



THE DIARY OF ONE WHO DISAPPEARED



A **Muziektheater Transparant** production in collaboration with Toneelgroep Amsterdam, Klara Festival, De Munt/La Monnaie, Kaaitheter, Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg, Opera Days Rotterdam and Beijing Music Festival.

INTRODUCTION

With the staging of *Diary of One Who Disappeared*, Muziektheater Transparant returns to Leoš Janáček's passionate love cycle in a new production by Ivo van Hove. With *Intimate Letters* in 1996 and *Carnet d'un Disparu* in 2001, Muziektheater Transparant has already presented adaptations of the intimate masterpiece by this Czech composer.

After reading a series of mysterious poems about a village boy called Janik, who falls in love with the gypsy girl Zefka and gives up everything to follow her, the 61-year-old Janáček (1854-1928) was inspired to write this poetic song cycle for voice and piano. The 22 scenes not only reflect Janáček's own sadness about his impossible love for his much younger muse Kamila Stösslová, but in the hands of playwright Krystian Lada and composer Annelies Van Parys it also evolves into a meta-narrative that tackles themes such as displacement, identity and integration.

Janáček's masterpiece is the starting point for this contemporary adaptation by the playwright Krystian Lada and composer Annelies Van Parys, whose layered musical interventions resonate with the position of the Romany girl Zefka as an outsider in Janis's world. Since Muziektheater Transparant likes to put the voice centre stage, our resident composer Van Parys wrote a response for mezzo-soprano and female chorus as a commentary that gives expression to the incompatibility of their language and their love.

Director Ivo van Hove adapts Janáček's work into a contemporary staging by making Janik a successful photographer, and by moving the action from the countryside to the city. He also supplements the cycle with extracts from Janáček's love letters to Kamila, creating an intimate self-portrait, and brings on tenor Ed Lyon, actor Hugo Koolschijn and the chorus of De Munt for this penetrating performance about alienation.

Ivo van Hove on *Diary of One Who Disappeared*:

'Diary of One Who Disappeared is less well known than Janáček's great operas but that doesn't make it any less remarkable. The power of this short work is in its dual vitality. In the first place there is the cycle of short, ruggedly poetical poems, popular and confident in tone. Then there is Janáček's passionate love for the very young Kamila Stösslová, which means the work is permeated with a desperate and ardent desire for the impossible, for a new beginning.'

Britse tenor Ian Bostridge on *Diary of One Who Disappeared* in *The Guardian* (14/02/'04):

The series of anonymous poems, in which Janáček saw his suffering reflected, formed the only motif in the investigation into the mysterious disappearance of a young Moravian man whose diary showed that he had followed his love, the gypsy girl Zefka. Despite the impossibility of his relationship with Kamila, Janáček's songs celebrate the freedom of the individual to liberate himself from a suffocating environment and a love that can hold its own regardless of language, religion and culture.

CREDITS

Composition Leoš Janáček - Annelies Van Parys

Director Ivo van Hove

Mezzo-soprano Marie Hamard

Tenor Ed Lyon

Tenor (22/04/2017): Peter Gijsbertsen

Actor Hugo Koolschijn

Piano Lada Valesova

Choir Trees Beckwe, Isabelle Jacques, Raphaële Nsunda Nluti (Leden Kooracademie van De Munt)

Dramaturgy Krystian Lada

Set design Jan Versweyveld

Costume design An D'huys

PRODUCER: Muziektheater Transparant

CO-PRODUCERS: Toneelgroep Amsterdam, Klara Festival, De Munt/La Monnaie, Kaaitheater, Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg, Opera Days Rotterdam and Beijing Music Festival.

BIOGRAPHIES

Ivo van Hove (1958) began his career as a stage director in 1981 with his own productions (Ziektekiemen, Geruchten). He was then successively artistic director of AKT, Akt-Vertikaal and De Tijd. From 1990 to 2000 he was director of Het Zuidelijk Toneel and from 1998 to 2004 he was in charge of the Holland Festival, presenting his selection of international theatre, music, opera and dance. In 2001 Van Hove became the director of Toneelgroep Amsterdam. Van Hove's productions have been performed at the Edinburgh International Festival, the Venice Biennale, the Holland Festival, Theater der Welt, the Vienna Festwochen and in London, Canada, Lisbon, Paris, Verona, Hannover, Porto, Cairo, Poland and New York. Van Hove has directed the ensembles of the Deutsches Schauspielhaus Hamburg, Staatstheater Stuttgart and New York Theatre Workshop.

