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## SIMON MAYER - KOPF HOCH OH MAGIC

*Oh Magic* is a live concert, played by robots and performers. Using musical instruments in an unconventional way they bring dance and performance, music and soundscapes, robotics and visual arts together on stage.

*Oh Magic* wanders through the wonders of theatrical magic. It is that mysterious unnamable thing we sometimes have the chance to encounter in a piece. But, where does it come from and where does it take us? What fascinates us as a performer or as a spectator? Somewhere between freak and fascination, Simon Mayer and his performers seek for the answers both in technological manipulation and organic oracles.

Our futuristic fantasies take shape in today's technology, which never ceases to fascinate and -even if only a little- grab us by the throat. Our double relationship to robotics is prominently present in the universe of *Oh Magic* where performers and machines meet, with trembling voices and childlike curiosity.

He finds his desire for the unpolluted answered in oriental, shamanic rituals, trance rituals, in the repetitive nature of folk culture, but just as well in abstract, contemporary dance and experimental music.

*Oh Magic*, brings together the strength of technological magic, and the enchantment of pure simplicity, and lets them interact without prejudice.

# CREDITS

**Compography, concept & performance:** Simon Mayer  
**Co-creation & performance:** Clara Frühstück, Patric Redl, Tobias Leibetseder, Manuel Wagner  
**Sound design:** Tobias Leibetseder  
**Robot operator:** Manuel Wagner  
**Costume design:** Andrea Simeon  
**Lighting design:** Heinz Kasper  
**Master electrician & operator:** Jan Maria Lukas  
**Robotics, electronics, engineering:** Dominik Strzelec  
**Sound:** Lukas Froschauer, Rene "Ringo" Grömer  
**Light:** Henri-Emmanuel Doublier  
**Technical coordination:** Gwen Lenoble  
**Technical director/lighting designer on tour:** Jan Maria Lukas  
**Dramaturgy:** Robert Steijn  
**Research and anthropologic advice:** Justine François, Manuel Wagner  
**Thanks to:** Julian Rubisch, Frans Poelstra, Jason Zieglmaier, Viktor Delev, Jürgen Ropp, Arbeitsplatz Wien, Wim Muylleert  
**Presentation:** Kunstenfestivaldesarts, Charleroi Danse  
**Production:** Hiros, Kopf hoch (Sophie Schmeiser, Anna Erb)  
**Coproduction:** Kunstenfestivaldesarts (BE), Steirischer Herbst Festival (AT), Noorderzon Performing Arts Festival (NL), Gessnerallee (CH), Teaterhuset Avant Garden (NO), BRUT Wien (AT), Centrale Fies (IT), Kunstenwerkplaats Pianofabriek with GC De Kroon (BE)  
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**In collaboration with:** Tanzquartier Wien, D.ID Dance Identity, SPIEL, Klavierhaus A. Förstl  
**Project co-produced by:** NXTSTP, with the support of the Culture Programme of the European Union

# TOUR

17 > 20.05.2017 • **PREMIERE** • Kunstenfestivaldesarts,  
Brussels (BE)

09 > 10.08.2017 Far° Festival, Nyon (FR)

23 > 24.09.2017 Steirischer Herbst, Dom im Berg, Graz (AT)

19 > 21.10.2017 BRUT, Wien (AT)

24 > 25.10.2017 BRUT, Wien (AT)

**& MORE**

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## VIDEO

TRAILER: <http://vimeo.com/228643896>

FULL VIDEO: <http://vimeo.com/227386506> (password: Unknown)

## PRESS

*The future of Brussels dance (...) Mayers voorstelling doet zowel denken aan folkloristische dans, als aan de electrorock van Justice en de experimenten van Einstürzende Neubauten.*

