

Rashomon :: TRUTH LIES NEXT DOOR

A performative installation for one observer at a time,
(start every 15 minutes, duration 50 minutes each)
after the novel "In a Grove" by Ryunosuke Akutagawa

A project by **mikeska:plus:blendwerk**
in coproduction with **Fabriktheater Rote Fabrik Zürich**



A man loves a woman. The woman loves the man. A second man appears. He also loves the woman. The woman is torn between them. The second man makes love with the woman. At the end, her husband is dead, the second man is accused of murder and the woman disappeared. But what are the real facts? Each crime series has a solution and we are used to explain everything. RASHOMON is about the utopia of uncertainty.

The Compagnie **mikeska:plus:blendwerk** transforms the Japanese classic RASHOMON into a labyrinth of subjective truth. Every 15 minutes an observer starts. In a fictitious hotel he meets exclusively each of the three protagonists and their respective point of view. In this experimental setting, slowly changing to surrealism, the protagonists present themselves either as victim or suspected killer.

According to the structure of Akutagawa's novel the observer finds his way deeper and deeper into the story. Protected by Akutagawa's poetic language he is audience, intimate friend and voyeur simultaneously. Between dream and reality he experiences his very own film in his mind – and finally becomes part of the system: "Whoever fights monsters should see to it that in the process he does not become a monster. And when you look into the abyss, the abyss also looks into you." (F.N.)

with Sascha Geršak, Anja Tobler / Carolin Maiwald, Martin Kautz **and** (video) Wowo Habdank, Thomas Hechelmann, Lara Körte, Margot Gödrös **director** Bernhard Mikeska **design** Dominic Huber **dramaturge** Andreas Regelsberger, Miriam Ehlers **light & video** Christa Wenger **sound design** Stefan Reinhardt **assistant** Charlotte von Bauszner **technical assistant** Jan Goettgens **technician** Stefan Göbel **management** mikeska:plus:blendwerk **sponsored by** Präsidialdepartement der Stadt Zürich, Fachstelle Kultur Kanton Zürich, ProHelvetia, Migros Kulturprozent, Ernst Göhner Stiftung, Sophie und Karl Binding Stiftung, Georges und Jenny Bloch Stiftung, Schweizerische Interpreten Stiftung

mikeska:plus:blendwerk create spatial systems at the borderline between hyperrealism and extreme artificiality making a subtle use of light and sound. mikeska:plus:blendwerk consists of Bernhard Mikeska (director) and Dominic Huber (stage design). Bernhard Mikeska creates (after completing his doctor in theoretical physics about complex systems), theatrical evenings that re-evaluate and re-adjust the watching habits, attitudes and relation between actors and spectators. Dominic Huber is working as stage designer (after graduating in architecture) in both cities, Zurich and Berlin. The team works regularly together with blendwerk's cofounder, Christa Wenger (light & video) and actors from Zurich. After «FALLS CITY :: The Brandon Teena story» (2005) and «Rashomon :: TRUTH LIES NEXT DOOR» (2006) their newest production «GHOSTS :: who's watching you?», an adaption of Paul Austers "New York Trilogy", was presented at Theaterhaus Gessnerallee Zurich in autumn 2007. «Rashomon» has been invited to several theatre festivals around the world, among others to Fajr International Theatre Festival in Tehran and IMPULSE 2007. Actor Sascha Gersak (Tajomaru) won the prize as "Best actor" of the Fajr Festival Tehran.

The hideous thing is that there seems to be no truth.
Akira Kurosawa / **RASHOMON**

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