



Press release 08_10_08

Press opening, Thursday October 16th 2008, at 16.00, Lilith Performance Studio, Bragegatan 15, Malmö.

DR. METABOLISMYS FOR PRESIDENT IS BORN (ERZMUMIN'S BONBON, now...)
A performance by Jonathan Meese.

October 17th 2008 at 21.00

Jonathan Meese has with his multimedia performances been shocking and captivating audiences worldwide. He is undisputedly one of the most mythical and talked-about artists of his time. Lilith Performance Studio is proud to, for the first time in Sweden, present Jonathan Meese and a brand new performance; *DR. METABOLISMYS FOR PRESIDENT IS BORN (ERZMUMIN'S BONBON, now...)*

Meese's performance world features extravagant scenery settings made out of pictures, texts, emblems, signs and symbols that deal with mythological and historical figures, pop stars and his heroes from fiction and film. It is a world populated by, among others, Caligula, Stalin, Marquise de Sade, Richard Wagner, Balthus, Zardoz and Dr. No. Language and communication is a recurring theme and Meese has in interviews told that he as a very shy, anxious and insecure child created his own language. A language consisting of thirteen words and two to four grimaces to defend himself and to survive. With these few elements he tells that he could express everything. Nowadays, he says "...My performances are gestures of embarrassment, helplessness, shyness and ignorance..."

Messe's work deals with every imaginable person of power, myth and historical greatness of mind, stars and starlets of pop-culture, or with his heroes from fiction and film. Meese creates his own universe far removed from the norm. At the core of his work remains an unrelenting sense of history, with a particular eye towards the more notorious or tragic figures. Jonathan Meese balances these figures on a thin line between absurdity, and homage.

It seems impossible to categorize Jonathan Meese's work to any predefined style. Curator Harald Szeemans' title and term "Individual Mythologies" from Documenta 5, to describe artists whose work is seen as a process, an alchemistic process of complex signs almost impenetrable for the audience, this term- Individual Mythologies seems to be the closest one can get for in describing Jonathan Meese's work.

Jonathan Meese (b.1970 Tokyo) has made performance at among others, Tate Modern, London, Freie Universität, Berlin, Studio Matthew Barney, New York, Bortolami Gallery, New York, Little Theatre NCPA, Mumbai, Indien and Obra Social Fundacio "la Caixa", Caixa Forum in Barcelona. He has participated in group and solo shows at PS1, New York, Daniel Templon, Paris, Saatchi Gallery, London and de Appel Arts Centre in Amsterdam. Meese is represented by CFA – Contemporary Fine Arts Gallery in Berlin.

Lilith Performance Studio is the first combined production studio and arena for performance in Europe. Since the start in January 2007 we have presented more than 30 artists from Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Indonesia, Kina, The Netherlands, Norway, The Philippines and Sweden in 13 solo productions and one festival. Please visit our website to see documentation, films, artist interviews and more:
www.lilithperformancestudio.com

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For press images:
<http://www.teaterlilith.com/press.html>

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