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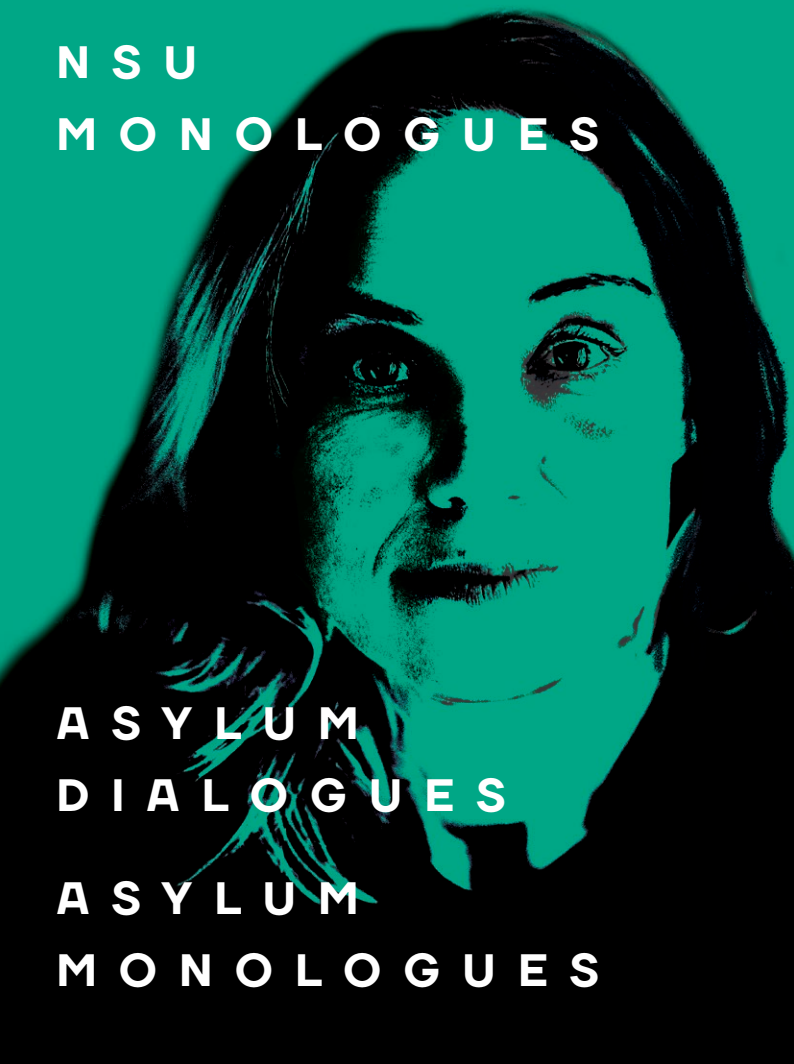
CLIMATE
MONOLOGUES

MEDITERRANEAN
MIGRATION
MONOLOGUES

NSU
MONOLOGUES

ASYLUM
DIALOGUES

ASYLUM
MONOLOGUES



DOCUMENTARY THEATER

The **ASYLUM MONOLOGUES**, **ASYLUM DIALOGUES**, **NSU MONOLOGUES**, **MEDITERRANEAN MIGRATION MONOLOGUES** und **CLIMATE MONOLOGUES** are documentary theater.

The writer Michael Ruf conducts interviews, which last several hours, sometimes several days.

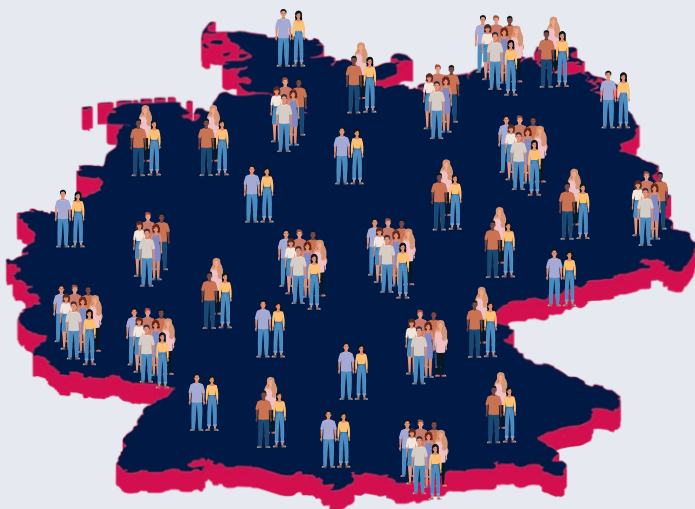
These interviews are only shortened and condensed. Nothing is added and the diction of speaking is maintained.

