

Jury Grand Prize, MiramirO 2008 - International Street Theatre Festival of Gent, Belgium



The night following your show in Saignes, I felt a change taking place in me, you have transformed me, with great tenderness, delicacy and sharp intelligence, into a sister, you have 'shook' me and indeed I believe I still am shaken.

In your 'show', which luckily enough is not called so (but which genre would you include it in then?) I saw, or better yet heard with the absence of words, **the heart rendering cry of a certain part of humanity**; nomad, hurt, disoriented, with no belongings, and on the other hand, that which is settled, within its wealthy comfort, within its pension plan, holiday arrangements, working hours...which has become blind by the power of TV images, deaf by auditory over-consumption, and nothing but over-consumption, ignorant by virtue of idleness.

You have tried to carve a crack in the wall of shame, the one which stands between these two parts of humanity as well as within every human being. You have succeeded in **revealing the breach caused by distance, indifference, by over protection against fellow man.** You did not force us (that is not how I felt with your way of being within your 'game'), but rather brotherly invited us to open up towards another side of ourselves, a side which is so hard to reveal yet so sweet to visit, that of brotherhood, compassion, and true heart felt sharing.

For those who had followed the game you awarded the prospect of growing in humanity, in those who were witnesses and had eyes to see, you have awoken the hope of becoming fraternal through action again. In those who were too deaf to hear with their own ears, oblivion has already sunk. **The only thing which is needed is a few lamps that remain lit.** Continue with your labour as a 'wake up call' for conscience by swipes of fine humour, as storytellers without words, without adornment, as subtle, profound and lasting happiness donors.

Anne BRUNOT, inhabitant of Saignes, on August 9th, 2009.

After seing Kamchàtka in its village the day before, in the framework of the Aurillac Festival « Préalables » (France)

# KAMCHÀTKA

Eight persons with only one suitcase and one memento. Unaware of the city's rules, life style and secrets they go about discovering the place as if they have just arrived from a distant land. Their vast ingenuity and curiosity leads them to explore everything meticulously, childlike in every step and move. Everything is new. Everything is but a pretext for another playful game. They slowly make their way, exposing their emotions and creating powerful complicity with the public which crosses their path.

Kamchàtka is a dream, a dream in the midst of our reality.



*Kamchàtka* develops a succession of subtle games, both real and unpredictable, between the Kamchàtka members and the public. This public is in fact the inhabitants, already present in the place, the ones who ask: where are they from? Who are they? Swept by these contradicting emotions, this public will have to take a decision:

Open their minds or live in fear? Tolerance of indifference? Diversity or uniformity? Build their future with the Kamchàtka members or reject them?

*Kamchàtka* is nothing but a mirror; a mirror of our behaviour towards the Other, the Foreign, the Different.

### THEY KNOW HOW TO TELL THIS STORY BETTER THAN WE DO...

#### Noémie Escortell, Font'Arts – Pernes les Fontaines, France, August 2008

« Thanks a lot for your performance, it was fabulous, full of emotions, warmth and humour. It was simply a delicious time. »

#### Johan Vanhie (journalist: www.straattheater.net), MiramirO - Ghent, Belgium, July 2008

«Falling in love with 8 people at the same time. This is what happened to me in MiramirO. [...] Solidarity is a delight for them. Open mindedness and freedom are values that define them [...] Unity makes strength and solidarity can move mountains. This is what I fell in love with and this is what I would love to have more of[...] I would leave a hot meal in my plate only to see this company, or better yet, to share it with them. With blisters on my feet I would walk for miles to see them »

#### Adrie, Hat Fair – Winchester, UK, July 2008

« It felt so real and genuine, not just a fleeting theatrical moment but intense and deeply moving. »

#### Sian Thomas (artistic director of the festival), Hat Fair – Winchester, UK, July 2008

« I have had so much feedback. Kamchàtka touched many people with their humanity and warmth. So many people have told me their own stories of how they cried or laughed or felt rested. And it is actually the most talked about piece, other artists are all discussing it too. The company are truly a lovely group of people to work with and to have around. I have so much respect for Kamchàtka! »

#### Joana Moraes, FITEI - Porto, Portugal, June 2008

« I absolutely loved your performance. I would like to tell all of you that in my opinion, Kamchàtka was the best show of this festival [...] and I am sure I am not the only one who thinks this way. The country's biggest newspapers had your picture on the front page today and I saw a small part of your show on national TV [...] I'm sending you a big hug, the kind you are likely to give... »

