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## SIMON MAYER - KOPF HOCH SONS OF SISSY

Falter magazine listed Simon Mayer's solo performance *SunBengSitting* in its end-of-the-year review as one of the top theatre productions of 2014, describing it as an "ingenious, nakedly yodelling interplay of folk and contemporary dance". In Mayer's group performance *Sons of Sissy* the focus is on that universe of traditions, folk dances and folk music from which the Upper Austrian country lad Simon Mayer originates.

In an experimental manner, four performers and musicians make use of traditional alpine live music, various group dances and ritualised practices. Liberating them from conservatism and conventions, they establish an unseen fusion of artistic reinterpretations and temporary social attributions of meaning.

Defying categorisation and pigeonholing, the Sons of Sissy do everything they can to live up to their name as they conduct themselves as part weird folk-music quartet, part experimentally playful ritual dance combo, using humour to radically disrupt the hackneyed male role models in old traditions.



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## CREDITS

**Idea, choreography, performance, music** Simon Mayer

**Co-creation, performance, music** Matteo Haitzmann, Patric Redl, Manuel Wagner

**Special instruments** Hans Tschiritsch

**Stage and costume design** Andrea Simeon

**Light design** Martin Walitza, Hannes Ruschbaschan

**Artistic consultant** Frans Poelstra

**Technical direction on tour** Jan Maria Lukas

**Lighting design on tour** Sveta Schwin

**Creation production** Sophie Schmeiser, Elisabeth Hirner

**Touring production:** Hiros, Kopf Hoch

**Co-production:** Kopf hoch, brut Wien, Gessnerallee Zurich, zeitraumexit Mannheim, Tanz ist Dornbirn

**With the kind support of** the City of Vienna's Department of Cultural Affairs, the Arts Division and the Culture Division of the Federal Chancellery of Austria, Kulturland Oberösterreich, Vlaamse Gemeenschap, Kunstenwerkplaats Pianofabriek, WP Zimmer, im\_flieger, Kunst- und Kulturverein SPIEL

**Thanks to** Simon Zöchbauer, Julian Rubisch, ALMA (Marlene Lacherstorfer, Julia Lacherstorfer, Evelyn Mair, Marie-Therese Stickler), Godi Burgstaller, Chris Standfest, Andrea Amort, Munderfinger Goaßlschnalzer, Altstädter Bauerngmoa, Pramtaler Volkstanzgruppe, Elio Gervasi/Raum 33



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## BIO

**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 a singer, guitarist and songwriter. In 2014 Simon Mayer released his music album Monkeymind, followed in 2018 by audio performances of SunBengSitting, Sons of Sissy, Oh Magic. As a dancer/choreographer and musician he was involved in productions of Anne Teresa de Keersmaecker/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, a.o.). Simon was Artist in Residence at Théâtre de L'L in Brussels and together with his brothers and the association Spiel, he organizes the international artfestival SPIEL. He received the outstanding artist award from the Austrian Chancellery in 2017 and the Annerkennungspreis des Lande Oberösterreich in 2018. In Vienna he founded the organisation Kopf Hoch. He teaches contemporary dance, community dance, traditional dance and voice techniques (ImPulsTanz Vienna, Steirisher Herbst, a.o.) and is a guest teacher at the Music and Arts University of Vienna.

[www.simonmayer.at](http://www.simonmayer.at)