VERBATIM, WORD BY WORD THEATER.

It is, as if the actors directly speak to the audience, reach out with their hand to the spectators and draw them into a world which will not leave the audience cold any longer. Intertwined, connected and linked with the protagonists of the play, the audience curiously follows the paths of the narrated stories.

NETWORK OF ACTORS AND MUSICIANS

A network of several hundred actors and musicians perform the theater plays. That's why mostly regional artists perform the monologue pieces.





Premiere: Autumn 2021

DIE CLIMATE MONOLOGUES

Droughts, floods, storms. Uninhabitable Zones and distribution struggles are spreading! The window of opportunity left for action has become tiny.

The **CLIMATE MONOLOGUES** will report on the various effects of climate change on people and about the fight against climate change worldwide.

By telling human stories, we will make climate change tangible, visible and audible.

The Climate Story Lab - New Strategies for Excellent Climate Storytelling - of the Human Rights Film Festival Berlin has selected the **CLIMATE MONOLOGUES** as one of six projects of creative climate communication.

The **CLIMATE MONOLOGUES** are currently in development and are supported by the Hauptstadtkulturfonds.



100 performances since 2019

TRAILER:



THE MEDITERRANEAN MIGRATION MONOLOGUES



The **MEDITERRANEAN MIGRATION MONOLOGUES** talk about political resisters, Naomie from Cameroon, and Yassin from Libya, who find themselves on a boat to Europe, about brutal “coast guards” and dubious rescue coordination centers, and about activists who are doing something against the dying in the mediterranean sea.

The Alarmphone convinces the coast-guards to search for missing people, while other activists learn on board the Sea-Watch to preserve people from drowning – they do the most natural thing in the world, what is not certain any more in 2020: to save human life.

„OF THE FEAR OF FATAL DECISIONS.“

Berliner Morgenpost

**„THE MONOLOGUES TOUCH, CREATE CLOSENESS,
MAKE ANGRY AND NAME WAYS TO GET INVOLVED.“**

taz, die tageszeitung

THE NSU MONOLOGUES

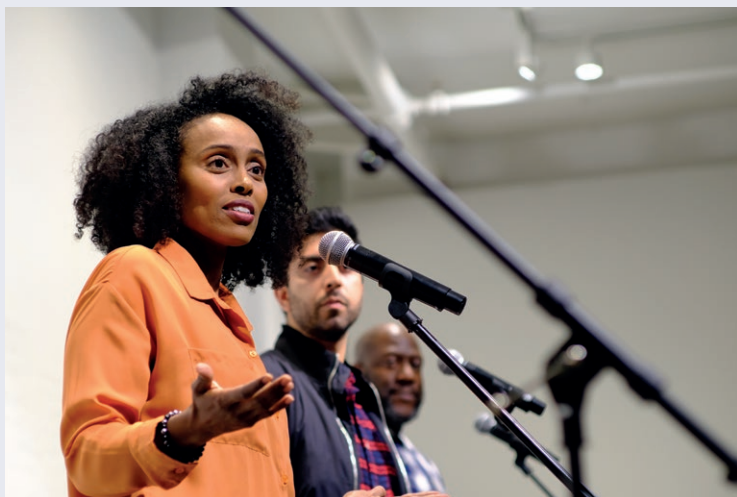
The **NSU MONOLOGUES** tell of the years long struggle of three families of NSU victims. – Elif Kubaşık, Adile Şimşek and İsmail Yozgat: of the courage to stand in the front row of a funeral march, of the strength of will to demand the renaming of a street, and of the attempt to defend one's own memory of a loved one against the supposed truth of the authorities.

