BERLIN DIARY: (SCHLÜTERSTRAßE 27)



A new play by Andrea Stolowitz



World Premiere: THURSDAY, October 6, 2016 | 8pm FRI-SUN, October 7 – 9, October 2016 | 8pm WED-SAT, October 12 - 15, 2016 | 8pm WED - SAT, November 9 - 12, 2016 | 8pm [Tickets: $14 \in |8 \in]$

Many people from the United States come to Berlin to investigate their family's roots. One of them is **Oregon Book Award winner Andrea**

Stolowitz, great-granddaughter of German-Jewish immigrants to New York. Her search culminates in a play about remembering and forgetting:

Berlin Diary: (Schlüterstraße 27).

This autobiographical play will receive its world premiere on **Thursday, October 6 at 8:00 pm** at English Theatre Berlin | International Performing Arts Center.

"But don't you see we are all screaming across time...we feel comfortable here."

In 1936 Dr. Max Cohnreich escapes Berlin and arrives in New York City. In 1939 he writes about his experiences in a diary intended for his as yet unborn grandchildren. In 2015 his great-granddaughter Andrea Stolowitz travels to Berlin to use the diary to explore the life he describes. In doing so, she discovers the final section of his will and a long-hidden secret. Like in a detective story, she puts the clues together and discovers relatives she never knew.

At the **border between reality and remembrance**, the playwright brings an ensemble of multifarious characters to life **across time and space**. Written with a breakneck tempo, featuring Stolowitz herself as the protagonist and using only two actors to play all of the roles, the **piece sharply breaks with conventional U.S. stage realism**. *Berlin Diary* attempts to approach an understanding of **family**, **home** and **dealing with memory** and allows us to feel how **violent political displacement** still affects a family generations later.

The play was written during a residency at English Theatre Berlin | International Performing Arts Center and developed at the New Harmony Project (Indiana) and PlayPenn (Pennsylvania). An initial staged reading took place at the **National Museum of American Jewish History** in May 2016.

Andrea Stolowitz's plays have been presented by numerous theaters, including The Cherry Lane (NYC), The Old Globe (SD), The Long Wharf (CT), New York Stage and Film (NY) and Portland Center Stage (OR). Andrea teaches creative writing at various universities in the USA. She lives in Portland, Oregon. http://andreastolowitz.com/

"I love Andrea's voice. It is elegant, and profound, and unlike any I've heard before."

(Lydia R. Diamond, Playwright, Oregon Book Award Judge)

Written by: Andrea Stolowitz | Directed by: Daniel Brunet | With: John Julian and Victoria J. Mayers | Stage and Costume Design by: Tamar Ginati | Lighting Design by: Christian Maith | Media Design by: Eric Dunlap | Assistant Direction by: Daniel Sauermilch

Berlin Diary: (Schlüterstraße 27) has received financial support from the Oregon Arts Commission, the Regional Arts and Culture Council, the Checkpoint Charlie Foundation and the U.S. Embassy in Berlin as well as through a DAAD faculty research fellowship (2014-2015).

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