into her first flat ever, and an old-established man, preferring to enjoy his balcony's silence all on his own.

From their first encounter on their relationship is affected by differences and contrasts, by separation as well as approach. But gradually even by the courage to change one's self in order to overcome fears and limitations to step up to each other. Until their separated balcony-parts form a common base to discover and share new perspectives on life.

Inspired by the love-story "The flower and the tree" written by Gioconda Belli.

The book

"The proper embracement is a kind of art! If it's too soft there's a lack of heartiness. If it's too tight it squeezes all the breath out of someone. With this little tale Gioconda Belli created a beautiful parable for the right measure of freedom and narrowness between lovers."

(Peter Hammer Verlag, Hamburg, 2007)

The Author

Gioconda Belli was born in Managua, Nicaragua. She studied in Spain as well as in the United States of America. Since 1970 she took part in the Sandinista struggle against the Somoza dictatorship. Gioconda Belli is mother of four children, and lives with her family both in Managua and Los Angeles.

About aesthetical choices

There are topics like freedom, growing-up, friendship and the art of embracing.

The story's flow is carried by contrasts – like narrowness and freedom, holding and let-go, youth and age as well as give and take. The visualization takes place on 3 interdisciplinary levels:

First, the "narrator-level" gives humorously the plot to the audience by an economical use of language.

On the "physical-level" the pulsating relationship between the both plants will be shown, beyond the limits of language by relating to elements of dancing and physical theatre.

To use elements of theatre of objects on the "figure-level" throws a glance on the story's environmental life. For our botanical protagonists the city's hustle and bustle is the setting to explore the wonders of everyday life.

This range of staging varieties provides an opportunity to experience and to express the multilayered story – for the young and the young at heart.



Julia Raab

Puppeteer and Drama Teacher



Julia Raab lives as an independent puppeteer and drama teacher in Halle (Saale) in Germany.

As drama teacher she leads workshops for theatre and puppet theatre in schools and sociocultural facilities.

In October 2013 she finished her second study as a puppeteer (Bachelor of Arts) at the State High school for Music and Drama in Stuttgart (Germany).

With her exam, the production ‘The Fat Lady plays Medea’, she appears to many puppet theatre festivals. With the support of Goethe Institut, Julia travelled to Algeria, Iran and Thailand.

Her performance ‚The Fat Lady plays Medea‘ was awarded by the jury of the 13th International Festival of Students Puppet Theatre Tehran, by the UNIMA Iran and from the jury of the Harmony World Puppet Carnival Bangkok Thailand 2014.

During her graduate studies, she took part in productions under the direction of Lisa Thomas, Frank Soehnle and Stephanie Rinke. She also took part in projects and workshops led by internationally acclaimed artists like Agnès Limbos, Jana Tumina, Alberto García Sánchez and Neville Tranter.

*„Powerful, engaged, likable. Likes to laugh. A lot of potential.
Thrilling, wherever the journey takes her.“*

Christian Bollow, dramaturgy FITZ! Stuttgart

During her studies, she worked also as a freelance drama teacher, amongst others, for the Centre for Puppet Theatre Stuttgart (FITZ!), the Youth Ensemble Stuttgart (JES) and the State Theatre in Esslingen (WLB!).

In 2007 she completed her 4 year course and obtained a officially recognised qualification in Theatre pedagogy at the Academy of Performing Arts in Ulm. After an internship at GRIPS theatre in Berlin, she took up a two year engagement as head teacher with the State Theatre of Saxony-Anhalt.

Thilo Herrmann

Actor

Thilo Herrmann finished his state-proved acting training in Berlin in 2006. Since then he gave guest performances in several theatres such as

- Deutsches Theater Berlin
- MESSfestival Sarajevo
- SocietaetsTheater Dresden
- Hebbel Am Ufer Berlin
- Theater für Niedersachsen Hildesheim/Hannover
- Distel Berlin
- Landesbühne Sachsen-Anhalt



He worked together with such great directors like Michael Thalheimer, Nicolas Stemann, Estera Stenzel, Ingo Putz and Nico Sommer.

He gained experiences in professional youth theatre. In a classroom production dealing with alcohol abuse in 2007 together with Julia Raab for the State Theatre of Saxony Anhalt

- with touring company 'radiks' throughout Germany in several plays ('fake' was nominated for Klicksafe Internet award in 2013) concerning cybermobbing and violence among adolescents
- in 2010 staging fairytale play by W. Hauff at 18th Youth Theatre Festival in Hildesheim
- since 2012 Thilo is coaching and accompanying several productions of the collegiate theatre group MischObst in Berlin

His acting and performing skills were influenced by the work with Wolfgang Wermelskirch (UdK Berlin), Susan Batson (Black Nexus New York) and Bettina Lohmeyer as well as Genadi Bogdanov (GITIS Moscow).

"A truly committed actor with a strong physical presence and a broad access to emotions"

Wolfgang Wermelskirch, academic for acting UdK Berlin

Since October 2014 Thilo is a member of the Shakespeare Company Berlin.

Awards

- The short film 'The Blue Room' won the Samsung smartfilm award at the Berlinale in 2014 for the 'Best movie' with Thilo as the male lead.
- The production 'the Oresteia' which he was involved in was decorated as 'Best performance' at the international MESSfestival in Sarajevo in 2007.