#### Patricia, FiraTàrrega, Spain, September 2007

« The gift of offering other people to open a gift. The gift of leading people's gaze towards details that they might usually not see, and even if they do see, they might not notice. And by doing so, creating an adventure in situations which have no evident importance [...] The gift of proximity, of being yourself, of spontaneity and of vulnerability. The gift of sharing the view with eyes which are always aware, curious, sincere, like toddler eyes full of desire to play, to love, to hug, to have fun, to live... A physical and psychological state of mind which is not created in order to establish credibility but rather in order to assure real situations, instead of fictitious ones, situations which you need to live through, rather than believe in [...] The gift of converting everyday space and time into something magical; of transforming the ordinary into something special, by truly simple means; of making ones life an art, and art more like life... »

#### Ramon, FiraTàrrega, Spain, September 2007

« I am from Barcelona and am 42 years old. I haven't had any connection to the theatre world (I am an occasional spectator, nothing else) But I was deeply moved by your show in the Tàrrega festival: I found it very touching and human, very poetical yet amusing. It struck me that you really manage to bring out , sometimes unwillingly, the humanity in the people whom you choose as 'objects' of your curiosity. I clearly remember the hesitant smile of a balloon vendor on the street which you surrounded with your suitcases... »

## STREET THEATRE ACCORDING TO KAMCHÀTKA

### Group improvisation and exploration work within public space, for its inhabitants...

Street Theatre conveys, provokes and changes common spaces and situations into exceptional deeds. Setting out from the inhabitants' everyday life, Kamchàtka creates a parallel universe, a space for dialogue, where the spectator becomes an active part of the exchange and the experimentation. For Kamchàtka, there is no spectator, there is no audience; the only thing that does exist is human beings within public space.



This is how they create their characters who go hand in hand with their story, their fears, their urge to discover, slowly unravelling the new place they are in, letting their emotions pour out with no reserves. Even though it is comprised of distinct individuals, the collective reacts and relates to the outside world as a group. It is a unit who's members are equal parts of the same system, with its logic, codes and history. The profound listening between the actors permits them to form a rather compact group which reacts in unison to what the space or its inhabitants require, while both take their own time to breath and evaluate the situation using their own logic. It is then and there that the group penetrates 'the others' everyday life.

The game they play is so subtle it could be mistaken for reality. Its aim is to surprise, provoke and raise questions amongst the audience, to create a parallel reality which enables spontaneous, simple and direct dialogue. The actor, naked, manifesting his sensitivity and fragility, disrupts the locations' rhythm and rules in order to share his emotions and fears with the public.

## WHO ARE THEY?

Kamchàtka is a young street theatre company, formed by **a multidisciplinary artist collective**. The members of the company met for the first time during a street theatre workshop directed by Adrian Schvarzstein which took place in October 2006, as part of the fifth edition of the *Escena Poblenou* Festival in Barcelona,. From that moment on they are inseparable, with several additional actors joining the troupe in the course of the following years.



Months of research and questioning regarding the nature of travel, migration and The Other...

Months of investigation in 'public space'...

Dozens of improvised 'work sessions' on the streets of Barcelona, throughout various neighbourhoods, including the municipal metro...

...have brought their first show to life: Kamchàtka.

**Performers:** Cristina Aguirre, Maïka Eggericx, Sergi Estebanell, Claudio Levati, Andrea Lorenzetti, Judit Ortiz, Lluís Petit, Albert Querol, Josep Roca, Edu Rodilla, Santi Rovira, Gary Shochat, Ada Vilaró, Prisca Villa and Albert Vinyes. (Shows consist of 8 performers + 2 observers)

Original idea and Direction: Adrian Schvarzstein

## DIRECTION : ADRIAN SCHVARZSTEIN



Born in Buenos Aires (Argentine) in 1967, Adrian has lived in Italy, Israel and Spain. He currently resides in Barcelona

Adrian has devoted himself to theatre since 1989. He studied theatre in Israel, mime in France and Commedia Dell'Arte with **Antonio Fava** in Italy.

His career has carried him from physical theatre, to the opera with **Dario Fo**, from Baroque music, to contemporary dance with *Victor* of **Pina Bausch**, film, commercials and television.

Adrian was part of the Belgian Circo Ronaldo, together with Fili and Brick a Barack.

He is an accomplished Commedia Dell'Arte, street theatre and opera teacher.

Aside for being a successful multidisciplinary artist, Adrian **specializes in Street Theatre.** As of today, his solo shows *Greenman*, *The Bed* and *Dans* are performed in festivals worldwide.

Adrian is the director and an actor in **Circus Klezmer** with which he has achieved great public and critical acclaim.

www.adrianschvarzstein.com

'Apart for presenting a mystery, a suitcase is also a metaphor for the world, a perfect element in any scenography, a mirror image of the one who carries it...

