

THE SOCIETY

Friday, 05 February, 21.00 h.

Saturday, 06 February, 20.00 h.



Ticket sale: 16 December

Prices: 18€ 14€ 7€

Jo Strømgren Kompani

Choreography, set design and direction Jo Strømgren

With Stian Isaksen, Hallvard Holmen and Trond Fausa Aurvåg

Music Charles Aznavour, Guo Song, Cai Dan Zhuo Ma, Hu Song Hua,

The East is Red Choir and The Doors

Producers Norwegian National Theatre, Bergen International Festival, BIT Teatergarasjen, Riksteatret, with support from the Arts Council Norway, City of Bergen and the support EVENTUAL from The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

> duration 1.00 h. (uninterrupted)

Somewhere in Central Europe, a society of sworn coffee drinkers in Europe gather for their daily ritual. However, the harmony is broken by a horrific incident – the discovery of a used teabag. How far are they willing to go in order to track the unpatriotic traitor down and bring this evil act to justice?

The isolated conflict between drinkers of coffee and tea is an excuse to scrutinise the behaviour of contemporary society in situations of global reach. In our turbulent times the average citizen is ever more tempted to accept torture, the repression of minorities, and other violent acts in order to restore order and avoid a clash of civilizations. These are potentially difficult themes, not only to discuss, but particularly to reflect, in theatre. Much respect, cultural knowledge, and political insight is needed to provide credible standpoints in international conflicts. The Society cleverly gravitates between humour and horror.

Jo Strømgren Kompani is internationally renowned for its research into abstract texts and multidisciplinary productions, each of them being a new linguistic identity that stimulates interpretative associations rather than forcing a specific response from the public. "Not even the actors know what they are saying on stage, so don't worry", they proclaim.

Jo Strømgren is a prestigious independent choreographer, theatre director and script-writer. He founded his company in Bergen, Norway, in 1998 and is currently one of the most consolidated independent groups in Europe.

www.jskompani.no