

Theater Dortmund

15. Februar 2020

World Premiere

Lolita (R)evolution - You are all the Lolita of your self!

by Jonathan Meese

"Lolitas are dolls playing with dolls and this puppet show is completely hermetic."
(Jonathan Meese)

Jonathan Meese, world-class visual artist, is developing a theatre project with and for Schauspiel Dortmund. Based on the controversial and famous novel *Lolita* by the Russian author Vladimir Nabokov, he places the Lolita myth at the centre of his art - for Meese the only alternative to everything, a revolutionary utopia. Strong in associations and powerful in images, he transfers the novel into his mythological cosmos: Lolita as the ideal image of a woman, the completely instinctive seductress who actually has no interests other than seduce: the perfect embodiment of a new order to be established. Lolita is the ideal, stripped down image of a thing, a pure weapon that is no longer a human being, but a state such as - for Meese - Marquis de Sade, Oscar Wilde, Scarlett Johansson and Adolf Hitler.

Ensemble members and well-known guests take on all the characters of the novel at the same time: everyone is a Lolita or a Dolly or a Dolores or simply a Lo. Of course you are also Lolita's mother, Dolores Haze and the main protagonist Humbert Humbert as well as his competitor Clare Quilty. Without any fixed arrangements, an independent performance is created every evening, because the *sports bag principle* applies...

Jonathan Meese, (born 1970 in Tokyo, living in Berlin), is a visual artist. In 2004, after many performances in galleries and museums, he also turned his focus to the theater stage. Since then he has designed stage sets for Frank Castorf, launched his first theatre work DE FRAU at the Berliner Volksbühne and developed and directed the opera MONDPARSIFAL in Vienna and Berlin, based on Richard Wagner's Parsifal. The resulting visual worlds usually integrate words or short texts to form a dense network of information and lend these special works an emblematic character.