

Performance: In the Pretty Boy's Mouth

Premiere: 30 March 2013 in Warehouse9, Copenhagen.

***In the Pretty Boy's Mouth* is a new work by Fors Works that explores a sexual underground culture, which many may have heard of but few people really know about. About the anonymous sexual encounters between men in the darkness of gay saunas. A tabooed but established underworld of interpersonal norms and patterns, pride and shame. With four international dancers in a sensuous scenography Fors Works presents a powerful performance that lies light years from the heteronormative standard.**

Martin Forsberg intrusive work dives head first into a dark world of anonymous sex, labyrinths, sweat and testosterone. It's biographical, documental and fictitious. A work with no intention of portraying the culture, but rather to re-create the state of untamed lust, shame and the self-destructing echoes of sexual behaviours and oppression.

"We have no political or moral intentions," says Forsberg. "We dig into the material, we feel and document, but it is rather the audience's interpretation of the play, which will have these undertones. Of course everybody will have an opinion on the subject. At least I hope they will. Because we're living in a time where the closeness between people is being washed out at the same rate as the information flow grows between us. This goes in a sexual as well as a social context, so the timing is right for a work like this."

In the darkness the lustful men speak no words. There is only interaction. An in the portrayal of this interaction lies the strength of dance as an artistic form of expression. As Forsberg puts it: *"Pretty Boy is a study of human patterns and energies in a very unique and extremely explicit context. Here, dance as a non-verbal performance art can interpret a subject that would otherwise be very difficult to describe."*

Where lust is an obvious subject of *Pretty Boy*, pride or "Gay Pride" is an equally important topic of the work: Can a general desire for openness and social assimilation be combined with a culture that celebrates anonymous sex and strong sexual stereotypes?

The scenography comes from the hand of Simon Holk Witzansky who has created a sensual and evocative space through an unconventional use of objects. *"I wanted to steer clear of an all to direct idiom. The physical setup is intended as an open arena with just subtly demarcated spaces for the dancers."* Not to create an actual interaction with the spectators, he adds *"but more as a tool to remove the sense of comfort and security we automatically feel when we sit benched together in an ordinary theater."*

Witzansky is also responsible for the soundtrack, which plays a major role in the work. He has secured musical submissions from an impressive group of well-known Danish and international DJ's and producers.

Pretty Boy + HomoElectric Opening Party

30 March at 11.59PM at Block 66. No cover charge. Onkel Dannys Plads, Building 66

Special Events

April 1, *Artist Talk*

Choreographer Martin Forsberg and the dance ensemble will share stories from the creation of *Pretty Boy* and discuss the greater ambitions that lie behind the controversial theme of the performance.

April 3, *Literary Night*

Snippets of Danish gay literature organised in collaboration with artist and writer Tomas Lagermann Lundme.

Both events take place in Warehouse9 following the evening's performance. No registration is necessary.

Show dates:

30th March-13. April: WAREHOUSE9, Copenhagen.

17th April: Aalborg Theatre, Transformator.

April 19 to 21: Dansstationen, Malmö.

For press-related questions please contact Peter Strandby at peter@theembassy.dk or +45 5239 3430.

Forsworks.com