Adrian Schvarzstein



### SOME OF THE STOPS WE HAVE MADE ON OUR WAY

### 2009

16/10/2009-10/11/2009 CLETA, Guanajuato, Mexico 20/09/2009 De Groote Stooringe, Roeselare, Belgium 12/09/2009 Amersfoorts Theater Terras, Amersfoort, Holland 04-05/09/2009 Coup de Chauffe, Cognac, France 21-24/08/2009 Wave Festival, Vordingborg, Nakskov et Nykøbing Falster, Denmark 15-16/08/2009 Theaterfestival Boulevard, s-Hertogenbosch, Holland 08-16/08/2009 Les Préalables, Festival d'Aurillac, France (A tour of 8 villages) 06/08/2009 En Bastides, Villefranche de Rouergue, France 04-05/07/2009 Festival Renaissances, Bar le duc, France 01-02/07/2009 Onderstroom Festival, Vlissingen, Holland 26-28/06/2009 Vivacité, Sottville-lès-Rouen, France 12-19/06/2009 Oerol Terschelling Festival, Holland (16 actuaciones) 06-07/06/2009 Mooi Weer Spelen, Delft, Holland

### 2007

21/10/2007 Escena Poblenou Festival d'Automne, Barcelona 28/09/2007 Gest, Esparreguera, Spain 23/09/2007La Mercè · Arts de Carrer, Barcelona 22/09/2007 Label Rue, Alzonne, France 07-08/09/2007 FiraTàrrega, Spain 01/09/2007 Festival Internacional de Teatro Amateur, Girona, Spain 09/06/2007 La Mostra, Igualada, Spain 20/05/2007 Festival Baule d'Airs, Baule, France 24/03/2007 Castellar del Vallès, Spain **Oficial Premiere** 

3 years 13 countries 70 festivals More than 140 shows

### 2008

11-12/10/2008 Budapest Autumn Festival, Hungary 27-28/09/2008 Portici di Carta, Torino, Italy 13/09/2008 Festival de rue de Ramonville. France 26-28/08/ 2008 Bat Yam Street Theatre Festival, Israel 02-04/08/2008 La Strada, Graz, Austria 30-31/07/2008 Jersey Arts Centre, UK 28-29/07/2008 Watch This Space, Londres, UK 24-25/07/2008 MiramirO, Gand, Belgium **BEST SHOW PRIZE** 21/07/2008 De Zomer, Menen, Belgium 18-20/07/2008 Chalon dans la rue, Chalon sur Saône, France 05-06/07/2008 Hat Fair, Winchester, UK 21/06/2008 Festival Internacional de Teatro de Calle, Alcorcón, Spain 14/06/2008 Festival Internacional de las Artes de Castilla y León, Salamanca, Spain 07-08/06/2008 FITEI, Porto, Portugal 11-12/05/2008 Internationales Straßentheaterfestival, Detmold, Germany 04/05/2008 Fira de Teatre de Titelles, Lleida, Spain 27/03/2008 La Noche de los Teatros, Madrid, Spain 22-23/02/2008 FestivALT.o8, Vigo, Spain 26/01/2008 Escenaris 08, Girona, Spain 27/03/2008 La Noche de los Teatros, Madrid, Spain 22-23/02/2008 FestivALT.o8, Vigo, Spain 26/01/2008 Escenaris 08, Girona, Catalunya

Supported by institut ramon llull Catalan Language and Culture

## HOSTING KAMCHATKA

The performance's running time varies according to the audience, the environment and the improvisation. It is never shorter than an hour and never more than 1:30 hours long.

#### There are no sound and lighting technical requirements.

**Night shows are possible**, but only if the lighting conditions throughout the entire route are adequate. In case of doubt please ask us.

The ORGANIZER will assure a representative/host is present to accompany the group starting at the group's arrival on location until an hour and a half after the end of the last performance.

The ORGANIZER will provide the group with:

- A well lit **rehearsal room**, sized at approximately 40 square metres.

- A well lit **dressing room (backstage)**, which can comfortably accommodate 11 people and equipped with: showers, towels and toilets for 11 people, coat-hangers and mirrors, 1 ironing board and 1 domestic iron, 1 table 2m x 1m (minimum) and 11 chairs, mineral water bottles, biscuits and some fresh fruit.

The dressing room should be available for use 3 hours before the performance and 1hour and 30 min after it.



### SHOW PRICES GIVEN UPON REQUEST

Transport, accommodation and food for 11 persons to be provided by the ORGANIZER



www.kamchatka.cat

## YOU TUBE

www.youtube.com/KamchatkaTeatre

## LATEST PHOTOS

http://picasaweb.google.com/kamchatkacalle

A little girl in the *Kamchatka region* A peninsula in the far east of Russia

