



The story of Hansel and Gretel

Text by Katia Scarimbolo

Set design, lighting and directing: Michelangelo Campanale
with Catia Caramia, Marianna Di Muro, Paolo Gubello, Luigi Tagliente

Costumes: Cristina Bari

Lighting technician: Vito Marra

Scene picture: Marco Caselli Nirmal

Award-winning show "L'uccellino azzurro" (Molfetta, 2009)

In the German region of Spessart there is still a dense forest, difficult to cross with its few and rough roads, made even more difficult by giant shady pines and beech trees, whose branches obstruct the path. For the farmers of the area it is the "witch woods" because of a ruin with four furnaces and the story of a beautiful woman who, with her sweet magic, caught many people lost in the woods who came nearby her house. This seems to be the origin of the tale of Hansel and Gretel, made even more disturbing by the presence of a woman who appears to the two siblings as beautiful, welcoming and motherly, but who happens to be a witch who kills and eats children. In the show like in the fairy tale, her presence casts a changing light on each passage of the story: the daily trick of image hides the opposite or more complicated truth. The house, the forest, the path illuminated by magical stones, the shining feathers of the swan, everything turns around and transforms itself, only to return with a new light, like the sun every morning.

"What is good? What is bad? This is true or does it look like it... Don't let yourself be fooled!".

In times of economic recession, telling children of consumer society a tale that begins with the prosaic difficulties of a father and a mother to feed their children may not be an exercise in style. However, fairy tales never are. What anxieties of abandonment, of fear not to see their own needs met, what ghosts do take shape in children who feel threatened by their own avidity for well-being? A show suspended between reality and fairy tale, for children learn to give value to things and more importantly to their ability to discern and to conquer, to overcome the passive dependence, the dependence to parents as well as to abundance.

[...] As always in the shows of the duo Campanale-Scarimbolo, the aspect of the set design is particularly meticulous, it metaphorically – but not only – gets around a house that according to the occasion becomes a dazzling mansion, a poor house, a cave and a furnace, in a delicious effect that refers to horror cinema and even to Hitchcock, with the addition of a very nice raven which contrasts with an evil witch. The rhythm of the show with a cinematic touch makes use of an appropriate recitation and a well-built gothic atmosphere [...]

Mario Bianchi_Eolo

Recommended age: from 5 to 11 years old | **Technique:** actor's theater | **Duration:** 60 minutes

CREST (uffici e teatro TaTÀ) | 74123 Taranto_via Grazia Deledda snc
tel +39 099.4707948 – 099.4725780 – mob 366.3473430 - fax 099,4725811 - mail: info@teatrocrest.it
www.teatrocrest.it - facebook.com/teatrocrest - twitter.com/teatrocrest