

On October 4, 2013

In the Theatre Museum at The Court Theatre, Copenhagen, the heavy old velvet curtains were opened and 'Memoria' had the great honour of being presented on the very stage itself

Peter Christensen Teilmann, director of the museum wrote the following:

"The forgetting being recalled"

'Memoria' is originally an expression used in classical rhetorics to describe some kind of an action

through words and speech to recall, to remember and keep in mind and to give a wordly expression

for a something or another more complexe connection.

Memoria is also a small, very beautiful performance made by Odin Teatret, Nordic Theaterlaboratory -

The audience were sitting on the stage facing the Court Theatre's audience hall and its fascinating

shining darkness, which gave space and calmness to experience Else Marie Laukvik and Frans

Winthers inciting and quiet performing. Memoria is a beautiful dramatic gesture, a poetic recalling

of a historic breakdown in the development of the civil society, of a civilisatory schisma without

comparison: something that should never be forgotten, but still has to be forgotten to be able

to go on living. A musical, mumbling and magical presentation of the burden of memory. The

burden, which among others the cultural personality and writer Primo Levi, who had survived the

concentration camp Auschwitz, expressed so clairvoyantly in " If this is a human being" and

carried with him untill he took his own life in 1987.

Through Else Marie Laukviks and Frans Winthers Memoria, are forcing in fragments and lines of

memory the strong Holocaust poem of Paul Celan: Death Fugue, written after his return from his

stay in a German prisoner camp at the end of World War in 1945 and published in 1947. " Black

Milk of daybreak, we drink you at night".... (we dig a grave in the air, there you won't lie too

cramped..)

PETER CHRISTENSEN TEILMANN

<http://teatermuseet.dk/content/glemslen-erindret>