

# Liisa Pentti

SIRIUS  TEATERN 

## Fraudulent Light – and the Epidemy of Oblivion



20 February, 7:30pm | 21 February, 7:30pm | 22 February, 3pm  
Pannu Hall, Dance House Helsinki

Duration ca. 1,5 h, no intermission

Artist talk on 22 February after the performance

*Fraudulent Light – and the Epidemy of Oblivion* is based on an idea presented by art history professor Jonathan Crary in his book *24/7* (2013):

*“A 24/7 world is a disenchanted one in its eradication of shadows and obscurity and of alternate temporalities. It is a world identical to itself, a world with a shallowest past and does in principle without spectators – but the homogeneity of the present is an effect of the fraudulent brightness that presumes to extend everywhere and pre-empt any mystery or unknowability.”*

If one takes Crary's proposal seriously and sees the world situation as an unhistorical, transparent illusion, how can dance in such a world make visible its own past? And what points of contact does that past have with the present?

This is the point of departure for *Fraudulent Light – and the Epidemy of Oblivion*. It is a work for nine performers and its artistic inspiration stems from the choreographies *Sacre du Printemps* (1975), *1980 – Ein Stück von Pina Bausch* (1980) and *Walzer* (1982) by Pina Bausch and the Tanztheater Wuppertal. The original members of the Tanztheater Wuppertal performing these works appear very human in their cruelty and rage, morphing into humour, kindness, and playful self-irony. 50 years after their completion these iconic performances have been a source of inspiration, an instigation to discourse and partially also sources for material.

*Fraudulent Light – and the Epidemy of Oblivion* is a co-production by Liisa Pentti +Co and Sirius Teatern. The performance genre could be called “ghost theatre”. The choreographic idea is based on the act of remembering and reflects existing forms and ideas in performing arts, events that have been taking place a long time ago. Through its reflection of the past and its gifts something new is engendered. *Fraudulent Light – and the Epidemy of Oblivion* opens a fabric of scenes, visions and premonitions, recollections and experiences. It is a field of constantly erupting actions, where tragedy and entertainment emerge side by side in an anthropocentric network of events, as when a performer's love for a chair overcomes the gulf between human and object while a memory of surrendering to free fall serves as the basis for the movement material.

*Fraudulent Light – and the Epidemy of Oblivion* is also a performance about touch and the lack of it, insomnia, bodily metamorphoses, the possibility of dance, and probabilities of the future; about the passage of time and melancholy, associations and absurd encounters, chaos and surrendering to it, and most of all about trust in the existence of shadows.

– Liisa Pentti

Premiere 4 November 2022

Concept and direction: Liisa Pentti

Choreographer's assistant: Joonas Halonen

Performers: Wilhelm Grotenfelt, Paul Holländer, Suvi Kemppainen, Marlon Moilanen, Corinne Mustonen, Paul Olin, Pinja Poropudas, Satu Rekola, Kardo Shiwan

Choreography created together with the performers

Texts: The working group

Music: Juan Llossas: Frühling und Sonnenschein, Cole Porter: Begin the Beguine, Cole Porter: Anything Goes, Dizzy Gillespie: Swing Low, Sweet Cadillac; Los Visconti: Las quimeras

Dramaturgical support: Titta Halinen

Sound design: Jouni Tauriainen

Lighting design: Ina Niemelä

Spatial design: Fabian Nyberg

Costume design: Siru Kosonen

Sewing of costumes: Ompelimo Rodino and Sara Lehtonen

Photos: Sari Antikainen, Uupi Tirronen

Video documentation: Iina Terho

Graphic design: Monika Bodendorff (Kobra Agency), Mia Kivinen

Production: Liisa Pentti +Co, Sirius Teatern, Theatre House Universum

Residence: Ehrenfeldt Studios, Cologne

Thank you: Sara Grotenfelt, Marita Kuusiniemi, Soile Lahdenperä, Pia Lindy, Paul Pignon, Eskus – The Performance Art Centre

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[www.liisapentti.com](http://www.liisapentti.com) [www.universum.fi](http://www.universum.fi)

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