

PRESS RELEASE

Eine Heidi Mottl / Marcelo Buscaino Produktion

Julia Schreiner
Presse- und
Öffentlichkeitsarbeit
Oranienstraße 171
10999 Berlin
schreiner.julia@gmx.de



Elektro-Oper Berghain ab 25.8.

nach dem Film von Martin Scorsese

www.berghain.de / AFTERHOURS
Kartentelefon: 030 / 40 50 59 87

AFTER HOURS

Electro-Opera based on Martin Scorsese's film

world premiere: 25.08.06, 21:00 h

further performances: **29 August to 01 September and 05 to 08 September 2006; 21:00 h**

venue: **Berghain**, Am Wriezener Bahnhof, S-Bhf Ostbahnhof Berlin

Concept and Direction: **Marcelo Buscaino** und **Heidi Mottl**; Composition: **Klaus Janek**

For the first time, Berlin's famous clubbing mecca, "Berghain" will host a theatre production. Formerly an electric power house, "Berghain" has a raw and monumental industrial atmosphere evocative of Metropolis or the imagery of Hieronymus Bosch. At present, "Berghain" is arguably the centre of Berlin's notorious underground as every week the club holds decadent parties for thousands of guests which continue non-stop on all three floors from Friday night to Sunday evening. This is undoubtedly the perfect setting for Marcelo Buscaino and Heidi Mottl's world premiere of their electro-opera, AFTER HOURS.

Based on Martin Scorsese's cult film (After Hours / 1985 / director of photography: Michael Ballhaus), AFTER HOURS follows the dark and surreal adventures of a young computer programmer, Paul Hackett. Dissatisfied with his secure yet lonely existence, Hackett embarks on a nightmarish voyage through the urban underworld. Following a series of fatal misunderstandings and events, Hackett loses his money and becomes lost in a labyrinth of clubs, bars and darkrooms where he is eventually hunted for theft and later, murder. The way back is cut off

AFTER HOURS combines electronic music and opera. Berlin is distinctly the prime location to feature the world premiere of AFTER HOURS as the city is at the heart of both contemporary electronic music and opera. Although many have previously attempted to contemporize classical operas by adding techno music and a current setting, Mottl and Buscaino's approach in AFTER HOURS is innovative. Modern text is set to electronic music and the setting is contextualized to an actual underground club location. The work will be performed by actors, opera singers and dancers and for the first time, club techno music will not only be used to heighten atmosphere but also to convey a dramatic story. In doing so, Mottl and Buscaino are developing a new style of performance.

Interviews with Heidi Mottl and Marcelo Buscaino can be arranged on request.

For further information about After Hours and/or photographs contact Julia Schreiner.

Contact: Julia Schreiner / schreiner.julia@gmx.de / +49-30-61288058 / +49-176-22610775

Tickets: +49-30-40 50 59 87

With: Godehard Giese, Barbara Grabowski, Gary Jankowski, Lara-Sophie Milagro, Roswitha Stadlmann, 14 dancers, special-guest: Denis Fischer; Film/Video FX: Daniel Heinisch; Set/Costumes: Friedrich Eggert; Choreography: Alexandre Roccoli; Light Design: Benjamin Schälike; production management: DepArtment; technical direction: act Media Support GmbH

Funded by Hauptstadtkulturfonds. Supported by Deutsche Bank.

Thanks to Orphtheater, Atlantis Sound Veranstaltungstechnik and Geier-Tronic Videotechnik GmbH.

DIRECTORS

HEIDI MOTTL

Born in 1972, the opera and theatre Director, Heidi Mottl moved from Mönchengladbach to Berlin, in order to study theatre, music and literature at the Freie Universität, Berlin. Whilst studying, Mottl worked on her first production *Das Lachen und das Streicheln des Kopfes* by Oliver Bukowski at the Universität der Künste, Berlin. She was an Assistant to renowned directors such as Peter Konwitschny and Nicolas Brieger and worked for the Staatsoper Unter den Linden, the Deutsche Oper Berlin, the Hamburgische Staatsoper and was later in residence at the Maxim Gorki Theater in Berlin. At the Maxim Gorki Theatre she staged plays such as *Lupo* by Elfriede Müller, the world premieres of *Angst I and II* and *Born to Shop* the play *Bis Denver* by Oliver Bukowski. In addition, she produced works at the Neuköllner Oper such as *Herz über Bord* by Eduard Kunneke and *Es liegt was in der Luft* by Mischa Spoliansky. Mottl also directed Friedrich Schiller's *Turandot* at the E.T.A.-Hoffmann Theatre in Bamberg.

Alongside her ongoing work for state theatres, Heidi Mottl has also received international acclaim for creating productions in unusual locations, demonstrating exceptional sensitivity in producing both new and forgotten plays and revitalizing older dramatic pieces by relating them to modern issues and contexts.

For instance, the indoor swimming pool at Oderbergerstrasse, Berlin, was re-discovered by Mottl as a performance location for *Die Flut* -The Flood -, whilst she also transformed the former electric powerhouse (the ex Vitra-Design Museum) into a theatre space for *Malpopita* - the world premiere of a scenic opera by Walter Goehr for the Komische Oper Berlin.

