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SIMON MAYER - KOPF HOCH SUNBENG SITTING

SunBengSitting is a piece straddling yodelling, folk dance and contemporary dance, a trip to the past and a playful, humorous search for identity. Austrian farm boy and performance artist Simon Mayer invites the audience to get to know his life, his contradictions and his indignation at having to submit to categories and conventions.

Having grown up on a farm facing traditions, nature, youthful rebellion and a bucolic heavy metal band, Simon Mayer moved to Vienna in 1997, attended Vienna's State Opera's dance school, spent a season as an aspiring dancer in the corps de ballet and very unexpectedly landed in a world where the word "farmer" could be used as an insult. The move was equal parts deliverance and constraint. SunBengSitting - "Sunbeng" is a word in the Upper Austrian dialect that means the bench in the sun in front of the farmhouse - deals with questions that emerge between the poles of city and country, homeland and foreign lands, pigeonholing and artistic freedom.

CREDITS

Performance, Artistic Direction, Music Simon Mayer

Sound and Live-Loop Pascal Holper

Lighting design Lucas Gruber, Hannes Ruschbaschan

Artistic Guidance: Frans Poelstra

Production Management: Sophie Schmeiser

Co-production: Kopf hoch/Simon Mayer, brut Wien, FREISCHWIMMER 2014/15 and Im_flieger

Touring production: Sophie Schmeiser and Hiros

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BIO

Simon Mayer studied at the Vienna State Opera Ballet School and 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. In 2014 Simon released his latest music album Monkeymind.

His choreographic repertoire includes solos, duets and group pieces that have been performed internationally (O feather of lead; Dancing with the Sound Hobbyist (Zita Swoon); Monkeymind; SunBengSitting and Sons of Sissy). Simon was Artist in Residence at Theatre de L’L in Brussels and is the artistic director of the festival “spiel”, which he started together with his brothers and the association spiel. Simon is teaching contemporary dance, community dance, traditional dance and voice techniques (Impulstanz Wien, Steirischer Herbst and other international festivals, and as guest teacher at the Konservatorium Wien Privatuniversität).

www.simonmayer.at



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TOUR

29 > 30.04.2014	brutstätte, Vienna (AT) - première -
15 > 16.10.2014	Frascati Theater, Amsterdam (NL)
24 > 25.10.2014	Sophiensale, Berlin (DE)
31.10 > 01.11.2014	Spielboden, Dornbirn (AT)
06 > 07.11.2014	brut Wien, Vienna (AT)
11 > 12.12.2014	Gessnerallee, Zürich (CH)
16 > 17.01.2015	Mousonturm, Frankfurt am Main (DE)
24 > 25.01.2015	FFt, Düsseldorf (DE)
31.01 > 01.02.2015	Teater Avant Garden, Trondheim (NO)
14.03.2015	EN-KNAP, Ljubljana (SI)
22 > 24.04.2015	Feedbackfestival, Tanzquartier Wien, Vienna (AT)
09.05.2015	Burgenländische Tanztage, Offenes Haus Oberwart (AT)
29.05.2015	Lodronsche Reitschule, Gmünd (AT)
01 > 02.06.2015	Theaterhalle 11, Klagenfurt (AT)
09 > 11.08.2015	Impulstanzfestival, Odeon, Vienna (AT)
04 > 05.09.2015	Bastard Festival, Trondheim (NO)
08.09.2015	bestOFF Styria, Graz (AT)
14 > 15.10.2015	Kaaitheater, Brussels (BE)
18.10.2015	Tanzhafenfestival, Linz (AT)
23.10.2015	Tanzhouse Herbst, Salzburg (AT)
04.12.2015	Festival Internazionale Natura Dèi Teatri, Parma (IT)
17.03.2016	Kelim, Bat Yam (IL)
08 > 09.04.2016	BIT Teatergarasjen, Bergen (NO)
18.06.2016	La Notte, Straden (AT)
29.06.2016	Belluard Festival, Fribourg (CH)
24.08.2016	Lokremise, St.Gallen (CH)
02.09.2016	TanzRaum, Herisau (CH)
16.09.2016	Tanzhaus Zürich, Zürich (CH)
04.11.2016	TAK, Schaan (LI)
18.11.2016	Tanzzeit Festival, Winterthur (CH)
25.11.2016	Theater Chur, Chur (CH)
29.11.2016	Joensuu City Theatre, Joensuu (FI)
20.01.2017	Kunstencentrum KAAP, Bruges (BE)
26.05.2017	Devir Capa, Faro (PT)
27 > 28.06.2017	CND, Pantin Cedex (FR)



VIDEO

Trailer <https://vimeo.com/95843502>
Teasers <http://vimeo.com/91527026>
<http://vimeo.com/91522744>
<http://vimeo.com/91523410>
Full version brutstätte 2014:
<https://vimeo.com/95497032> (Password: smsunbengsitting)
Full version Impulstanz 2015:
<https://vimeo.com/137188321> (Password: sbsodeon)



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CONTACT

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Co-ordinator: Helga Baert, helga@hiros.be

Production: Karen Verlinden, karen@hiros.be

Production Austria: Sophie Schmeiser, office@simonmayer.at

HIROS

Hiros is the joint venture of the management offices Margarita Production and Mokum. Together we continue to build a solid framework for individual artists and artistic projects.

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