

Bolshoy Puppet theatre presents

THE SONG OF SONGS





The most controversial, mysterious and poetic part of the Old Testament is not a staged retelling of the story of King Solomon and his beloved. Rather it is a study in metaphysics of love in which we intuitively follow the path of two people who create each other out of their love, becoming Adam and Eve, Romeo and Juliette, or Pierrot and Colombina along the way. This «sequence of dreams» about love becomes the stuff of flesh and blood on stage with the help of movements and visions, people, objects and puppets. It is designed for an associative, sensual perception of a viewer prepared to open up to an irrational flow of images and feelings. The performance was inspired by the movie «The colour of pomegranate» by Sergey Paradzhanov.

“We don’t give you any interpretation of the understanding of «The Song of Songs». Our work may be characterized as an attempt to «translate» this greatest composition about love. The aim of our research was not so much edification, preaching, following the story, it is not a search of expressive images and languages, but an attempt to become a part of the comprehensive qualities of love: from the rampant human’s passion to the universal and creative of worlds. We create our own unique mythology which is based at the level of personal intrusion of authors. Perhaps, it is disputable, but it belongs to the performance this time and this place only. This work got out of the control and it began to form authors and the law for itself”.

Ruslan Kudashov



Director: Ruslan Kudashov

Directing Dept.: Dennis Kazachuk, Viktoria Korotkova, Vassilissa Ruchinskaya, Anatoly Guschin

Designer: Marina Zavyalova

Light Designer: Larissa Novikova

Music Designer: Vladimir Bychkovsky, Anatoly Gonye

Cast:

- He - Anatoly Guschin
- She – Anna Donchenko
- Gardener - Roman Dadayev
- Love - Vassilissa Ruchinskaya
- Crone - Maria Batrasova
- Shepherd - Dennis Kazachuk
- Weavers - Anastassia Gritsay, Mikhail Lozhkin, Maria Sumarokova, Dmitry Chupakhin
- Readers - Ales Snopkovsky, Ivan Solntsev

Duration: 110 min.

Technique: visual theatre

Language: Without words

Target audience: 16+



PRESS

Presenting actually the stream of conscience (variations on a theme) to the judgment of the public, Kudashov and the staging group are not striving to bring a certain thought to those present in the hall. The quickly changing “pictures” do not require exact understanding but create some sacred space, filled with signs and symbols... And when the lights go out finally and silence falls in the hall, it becomes evident that a rarely lyrical and poetical work appeared on Petersburg stage.

Svetlana Rukhlya, Novye Izvestia (Moscow)

The director creates an absolutely special fantastic universe which though being ephemeral, takes the real power over the spectator for the time of the performance, dictating its laws to him and making him unconditionally to take on trust the unsteady fabric of the theatre being.

Anastasia Deneshek, Musecube

One of the reasons of such success of the performance is undoubtedly the talent and mastery of director Ruslan Kudashov who skillfully combined the text having no clear plot and feeling having no precise definition, in his irreproachably beautiful performance.

Katerina Egorova, Okolo





AWARDS

- Director Ruslan Kudashov was nominated on the prestigious award «Sobaka.ru TOP-50: The most famous people in Saint-Petersburg»
- Actors and artist Marina Zavyalova won the St. Petersburg State Youth Award in the field of art for creation the The Old Testament trilogy

FESTIVALS

- “GIFT” (Georgia, Tbilisi)
- “BTK-fest: Contemporary puppet theatre” (Russia, St. Petersburg)
- “Tallinn TREFF” (Estonia, Tallinn)

