

GUNS ! GUNS ! GUNS !

BLITZ THEATRE GROUP



Athens, Greece

Performances in Greek subtitled

Outreach coordinator
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GUNS ! GUNS ! GUNS !

Blitz Theatre Group



While their home country, Greece, and Europe as a whole are on the brink of turmoil and crisis, the group Blitz chooses with *Guns! Guns! Guns!* to examine through a subjective appraisal of the twentieth century's major events man's capacity to change the world.

The piece is as much about assessing the chosen path as understanding how humanity has arrived at such an absurd situation: through a chaotic chronology, we try to account for the lack of logic of History itself.

The extensive use of photographic and sound archives is combined with a series of fake interviews, fake political speeches and fake newsletters, and yet everything is pitch perfect in this amusing historical romp, which simultaneously ridicules Hitler and superheroes. The temporal review is also a joyous stampede, deftly wielding humor and derision without neglecting the occasional audience participation...

In a twentieth century timed to the percussive performance of the collective Blitz, Stalin encounters Elvis Presley and King Kong eats Andy Warhol's banana! By assembling an improbable patchwork of recent history's highlights, the cast presents a world in motion that is sometimes incomprehensible, but which, despite our mistakes, still merits attempts to revolutionize it.

Extract from the Festival Automne en Normandie website

GUNS ! GUNS ! GUNS !

Creation **2010, Athens (Greece)**

Adapted and directed by **Blitz Theatre Group**

Dramaturgy - **Blitz Theatre Group - Nikos Flessas**

With

Hippocratis **Delvéroudis**

Angeliki **Papoulia**

Christos **Passalis**

Giorgos **Valaïs**

Vangelis **Zlatintsis**

Stavroula **Siamou**

Light designer - **Tassos Palaioroutas**

Set and costumes - **Eva Manidaki**

Duration - **1h30**

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Production - **Théâtre National d'Athènes** and **Blitz Theatre Group**

Outreach coordinator - **Ligne Directe / Judith Martin**

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BLITZ THEATRE GROUP

Curriculum Vitae



The **Blitz Theatre Group** was formed in October, 2004 in Athens by **Giorgos Valaïs**, **Angeliki Papoulia** and **Christos Passalis**. Till then, the members of the team had studied drama and had worked in various ensembles. **Blitz Theatre Group** was formed, based on the following principles:

- the common faith that theatre is a field where people should meet each other in the most essential way and exchange ideas and not a field for virtuosity and ready made truths
- their need to find an answer to the questions what society asks and needs from art today and what theatre means in the dawn of the 21th century
- the equality of the members as far as conception, writing, direction and dramaturgy are concerned and the belief that everything is under doubt, that nothing must be taken for granted, neither in theatre nor in life

Their goal, their orientation, their vision is towards a form that could possibly renovate theatre. To do that, they chose the (main) modern stream of combination of arts and crafts in the theatrical field. This was a way that enabled them to search new paths as far as dramaturgy, acting, playwriting, narration, representation are concerned.

In 2006, the group presents the performance **Motherland**. A performance based on a world map, with elements of interaction between spectators and performers.

In 2007, the group presents **Joy Division** and **New Order**. A simulation of a weird game show where the spectators play the part of a jury. The contestants are two divorced couples that try to solve the dead-ends of their relationship, reading each other's letters in public, dancing, singing, cursing or being violent.

In 2009, **Blitz** co-direct Goethe's **Faust**. It's the first classical text the group is staging, proposing a new reading of **Walpurgis night**.

Later this year, the group presents **The House**. 7 performers meet in real time with around 20 spectators in their real residence in Athens.

In 2009, **Blitz** present the performance **Katerini**. It's a 5-hour performance that takes place in a two-storey building, and more specifically, in a roof in the centre of Athens and 6 rooms, where the performers meet with the spectators, one by one, by appointment.

In 2010, the group presents **Guns! Guns! Guns!**. It's the return of the group in a conventional theatrical stage where a review of the 20th century is taking place. A delirious review based on the idea of revolution and the question how could one change the world.

Later this year, **Blitz** presents **Cinemascope**, a documentary about the last 9 days of the world. This time, the performance takes place out in the street. The spectators wear wireless headphones and are isolated by the spectacle behind a glass wall. They watch the characters of **Cinemascope** during the last 9 days of their lives along with the real passers-by who participate in the performance, without even knowing it.

At the end of 2010, the group presents **Galaxy**. A 4-hour performance in a garage with 7 performers and one endless list of persons, ideas, words, movements, objects that have died, that have been lost or forgotten.

The **Blitz Theatre Group's** works invite the spectators to share an experience, challenging them to free themselves from the conventional part of a passive voyer. To a certain point, Blitz is covered by the definition of post-dramatic theatre as Lehman has put it: "Presence rather than enactment, sharing rather than ready-made experiences, procedure rather than result and stimulus rather than information", a motto from the Venice Biennale, "more ethics, less aesthetics" and the phrase "aesthetics vs. anaesthetics".

The **Blitz Theatre Group** has presented its works in BIOS Cultural Centre, in National Theatre, in Athens and Epidaurus Festival and in various European festivals. The group is funded by the Greek Ministry of Culture since their first production.

LIGNE DIRECTE
Season 2013 / 2014

BLITZ THEATRE GROUP

Giorgos Valaïs, Angeliki Papouliã & Christos Passalis

Athens, Greece
Performances in Greek with surtitles

LATE NIGHT

8 October 2013 – ARLES, Théâtre d'Arles
11 October 2013 – SOLOMEO, Teatro Stabile dell'Umbria (Italy)
27 to 30 November 2013 – LILLE, Théâtre du Nord, Next Festival
10 to 20 December 2013 – MONTREUIL, Nouveau Théâtre de Montreuil
7 and 8 February 2014 – BRUXELLES, Bozar (Belgium)
11 February 2014 – CHERBOURG, Le trident
15 to 17 April 2014 – STRASBOURG, Le Maillon
15 May 2014 – SIEGEN, Apollo Theater (Germany)
24 May 2014 – CHATEAUVALLON, CNCDC
11 and 12 July 2014 – LYON, Les Nuits de Fourvière

GALAXY

Re-creation 2013

6 and 7 December 2013 – REIMS, La Comédie, festival Reims – Scènes d'Europe

GUNS! GUNS! GUNS!

14 February 2014 – CHERBOURG, Le trident

DON QUIXOTE

23 May 2014 – TOULON, Théâtre Liberté
8 and 9 July 2014 – LYON, Les Nuits de Fourvière

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