The resident composer at Muziektheater Transparant, **Annelies Van Parys** (1975), studied composition under Luc Brewaeys at the Ghent Conservatory. In 2011 she was awarded the prestigious title of Laureate of the Royal Flemish Academy of Belgium for Science and the Arts. Her work includes a chamber music arrangement of Debussy's Pelléas et Mélisande, music for Index of Memories, An Oresteia and RUHE, which has been performed more than a 100 times worldwide. In 2014 she composed Private View, her first opera, which was commissioned by Muziektheater Transparant. Her compositions have been performed by renowned Belgian and international ensembles such as Ictus, Nadar, Spectra, Oxalys, SMCQ Montreal, NYNME New York, and Recherche Freiburg. Sian Edwards, James Wood and Arturo Tamayo. Van Parys teaches at the Royal Conservatory in Brussels, and is an 'Honorary Ambassador' of the Royal Conservatory of Ghent. www.anneliesvanparys.com

The dramaturge **Krystian Lada** studied theatre and literary sciences at the University of Amsterdam and initially worked as a journalist and copywriter, creative director and TV director. In 2013 he was director of theatre, empowerment & communication at De Munt in Brussels. In this position he collaborated as a dramaturge with the National Opera in Amsterdam, the Grand Theatre / National Opera in Warsaw, Opera Poznan, Kameroperahuis, Nederlands Theaterfestival, ICK and Studio Minailo. His libretti have been performed during Opera Days Rotterdam, Stadsfestival Zwolle, Babel Festival and by the Warsaw Opera.

Hugo Koolschijn (1946) has been acting with Toneelgroep Amsterdam since 1987. Koolschijn wrote and performed the solo shows *Zangles* (1996) and *Een Franse zanger* (1997) and with Toneelgroep Amsterdam has appeared in *Uncle Vanya*, *Madame De Sade*, *Intra-Muros*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Antoni-oni Project*, *Summer Trilogy*, *Phaedra*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *Disgrace*, *The Seagull*, *Mourning Becomes Electra*, *The Russians!*, *Scenes from a Marriage*, *Cries and Whispers* and *Kings of War*. In addition to his work with this company, Koolschijn has performed with other companies such as *Publiektheater* and *Globe*, in various films such as *Soldier of Orange*, *Erik of het klein insectenboek*, *Leedvermaak*, *Shock Head Soul* and in TV series such as *Den Uyl* and *The Lockheed Affair*, *Bernhard Scoundrel of Orange*, *The Daltons*, *De Jongesjaren*, *All Stars* – the series, and the television film *Suzy Q*.

Ed Lyon is one of England's most versatile young tenors and is much in demand. In addition to his degree from St John's, Cambridge, he also studied at the Royal Academy of Music and the National Opera Studio. Alongside major roles with ROH, ENO, Opera North, Glyndebourne and WNO, his international career also includes appearances in Madrid, Paris (Chatelet and Comique), De Nederlandse Opera, the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Festival d'Aix in Provence, Lyon, Bordeaux, Teatro alla Scala, Theater an der Wien, Lille and Opera National de Rhin



PERFORMANCE CALENDAR

Klara Festival

KaaiTheater Brussels (BE)
www.klarafestival.be
+32 2 548 95 95

Premiere 11/03/2017 20:30
12/03/2017 15:00

Opera 21

Opera Vlaanderen Antwerp (BE)
www.operaballet.be
+32 70 22 02 02

22/04/2017 20:00

Opera Days Rotterdam

www.operadagenrotterdam.nl
+31 10 436 60 70

12/05/2017 20:30
13/05/2017 20:30

Muziekgebouw aan het IJ

Amsterdam (NL)
www.muziekgebouw.nl
+31 20 788 20 00

21/05/2017 20:15

COMMUNICATION MATERIAL

INTERVIEW Ivo van Hove: <https://vimeo.com/202899065>

<http://www.transparant.be/nl/producties/dagboek>

<https://www.facebook.com/muziektheater.transparant/>

Don't hesitate to contact me for interviews, tickets, photos and more:

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