

JO STRØMGREN KOMPANI

THERE

"Impressive ensemble work from four performers whose look of unforced, alert connection adds to the mystery and sadness."

NEW YORK TIMES, USA



ДО ТУ
СТОРОНУ

PERFORMANCE

Four dissidents from the former Soviet Union are stranded in the interzonal area between East and West. Nostalgia, psychological malfunctions, and desperate social needs create a far from harmonious atmosphere. But the essential question remains – should they continue towards the unknown or should they go back to what they know?

THERE was originally made in 2001. With a mixed cast of dancers and actors, the performance exhibits a mix of modern dance, slapstick humor and interpersonal conflicts, and has been described as an evocation of Beckett's "Waiting for Godot". 13 years after its premiere, the company sets out on yet another quest to pinpoint human insecurity.

LANGUAGE

THERE initiated the company's **NONSENSICAL LANGUAGE** trademark, from where on Jo Strömgren Kompani created its own international niche through long-term research on abstract text. Each production involved a completely new linguistic alias, inspired by a specific culture or region, to stimulate associative interpretations instead of forcing any specific opinion upon the audience.

FOR ALL AUDIENCES: THE PERFORMERS DO NOT EVEN KNOW THEMSELVES WHAT IS BEING SAID ON STAGE. SO PLEASE DO NOT PANIC.

PHOTOS: KNUT BRY



NORSK
KULTURFOND
Kulturfondet

HADESBUND
teater



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

CREDITS

CHOREOGRAPHY: Jo Strömgren **PERFORMERS:** Espen Reboli Bjerke, Thorbjørn Hatt, Jan Ivar Lund, Kyrre Texnæs / John-Bjørn Fuller-Gee, Jan Ivar Lund, Mikkel Are Olsenlund, Ivar Sverrisson **SET DESIGN / PROPS / COSTUMES:** Jo Strömgren **MUSIC BY:** Red Army Choir, Zagorsk Choir, Alexander Vertinsky, Victor Klimenko, Shimon Dzigani, Cloroform, Dombra Ensemble, Haukur Morthens and recordings from Upper Karabakh **SOUND DESIGN:** Lars Ardal / Jo Strömgren **LIGHTING DESIGN:** Stephen Rolfe **PRODUCTION 2014:** Jo Strömgren Kompani by Sunniva Steine (managing director) **PROJECT MANAGER:** Tine Lund **CO-PRODUCTION 2014:** Hugesund Teater (Norway) **CO-PRODUCTION 2001:** Hugesund Teater, BIT Teatergarasjen (Norway), Projekttheater Dresden (Germany), Lithuanian Dance Information Centre (Lithuania) **SUPPORTED BY:** The Norwegian Arts Council,

TOURING

Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Latvia, Russia, Estonia, Lithuania, Austria, Germany, Slovakia, Poland, England, Finland, The Faroe Islands, France and USA.

COMPANY

JO STRØMGREN KOMPANI was founded in 1998 and has from its base in Oslo, Norway, grown to become one of the most established independent groups in Scandinavia. The company presents 100-200 shows in 10-20 countries each year. The touring list covers 54 countries so far, frequented by a repertoire of 26 stage productions and 2 movie productions. The style is characterised by a mix of dance and theatre, with puppet theatre, nonsensical language, film and live music often added. Jo Strömgren also has a successful career as a freelance choreographer, theatre director and playwright.

"THERE is Eastern Europe. THERE presents
the Russia you cannot understand with logic."

REPUBLIKA, LATVIA

"THERE is something as rare as a deeply
original, entertaining, and touching piece."

JYLLANDS-POSTEN, DENMARK



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