



Press Release 1 August 2020

WHY NOT THEATRE COMPANY

presents

THE CHEYENNE ARE LEAVING

by **Tanja Mastilo**

A story of love, war and integrity



Photo: Aleksander S. Mastilo

Guest production at Teatret ved Sorte Hest

World premiere 13th November 2020

Why Not Theatre Company, under Nina Larissa Bassett's direction, presents the world premiere of a new drama: **THE CHEYENNE ARE LEAVING** – written by Danish-Serbian playwright, **Tanja Mastilo**. This is the fourth play **Tanja Mastilo** has been commissioned to write for **Why Not Theatre Company**.

The Cheyenne are Leaving focuses on the rarely told aspect of the refugee story - the ultimate sacrifice of leaving your home – and life - behind.

For writer **Tanja Mastilo** this is a subject close to her heart. Born in Sarajevo, Bosnia in 1981, she was forced to flee, and be separated from her parents, twice during her early lifetime due to unrest and war. In **The Cheyenne are Leaving** she gives voice to perspectives and issues she sees being overlooked each time a new tragedy hits, and people are turned from regular citizens into faceless numbers in camps - how truly painful it is to lose your home, your country and your life as you know it.

When do you leave your home?

The Cheyenne are Leaving is set in a fictive world, destroyed by a war. Noel is a reclusive writer who has isolated himself from the outside world. One day a mysterious young man, Leon, knocks on his door. An unlikely pair with not much in common, soon they need to help each other find their place in the cruel world that surrounds them and make an important decision about their survival.

An intimate psychological drama, **The Cheyenne are Leaving** explores the real meaning of 'home' and digs deeper into finding out how far we are all prepared to go to hang on to the world as we know it.

Why Not Theatre Company

Currently one of Denmark's leading professional, English speaking theatres, Why Not Theatre Company seeks to tell compelling stories that are engaging and inspiring. We delve into texts of high literary quality and tell thought-provoking stories that captivate the audience. We make an effort to introduce new faces to the English-speaking theatre scene through our productions, and for this one, we are delighted to bring South African actor, Joe Young, to Copenhagen to take on the role of Leon. Joe was part of the ensemble playing in Copenhagen in Fix&Foxy's award-winning 2018 production 'Dark Noon'.

On stage: Nathan Meister (Noel) and Joe Young (Leon)

Directed by: Nina Larissa Bassett

Light/Sound/Set design: Peter Rasmussen

Music composition: Barry Wesil

Duration: approx. 1 hour 30 mins. The play is performed in English.

THE CHEYENNE ARE LEAVING: Guest production at Teatret ved Sorte Hest, Vesterbrogade 150, Kbh.V.

Playing period: 13 November - 5 December 2020, Mon – Fri 8pm; Sat 5pm

The production is supported by: William Demant Fonden, Københavns Kommune Scenekunstudvalg, Danske Dramatikere, Knud Højgaard's Fond, Konsul George Jorck og Hustru Emma Jorck's Fond and Aage og Johanne Louis-Hansens Fond

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