Technical Rider

Stage and Artists requirements

- minimum proscenium opening: 26' wide x 20' deep (8m wide x 6m deep)
- stage should be roofed and rain-proofed
- dark unicolored background behind the stage setting
- due to barefooted performance: black dance floor linoleum – 16' x 13' (5 m x 4 m)
- stage height: at least 11,5' high (3,5 m high)
- distance from first tier to stage: about 5' (1,5 m)
- ascending seating levels
- if there is no tribune the amount of audience should be limited to max. 60 and the stage setting should be elevated up to at least 20" (50 cm)
- cloak room with a mirror and washbasin

Technics (provided by Presenter)

- 11 projectors (7 PC's, 4 Profiler)
- colourfilter or foils (green, yellow, orange, blue)
- 3 weightings (bags) each with 5 kg, better 10 kg
- sound system (including phone jack line-in, 2 speaker, each 2 kilowatts)
- high-voltage current
- a separate phase, fused for 250 V and 16 A
- at least 3 AC power plugs socket-outlets adaptors (BS 1363 | CEE 7)

Time Frames

- performance time about 60 minutes
- setup about 6 hours, For shows before noon the setup should be wrapped up the day before.
- dismantling about 2 hours

Please note

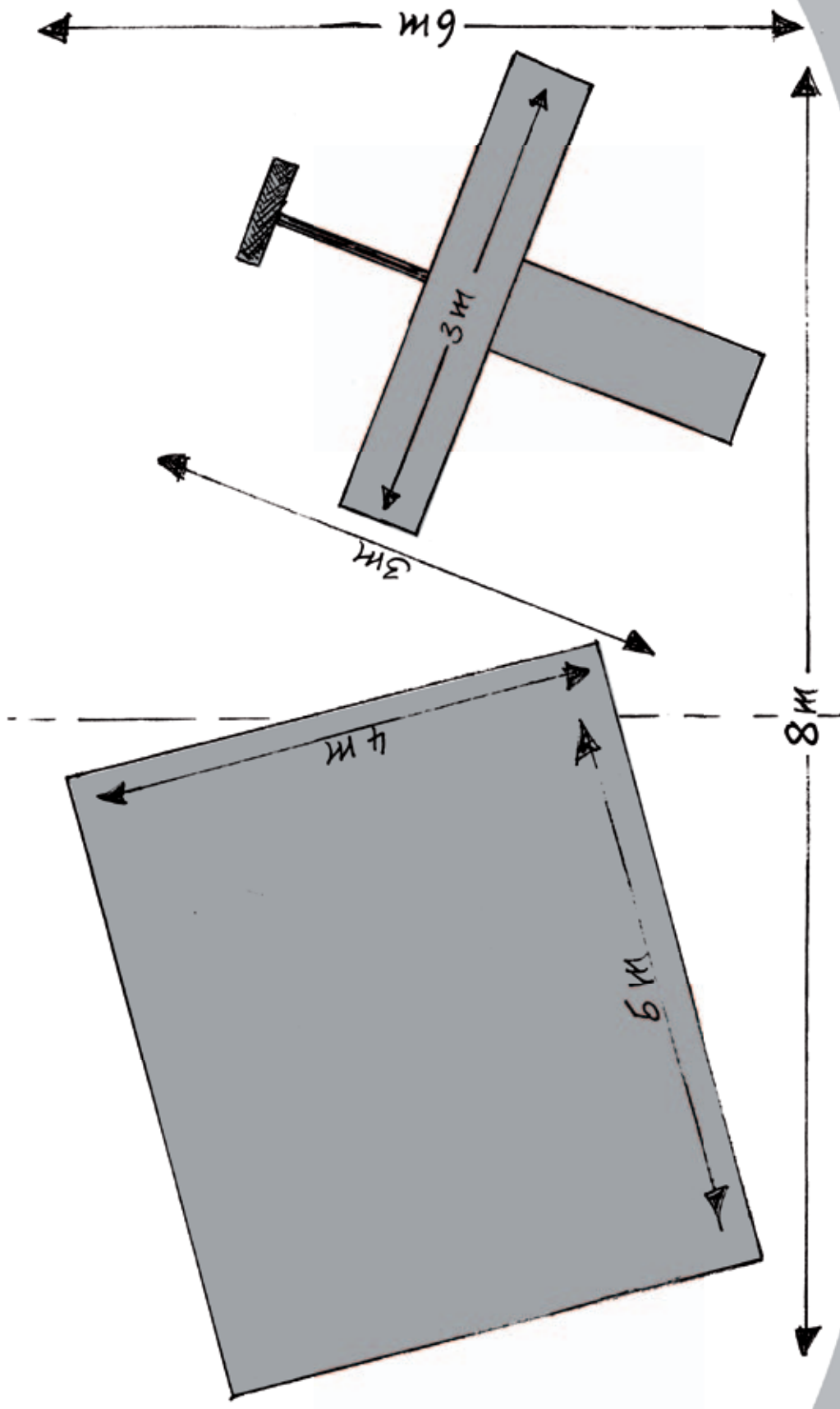
- maximum amount of audience 100
- The show is suited for children over 6 years of age and adults as well.

Public relations

- We happily provide high-quality, printable photos for your advertisement.

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Stage



Update: 02/04/2015

Audience