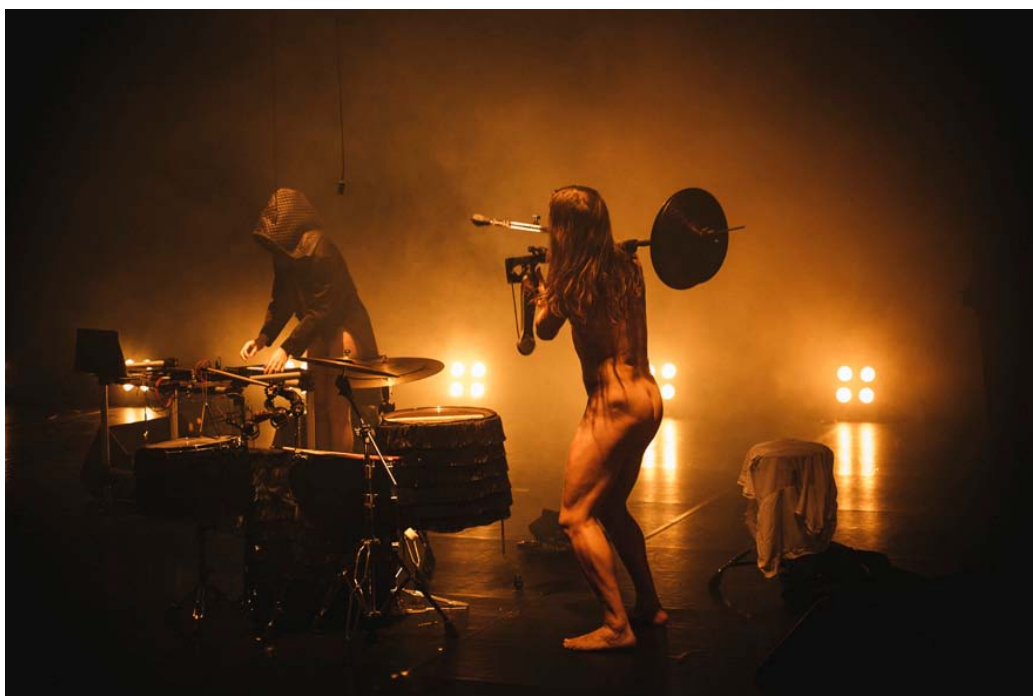
\*\*\*\* Charlotte de Somviele & Filip Tielens in De Standaard (BE) 19.05.2017

*Simon Mayer électrise le far° (...) Le concert dansé qu'il a proposé au far° est explosif, ébouriffant et diablement intelligent. Il montre que Bach, l'autohypnose et la techno ont en commun le même sens de la transe.*

Marie-Pierre Genecand in Le Temps (CH) 08.2017

*Een knotsgek, zorgvuldig opgebouwd spektakel met muziek, beweging en robotica. (...) Het is één groot pleidooi voor kinderlijke ongeremdheid, gegoten in de vorm van een doldraaiend rockconcert.*

\*\*\*\* Mirjam Van Der Linden in de Volkskrant (NL) 15.03.2018



# BIOGRAPHY

## SIMON MAYER

°1984, (Austria), lives in Brussels and Vienna

Simon Mayer, performer/dancer, choreographer and musician, born in 1984 in Austria, studied at the Vienna State Opera Ballet School and the Performing Arts, Research and Training Studios (P.A.R.T.S) in Brussels and was member of the Vienna State Opera Ballet.

In 2009, he founded the band “Rising halfmoon” as singer, guitarist and songwriter. As dancer/choreographer and musician he was involved in productions of Anne Teresa de Keersmaeker/ROSAS (“The Song”), Wim Vandekeybus (“Frisking”) and Zita Swoon.

His choreographic repertoire includes solos, duets and group pieces that have been performed internationally (o feather of lead; dancing with the soundhobbyist/Zita Swoon; Monkeymind; SunBengSitting; Sons of Sissy; Oh Magic). Simon was Artist in Residence at Theatre de LL in Brussels and is the artistic director of the festival “SPIEL”, which he started together with his brothers and the club spiel. In Vienna he founded the association Kopf Hoch. He teaches contemporary dance, community dance, traditional dance and voice techniques.



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## CONTACT

**Production Belgium & tour management**

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## HIROS

Hiros is a production and management structure for independent artists working in various disciplines. We offer tailor-made support for each artist and project, ranging from pre-production to production, administration, communication to financial management, tour management to post-production.

Hiros

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