

TELEMACHOS – SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO? by Anestis Azas, Prodromos Tsinikoris & Ensemble

Ballhaus Naunynstraße
Premiere 11 January 2013
12-13, 15-17 and 26-29 January 2013

Onassis Cultural Center Athens
Premiere 27 February 2013
28 February, 1–3 and 5–10 March 2013

"When we go to Greece they say the Germanos is coming. The German is there. Excuse me. Well, in Germany we are foreign, in Greece we are foreign. Where are we not foreign? In Turkey maybe?" (Christos)

The completely plundered Greece is under the control of the suitors. Odysseus is missing and Telemachos, his young son who is still in wintery war-ridden Athens is asking himself the sempiternal and yet highly relevant question: should I stay or should I go? Waiting for a hero returning home? Or should I leave as well, in the tradition of the ancestors?

The young German-Greek team of directors invited a couple of protagonists from different generations. All of them live their life's back and forth between Greece and Germany and answer the question of "should I stay or should I go" again and again for themselves. Their life stories and reports about emigration, immigration and remigration are linked with cantos of the odyssey and adventures of Odysseus.

Former guests and so called guest workers, crisis-ridden Athenians of today, actors and „experts“ discuss together on stage – with Prodromos Tsinikoris as Telemachos – the conditions of Europe today. They are going to tell stories of their own very personal odyssey – about encounters with the sea monsters Skylla and Charybdis, about experiences with loss, fraud, guilt, unemployment and self-denial. This is how Telemachos and his travel-experienced fellows – in the current discussion about the crisis – shake up the self- and public images.

Ballhaus Naunynstraße

Naunynstraße 27, 10997 Berlin
Online-Tickets: www.ballhausnaunynstrasse.de
Reservierungen (030) 75453725
Preis: 14 €/ermäßigt 8

Verena Schimpf: presse@ballhausnaunynstrasse.de

Director
Anestis Azas,
Prodromos Tsinikoris

Stage and costume design
Lena Fay, Angela Konti

Dramatic adviser
Jens Hillje,
Irina Szodruch

Soundtrack
Giannis Tsoukalas

Video
Guillaume Cailleau,
Benjamin Krieg,
Hanna Slak

Featuring
Sofia Anastasiadou
Knut Berger
Despina Bibika
Kostis Kallivretakis
Christos Sarafianos
Prodromos Tsinikoris
Giannis Tsoukalas

Initiated by
Shermin Langhoff

In German and Greek language with surtitles.

A production of Kultursprünge and Projektor in co-production with Onassis Cultural Center, funded by the German Cultural Foundation and the Goethe-Institut Athens.

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Anestis Azas was born in 1978 in Thessaloniki, Greece, and studied Theatre Studies at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and Directing at the Academy of Dramatic Arts “Ernst Busch” in Berlin. He worked as assistant director and translator in Dimiter Gotscheff’s production of Aeschylus’ *The Persians* (Epidaurus 2009) and in Rimini Protokoll’s production of *Prometheus in Athens* (Odeon Herodes Atticus, Athens 2010). Since 2008, he directed both at Greek state theatres (National Theatre, Athens Festival, State Theatre of Northern Greece) and various off-scene stages in Athens.

Among his works as a director are classics (Aeschylus, Koltès, Heiner Müller) and young playwrights (Manolis Tsipos, Anja Hilling) as well as play developments. In May 2011 he was invited to the International Forum of the Berlin Theatertreffen. In December 2011 he was a nominee for the Greek “Karolous Koun” award for young directors.

In collaboration with Prodromos Tsinikoris he produced the theatrical documentaries *Travelling by train*, a play about the disassembly of the Greek railway (Athens 2011) and *Epidaurus – a documentary*, a critical report on the origination and the history of the Epidaurus Festival (Small theatre of Epidaurus 2012)

In 1981 **Prodromos Tsinikoris** was born in Wuppertal as son of a Greek „guest worker“. In 1999 he went to study at the Theatre Faculty of the Aristoteles University in Thessaloniki. He was a member of the “Piramatiki Skini tis Technis“ Theatre (member of the European theatre convention) from 2005 until 2008 and appeared among others in a production of Henrik Ibsen’s *Ghost*, Tennessee William’s *The Glass Menagerie* and Rainer Lewandowski’s *Heute weder Hamlet*. Prodromos Tsinikoris was invited in May 2008 to the international forum of the Theatertreffen in Berlin. Since 2009 he lives in Athens and works among others together with Dimiter Gotscheff (*Die Perser*), the National Theatre (*Marat/Sade*), Rimini Protokoll (Prometheus in Athens/assistant director & research) and Stathis Livathinos at the Onassis Cultural Centre (*Danton’s Death*/assistant director). He worked as chief editor for several episodes of a documentary for the national channel Et1, called „Begegnungen mit bemerkenswerten Menschen“ (encounter with exceptional people) by Menelaos Karamaghiolis. Together with Anestis Azas he developed and directed the reality theatre project *Eine Bahnreise* (2011) and *Epidaurus – a documentary* (2012) in the context of the „Athens & Epidaurus Festival“.