



CZECH REPUBLIC

The Leoš Janáček Academy of Music and Performing Arts, Brno

Oxana Smilková

The Absolute Happiness of a Fly or Salvador Dalí's Latest Mystification

The Absolute Happiness of a Fly... is a surreal journey that forces the artist to stand face to face with the products of his own imagination, both those that are manifested in his masterpieces, and those that will always

remain in the sphere of ideas. He also confronts other creators who influenced him and were influenced by him. The main character is Salvador Dalí, an artist who not only created magnificent works as a painter and poet, but also stage managed his own life and the lives of his loved ones. The show has the structure of a multilayer collage, both visual and literary. In it, students of JAMU grapple with one of the greatest artistic legends of the twentieth century, while also attempting to depict the essence of the creative process. The Leoš Janáček Academy of Music and Performing Arts in Brno (JAMU) was founded in 1946. Named after Czech composer and ethnographer Leoš Janáček, it is located in a historic building that once housed a German high school whose graduates include Adolf Loos and Alfons Mucha. For a long time, JAMU remained on the margins of Czech artistic education. But after the political changes of the 1980s it experienced dynamic growth thanks to an expanded faculty and extensive international cooperation. These changes led it to become one of the foremost schools of its kind in the Czech Republic, second only to the Theatre Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (DAMU). It has three departments, Music, Theatre and Film, and offers degree programs at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral level. The outcome of students' work has been showcased since 1952 on the Studia Marta stage (dramatic repertoire), and since 2012 it can also be seen at Divadla na Orlí (operatic and musical repertoire), which presents roughly twenty premieres each year. Since 1990, the school has organized Setkání/Encounter, an annual festival for theatre schools. Honorary professors of JAMU include Václav Havel and Tom Stoppard. Students of JAMU have been hosted at MFST ITSELF three times. They presented the following shows: Alexander Pushkin's Eugene Onegin (dir. Martin Cicvak, 2002), Mikhail Gindin and Vladimir Sinakevitch's The Animal (dir. Sergei Fedotov, 2003) and Werner Schwab's People People Anihilation or My Liver is Pointless (dir. Ivan Buraj, 2011).

directing: Oxana Smilková

script: Oxana Smilková

dramaturgy: Dagmar Haladová

scenography: Jevgenij Kulikov

costumes: Marta Kolocová, Veronika Jurdová choreography: Hana Halberstadt

cast: Ondřej Dvořák, Michaela Foitová, Juraj Háder, David Janošek, Barbora Nesvadbová, Daniel Ondráček, Tereza Slavkovská, Petra Staňková, Jiří Svoboda, Milada Vyhnálková.



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