

WHITE RABBIT, RED RABBIT

By **NASSIM SOLEIMANPOUR (IRAN)**

Berlin Premiere: Thursday, October 24, 2013 | 8pm

With Ariel Nil Levy (Performer, Israel | October 24), Jacalyn Carley (Choreographer, Co-Founder of Tanzfabrik Berlin, Novelist, USA | October 25), Sean Patten (Gob Squad, UK | October 26), Carrie Getman (Actor, USA | October 31) Seumas Sargent (Blue Man Group, USA | November 1)



Each performance is a world premiere. No rehearsals. No director. No set. A different actor reads the script cold for the first time at each performance. A thrilling, informative, highly individual and extremely entertaining encounter with a young writer who has more questions to his (fictional) audience than answers emerges, almost like magic.

Imagine being 29 and unable to leave your country. Having refused military duty as a conscientious objector, Iranian Nassim Soleimanpour had no passport to travel the world. He was unable to experience the success celebrated by *White Rabbit, Red Rabbit* around the globe until the beginning of 2013 in Australia. Having been retroactively discharged from service, Soleimanpour finally was able to receive a passport.

Instead, he has distilled the experience of an entire generation in this wild, utterly original play. He turns his isolation to his advantage. The playwright becomes his own global instrument of communication.

White Rabbit, Red Rabbit is a unique theatrical experience and has been celebrated worldwide as one of the most astonishing evenings in a theater where both audience and performer as a whole create a performance about the ties and tensions between freedom and conformity.

White Rabbit, Red Rabbit has been performed around the world, including Edinburgh, Melbourne, Toronto, London, Rio de Janeiro, Amsterdam, Boston and Chicago – by performers such as Stephen Rea, Blythe Duff, Maureen Beattie, Michael Shannon, Anna Thalbach, Chris Kondek, John von Düffel or Imogen Kogge.

ENGLISH THEATRE BERLIN BRINGS IT TO GERMANY'S CAPITAL FOR THE FIRST TIME.

"The playwright slyly examines the desire to submit to authority and the ways in which that impulse can be exploited by the clever and the charismatic. Soleimanpour, who was 29 when he wrote the play, translates these dark and disturbing themes into an outrageous parable involving vials of poison, rabbits and cheetahs, oh my. It's an intoxicating stream of consciousness from the heart of Iran that will leave you at once amused and alarmed." (San Jose Mercury News)

"There's a magnetic mind behind the prose. Rabbit is a lightly comic, deceptively discursive, meta-theatrical monologue that – without, I hope, giving too much away - raises provocative questions about the nature of theater, social responsibility, personal freedoms, suicide and the limits of obedience." (San Francisco Chronicle)

***White Rabbit, Red Rabbit* features a different performer every night:**

ARIEL NIL LEVY (Performer, Israel) | October 24

JACALYN CARLEY (Choreographer, Co-Founder of Tanzfabrik Berlin, Novelist, USA) | October 25

SEAN PATTEN (Gob Squad, UK) | October 26

CARRIE GETMAN (Actor, USA) | October 31

SEUMAS SARGENT (Blue Man Group, USA) | November 1

In English.

White Rabbit, Red Rabbit is a co-production of English Theatre Berlin and Aurora Nova Productions.