„THE PLAY CONVINCES THROUGH ITS TIGHTNESS, DOES IT WITHOUT EXAGGERATED DRAMA AND ALREADY TOUCHES THROUGH SIMPLE RETELLING. THE PERSONS NARRATED CONDENSE TO LIKABLE PERSONS WHO GET DEGRATED SEVERAL TIMES BUT ARE STILL STRONG ENOUGH TO STICK TO LIFE.“

Deutschlandradio Kultur

„TRUTHFUL PLAY IN THE SCHAUSPIELHAUS. MINIMALIST THEATRE PAR EXCELLENCE.“

Die Welt



225 performances since 2015

THE ASYLUM DIALOGUES

The **ASYLUM DIALOGUES** tell about encounters that change people, tell about common struggles in unexpected moments – one of these stories takes place in the city of Osnabrück, where since March 2014 a broad alliance of solidary people have prevented more than 30 deportations so far and has thus become a role model for many nationwide...

„UNUSUAL INTENSE PARTICIPATION AT EACH SINGLE FATE. MULTI-LAYERED AND INSPIRING INSIGHT WHICH SHOWS ANOTHER HORIZON.“

AMNESTY JOURNAL

300 performances since 2011

THE ASYLUM MONOLOGUES

The **ASYLUM MONOLOGUES** talk about Ali from Togo, affectionately called “the president” by friends, about Felleke from Ethiopia, who first has to willingly prevent attempts at deportation and afterwards receives a human rights award, and about Safiye, who after years of imprisonment in Turkey and an absurd rejection of asylum, makes the most life-affirming decision possible: giving life to a son and a daughter.

„THE AUDIENCE IS SILENT, COMPLETELY SILENT, THE SPECTATORS SIT MAGNETIZED. THE PERFORMANCE SHOCK AND RISE MANY QUESTIONS FOR THE AUDIENCE.“

Süddeutsche Zeitung

THEATER PERFORMANCE + Q&A = EDUCATION & ACTIVATION

The performances are explicitly designed to **activate and motivate** the audience.

An extensive and moderated **audience discussion** complements the cognitive and emotional appeal of the play with an interactive exchange.

Thus, after the performances, **experts and activists** will answer the questions of the event participants and explain to them how and where they can **get involved** themselves. These discussants come from non-governmental organisations, from science or from social movements.



THE NSU MONOLOGUES in **Deutsches Schauspielhaus Hamburg**

**„THESE ARE FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCES AND
FEELINGS THAT TOUCH ACCORDINGLY.
ONE CAN HARDLY RESIST THE ACCURACY AND
EMOTIONAL IMPACT OF THE STORIES.
THEATER RARELY CHANGES REALITY LIKE THIS.“**

AMNESTY JOURNAL

MICHAEL RUF

- Writer, director, founder and managing director of Wort und Herzschlag gUG
- Degrees in **Feature Film (M.A.)** at Goldsmiths College London, **Education, sociology and psychology (M.A.)** at Free University Berlin und in **Critical and Creative Thinking (M.A.)** at University of Massachusetts Boston
- Stipends of Friedrich Ebert Foundation and Fulbright Commission
- 850 performances of his plays until today



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WORT UND HERZSCHLAG

Michael Ruf produces his work with the non-governmental organization „Wort und Herzschlag gUG“ (non-profit entrepreneurial society).

info@wort-und-herzschlag.de
www.wort-und-herzschlag.de



AWARDS

**AWARDS FOR THE ASYLUM
MONOLOGUES & DIALOGUES**



100

SELECTION OF PREVIOUS VENUES OF MICHAEL RUF'S PLAYS.



SELECTION OF PREVIOUS SPONSORS OF „WORT UND HERZSCHLAG“



PHOTO CREDITS TITLE PAGE: Benjamin Jenak, Veto Magazin // **NSU Monologues:** Antony Artis // **Documentary theater:** Luca Abbiento // **Meditarranean Migration Monologues :** Nora Börding // **Michael Ruf:** Antony Artis // **Last page:** Dovile Sermokas



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