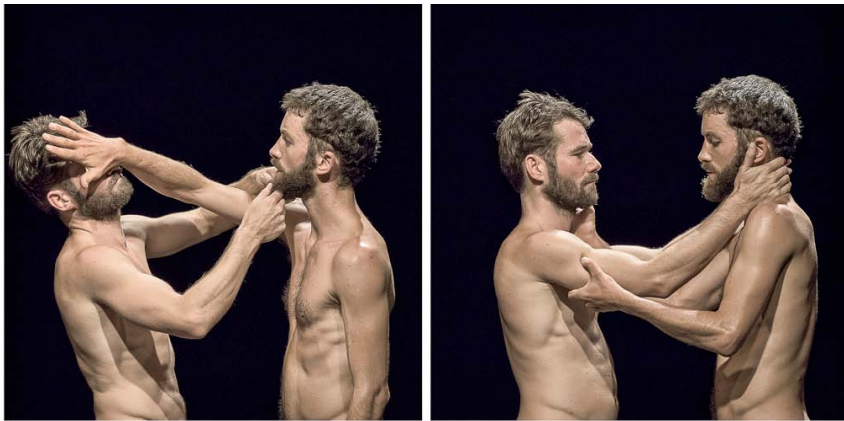
# TOUR

09 > 12.04.2015	brut Wien, Vienna (AT) - <b>premiere</b> -
03.09.2015	Bastard Festival, Trondheim (NO)
14 > 19.09.2015	Pianofabriek, Brussels (BE)
21 > 22.09.2015	Wunder der Prärie, Mannheim (DE)
26 > 27.09.2015	Gessnerallee, Zürich (CH)
03 > 04.11.2015	Spielart Festival, München (DE)
06 > 07.11.2015	Tanz ist, Dornbirn (AT)
19.03.2016	PACT Zollverein, Essen (DE)
06 > 07.04.2016	BIT Teatergarasjen, Bergen (NO)
15.05.2016	Burgenländische Tanztage, Oberwart (AT)
20 > 21.05.2016	Spring Festival, Utrecht (NL)
21 > 22.06.2016	Centre National de la Danse, Paris (FR)
26.06.2016	Belluard Festival, Fribourg (CH)
20 & 22.07.2016	ImPulsTanz, Wien (AT)
28.07.2016	Centrale Fies, Trentino-Alto Adige (IT)
31.07.2016	Griessnerstadl, Stadl-Predlitz (AT)
03.08.2016	Theaterland Steiermark, Oberzeiring (AT)
24.09.2016	Tanzwochen Klagenfurt, Klagenfurt (AT)
04 - 05.10.2016	Gertrüdes ielas teatris, Riga (LV)
29 > 30.10.2016	Dampfzentrale, Bern (CH)
20.11.2016	Schwankhalle, Bremen (DE)
23 > 24.11.2016	Campo, Gent (BE)
27.11.2016	Kaaitheater, Brussels (BE)
14 > 15.01.2017	Vaba Lava, Tallinn (EE)
25.01.2017	Spanski Borci Cultural Centre, Ljubljana (SI)
24.04.2017	Brut, Vienna (AT)
05.05.2017	The Place, London (UK)
01.07.2017	SommerZene, Salzburg (AT)
02.07.2017	Festival der Regionen, Ottensheim (AT)
04.07.2017	Festival des 7 Collines, Saint-Etienne (FR)
15.07.2017	Volxfest, Andorf (AT)
24.07.2017	ImpulsTanz, Vienna (AT)
27.08.2017	Teatro Remondini, Bassano del Grappa (IT)
31.08.2017	Ha'Bayit Theater, Tel Aviv (IL)
30 & 21.10.2017	Gender Bender, Bologna (IT)
05 & 06.12.2017	Kaserne Basel, Basel (CH)
22 & 23.02.2018	Théâtre du Mailon, Strasbourg (FR)
06 & 07.03.2018	Le Théâtre Sévelin 36, Lausanne (CH)
28 > 30.03.2018	Centre Pompidou, Paris (FR)
16.07.2018	Asphalt Festival, Düsseldorf (DE)
27.08.2018	Les Brigittines, Brussels (BE)
01.10.2018	Prague Crossroads, Prague (CZ)
03.10.2018	Ciało/Umysł, Warsaw (PL)
04 > 06.04.2019	The Dance Centre, Vancouver (CA)
10 & 11.04.2019	Usine C, Montréal (CA)
06 & 07.05.2019	CCN Caen, Caen (FR)
27.05.2019	Theater World Brno festival, Brno (CZ)
12.06.2019	Festival Perspectives, Saarbrücken (DE)

[More confirmed tour dates can be found on our website.](#)

*Sons of Sissy* has been presented to **a blind and partially-sighted audience** at several occasions (Vienna, Paris, Brussels, London). In this format, the audience is guided on stage before the performance for a 'touch-tour' and listens to a live audio description during the performance. We are interested in presenting this format more.

After the presentation of *Sons of Sissy*, we can always organise **a Volxparty** with live music and folk dancing.



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## VIDEO

Teaser I	<a href="https://vimeo.com/121471341">https://vimeo.com/121471341</a>
Teaser II	<a href="https://vimeo.com/124407054">https://vimeo.com/124407054</a>
Trailer	<a href="https://vimeo.com/126946537">https://vimeo.com/126946537</a>
Full length Video	<a href="https://vimeo.com/126952466">https://vimeo.com/126952466</a> (Password: sosbrut)

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## PRESS

*Jodel, bis es wehtut*

[Falter, 2015](#)

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*Schnaderhüpfeln in der braunen, volksdämmlichen Soss*

[ECN - Online Kultur Magazin, 2015](#)

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*Volkstanztrance*

[Nachtkritik.de, 2015](#)

-

*Simon Mayer: Sons of Sissy*

[tanz.at, 2015](#)

-

*Wie man den Volkstanz auszieht*

[Der Standard, 2015](#)

-

*Hör mal, was da hüpf!*

[Falter, 2016](#)

-

*Wo das Nacktjodeln fröhliche Urständ feiert*

[Kurier, 2016](#)

-

*Um-pa-pa und Olé!*

[Wiener Zeitung, 2016](#)

-

*Most of the rituals need this moment of letting go*

[ma culture, 2016](#)

-

*ImpulsTanz, Simon Mayer: Sons of Sissy, Spezial*

[tanschrift, 2016](#)

*Simon Mayer 'Sons of Sissy'*

[Ramsay Burt, 2016](#)

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*Teilhabe am fremden Ritus*

[tanznet.de, 2016](#)

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*Ontwapende mannendans legt alpentradities bloot*

[Theaterkrant.nl, 2016](#)

-

*Faire sonner le mouvement*

[ma culture, 2018](#)

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*Les Brigittines International Festival*

[Springback Magazine, 2018](#)

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*Sons of Sissy aux Brigittines*

[mouVoir.blogspot.com, 2018](#)

-

*Ce danseur et chorégraphe se met à nu*

[Les Inrockuptibles, 2018](#)



# CONTACT

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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.

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