

Danish drama in a new English translation

DANCE WITH ME

Reflections through a woman's mind. Love Loss Loneliness Laughter



In February/March 2020 **Why Not Theatre Company's Sue Hansen-Styles**, under **Solbjørg Højfeldt's direction**, will perform DANCE WITH ME (Dans med Mig) – a monologue about loneliness, longing and love - by one of Denmark's greatest contemporary playwrights, **Peter Asmussen**. This will be the first time one of Asmussen's plays is performed in Denmark since his premature death in 2016. It will also be the first time "Dans Med Mig" is performed in English.

Abandonment and longing

"Dance With Me" is a touching story about one of the most common social challenges of our time: loneliness. The play is about an abandoned woman's intense longing for love and fulfilment. In a long stream of consciousness, she talks to the love of her life who has left her and to her best friend for whom he may have left her, while exposing a life that has become "*so rich with nothing*", that alcohol is now her only anchor. She moves deliriously back and forth in time and emotion, in a fruitless struggle to understand her past and what she has been through. And just as the ground starts to feel solid underfoot, it is pulled away from her again. What really happened between her and the man in her life? How do we move on from grief and regain the joys of life?

"Dance with Me" is a poignant testimony to what loneliness does to a human being. It is also a heartwarming story about the human need for love and inclusion.

New translation

Sue Hansen-Styles and Solbjørg Højfeldt have translated Asmussen's 1995 text into English. Sue Hansen-Styles says: "The English language's rich vocabulary and musicality gives Asmussen's poetic language new possibilities. In our production, language and vocal musicality will be in focus. Also, Asmussen's text reflects a reality today, where loneliness has become a social disease, only aggravated by social media. Asmussen's 25 year old monologue still very much speaks to us today where the need for inclusion and self-confirmation is greater than ever."

"If I wore another dress – not the red one, not the black one – would I look more like how you imagine me? Would I be myself?"

DANCE WITH ME Guest production at Teatret ved Sorte Hest, Vesterbrogade 150, Kbh. V.

Playing period: 28 Feb – 21 March 2020, Mon – Fri 8pm; Sat 5pm

The production is supported by: William Demant Fond, A.P. Møller Fonden, Knud Højgaards Fond, Københavns Kommune Scenekunststudvalg, Beckett Fonden and Aage og Johanne Louis Hansen Fond.

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