Mottl's next project is to direct *Rough for Theatre* by Samuel Beckett at the Kunstmuseum, Stuttgart.

So far, Mottl has received numerous scholarships and awards for her work, most notably from the Richard Wagner foundation, Bayreuth and the International Competition of Opera Directing, Graz.



MARCELO BUSCAINO

The Italo-Brazilian, Marcelo Buscaino began his directing career at the Sinodal College Theatre Group in Brazil. In the years he led the ensemble, he produced works such as *Antigone* by Sophokles and *Conversation-Sifonietta* by Jean Tardieu, as well as his own mini plays. He danced and was dramatic advisor for the Alexander Sideroff Company and following his relocation to Europe became a member of the Florence Dance Centre (I). During his studies of theatre, film and television at the University of Cologne, Buscaino improved his knowledge in the mixed media artistic genres. For two years he studied at the Sorbonne Nouvelle in Paris and assisted at the Opéra Bastille for the productions of *Lohengrin*, *Carmen* and *Parsifal*. Whilst living in London, he studied singing with William MacAlpine at the Guildhall School of Music and expanded his knowledge of Graham Technique in The Place. Following his master's degree, he assisted Jean-Marc Bory in Mozart's *Lucio Silla* in Lausanne (CH) and Caen (F) and later worked as Assistant and Revival Director at the Deutsche Oper Berlin from 2001 to 2005. There he collaborated with directors such as Hans Neuenfels, Achim Freyer, David Pountney and Sebastian Baumgarten, and directed the revival of traditional and contemporary operas, e.g. *Elektra*, *Faust*, *Werther*, Verdi's *Requiem* and Janacek's *From the House of the Dead*, for which by request of the director, Volker Schlöndorff, he produced the pantomime.

Since August 2005, Buscaino has worked as a freelance and is regularly appointed to direct revivals for the Deutsche Oper Berlin. He was recently invited to Brazil by the film maker Karim Ainouz to act as Script and Directing Consultant for the feature film *Raffle Me*. In this project he captured the images for the respective *Making Of*, which he later expanded into his own filmic essay *Making Off*. In Brazil he also created the photo installation *Bem-Vindos, Berlin, CE* at the Historical Museum of Ceara, Fortaleza (BR).

Marcelo Buscaino discovered the unexplored potential of "Berghain" as a theatre setting and swiftly connected its atmosphere with the mood of Martin Scorsese's film, thus providing the creative and stylistic basis for developing AFTER HOURS into an electro-opera.

COMPOSITION

KLAUS JANEK

born 1969, in Bolzano Italy, studies classical doublebass with M. Muraro, Venice, workshops with D.Holland, P.Kowald. L.Butch Morris.

Explores avantgarde music and works on sound research on the doublebass. Gets involved in the improvised music scene and lots of traditional and electronic music, published CD (FMP, edel classics, Minor Music, Solponticello, Ubiquity and others), in between three solo doublebass CDs. Composes music for cinema, theatre and dancetheatre. In 2004 he signs an exclusiv contract as composer with scoop music gmbH/bmg publishing. Art direction of various concertseries in Italy and GermanyHTT.T Concert and festival appearances in EU and USA.

Collaboration with musicians such us Wolfgang Fuchs, Toshinori Kondo, Willi Kellers, Christoph Irmer, Agusti Fernandez, Marco Cristofolini, Johannes and Conny Bauer, Paul Brody, Borah Bergmann, Joe and Mat Maneri, Torsten Sense, Günther Pitscheider, Martin Blume, Thomas Borgmann, Gary Lucas, Heiner Reinhard, Michael Griener, Roger Turner and others.

Collaboration with ensembles: Ort Ensemble, Wuppertal conducted by Peter Kowald and Laurence Butch Morris, Vision Festival Ensemble, New York conducted by Bill Dixon, Sexy Ambient Hippies (17 Hippies) Berlin and others.

Collaboration with Pathfinder Tanzcompany, Berlin; Circo da Cultura, Kassel; Thierry Thieu Niang Company, Marseille, France; Les Popellicanes, Merano, Italy; Labor Gras, Berlin, Germany; theatre encorps, London,UK; and others.



With	Godehard Giese Barbara R. Grabowski Gary Jankowski Lara-Sophie Milagro Roswitha Stadlmann Denis Fischer
Special Guest	14 dancer
Concept and Direction	Marcelo Buscaino Heidi Mottl
Composition/Live-Act Film/Video FX Set/Costumes Choreography Light Design	Klaus Janek Daniel Heinisch Friedrich Eggert Alexandre Roccoli Benjamin Schälke
Technical Direction	act Media Support GmbH/ Olaf Schierenberg
Sound Techn. Equipment Stage Technician	Marian Kuch Atlantis Sound Alkuin Vorderbrüggen
Stage Manager Assistance Set/Costumes	Monika Fieber Annika Hofestädt
Publik Relations	Julia Schreiner
Production Management	DepArtment/Harriet Lesch