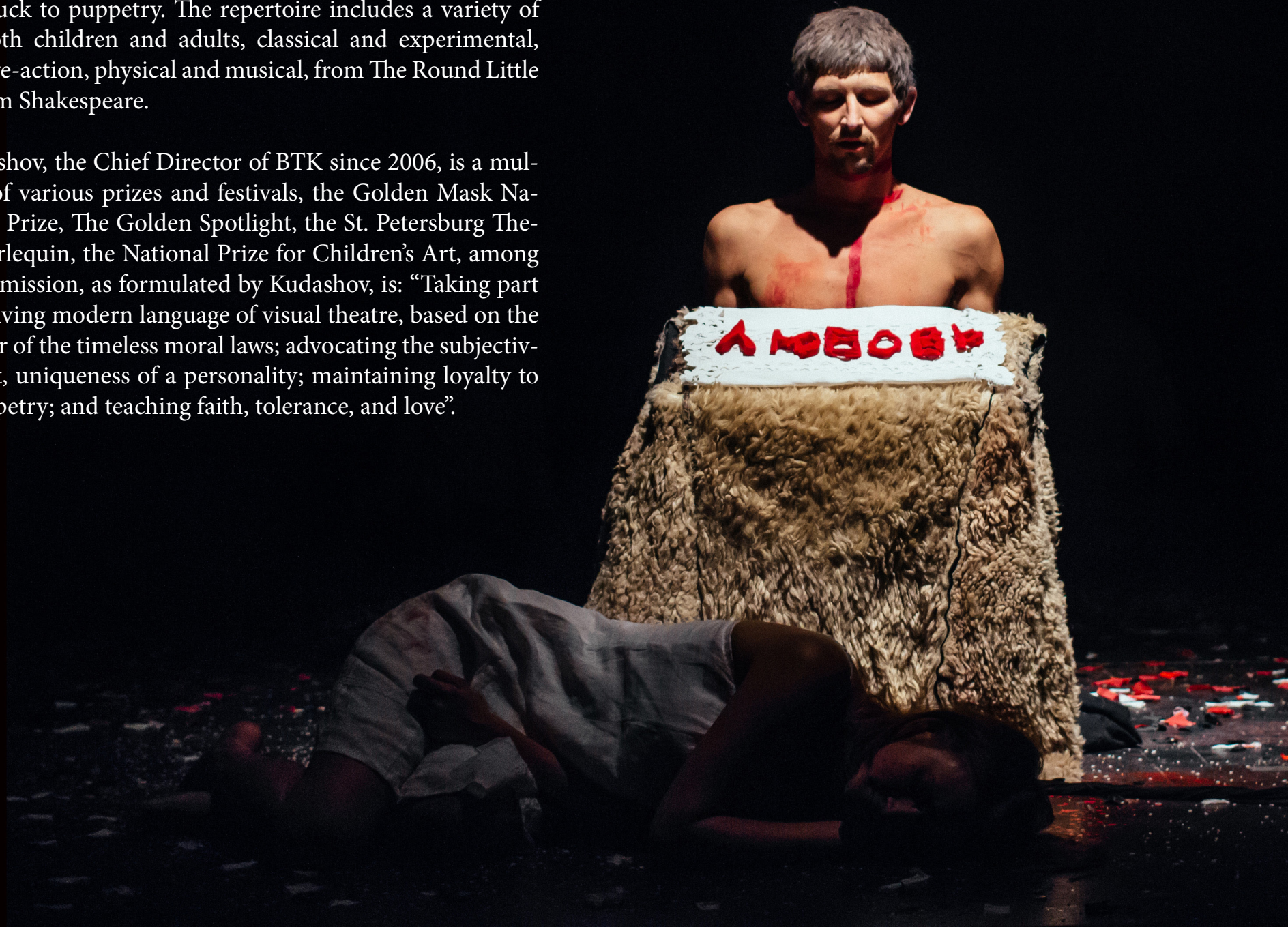
Trailer <https://youtu.be/1Vb9ijAgoUU>
<https://youtu.be/IpMr6AN0ZQo>

Full length video
<https://yadi.sk/i/XXaayFapuR4NM>

The film «The Song of Songs» in Georgia»
<https://youtu.be/fDL4qS1RzKA>

BTK theatre has turned 85 this year, but it is young at heart, ready to continue its search for the new ways in art and fight against the stereotypes stuck to puppetry. The repertoire includes a variety of shows, for both children and adults, classical and experimental, puppet and live-action, physical and musical, from The Round Little Bun to William Shakespeare.

Ruslan Kudashov, the Chief Director of BTK since 2006, is a multiple winner of various prizes and festivals, the Golden Mask National Theatre Prize, The Golden Spotlight, the St. Petersburg Theatre Prize, Harlequin, the National Prize for Children's Art, among others. BTK's mission, as formulated by Kudashov, is: "Taking part in creating a living modern language of visual theatre, based on the constant factor of the timeless moral laws; advocating the subjectivity of an artist, uniqueness of a personality; maintaining loyalty to the art of puppetry; and teaching faith, tolerance, and love".



Ruslan Kudashov graduated from Saint-Petersburg Theatre Academy in 2001 and immediately formed his own theatrical group «Potudan». It was named after the first performance, based on the story «River Potudan», written by Andrey Platonov. The second play of the group was «Nevsky Prospect» by Nikolay Gogol. It won the most prestigious Russian award «The Golden Mask».

For the last ten years R. Kudashov has staged more than 40 performances in different countries and theatres. Among them there are puppet plays, pantomimes, plastic and dramatic works. R. Kudashov has the reputation of a philosophically – minded director who speaks a metaphoric language.



TECHNICAL CHARACTERISTICS

GROUP

22 persons Transportation of the set
Truck 6.0*2.2*2.2 – 2300 kg

STAGE

Proscenium opening:
Width – 7.60 m. Height – 3.920 m.
The proscenium:
Depth – 2.717 m Length – 12.280 m
Stage:
Depth (till the opening in backstage) – 12 m
max point lifting of stage pipes – 5.500 m
In the 3d plan we need a pipe,
that is allowed to hang a person (girl, 60 kg)
Ability to be screwed through the stage floor
AUDIENCE SEATING: 200 – 1000 people

SOUND

1. macbook with ableton live 8 or 9 version
2. Akai apc 40 controller
3. t.c.electronic m-one effects processor
4. 4 wireless microphones (lapel)
5. 2 condenser microphones
6. 2 portal speakers ,2 speakers on stage

LIGHT

Miniprofile 300 Wt – 8	PC1200 – 24
Profile ETC 50 degrees – 18	PAR ETC – 17
Profile ETC 26 degrees – 2	Pinspot 8 degrees – 1
Profile ETC 36 degrees – 4	Pinspot 4 degrees – 13
PC650 – 6	Robe Spot 575 – 2
ETC Jr – 3	Ventilator DMX – 3
Generator of smoke DMX – 1	Hazer DMX – 2
Panel desk– Compulite Spark 4D or Spark Top	
Regulating switchings not less than 86	
DMX-exit on the stage floor not less than 2	
Enough commutation	

Time of set up - 12 hours

Time of demounting - 3 hours





Contacts:

btkpuppets@gmail.com
puppets_ru@mail.ru

191014 Russia, Saint-Petersburg, Nekrasova str., 10

www.puppets.ru
www.btkfest.ru