



Sunday 19 November 5 p.m.

THEATRE

Opposti Flussi

by and with Marco Baliani



Indeed, the sea is among the many 'oppositions' guiding this narrative path. The sea, through its flows, tears apart or unites, rejects or welcomes, always restless, not unlike us humans, torn between opposing visions and opposing feelings.

I will tell about the ways in which the writing opposes the voice that narrates, going far back in time, when someone began to inscribe strange signs on clay tablets, that could only be interpreted by those who knew how to 'read' them.

From there, always through narrations, I will embark on a journey between the opposite sides of reality and imagination, discovering that distances, in the end, are not that big, sometimes a dream can become reality or vice versa, and reality itself is never so immutable. Travel itself opposes those who remain stationary, the nomads versus the settled ones.

Then, a mysterious note will challenge the word identity, the gaze of 'others' opposing the assumed security of our self.

Finally, after crossing different seas, both ancient and contemporary, we come face to face with the last opposition, that between us humans and nature, approached through an African story.

Each opposition pair, therefore, is conveyed by a story, while others intervene, leading to paths being lost, or found again.

In line with the thought of the philosopher Ernst Bloch, I will try to "think even by narrating". With folk stories, myths, fairy tales, legends, as the starting point, the narrated word makes continuous digressions, touching upon other narratives, never confining itself into a defined path, but following the stimuli and visions that the stories produce, the flows and ebbs of the many tides of this show. In the highs and lows of the sea and its angry fluctuations or placid waves, I will sail on fragile boats made of stories, always about to collide with any encountered opposing cliffs. Sometimes, the form of the saying will oppose the content of what is being said, sometimes the body will not accept those words, sometimes even the opposites will meet in those points in space-time where they can collide and explode.

Guiding my gaze, from above, will be the god of opposites, that child armed with a bow able to spread, at the same time, passion and destruction, desire and rejection: the winged Eros, who, for millennia, has been tormenting our mortal souls

Marco Baliani, actor, author and director

With his 1989 show, *Kohlhaas*, featuring an original research path, he gave life to the narrative theatre, with a strong impact on the Italian theatrical scene. An eclectic and complex figure of contemporary Italian theatre, he experimented with choral dramaturgy, creating event shows for many actors, such as *Come gocce di una fiumana* (IDI award for direction), or *Antigone delle città*, an engaged show on the Bologna massacre of 2 August, as well as directing projects such as *I Porti del Mediterraneo* with actors from different countries in the Mediterranean area. At the same time, he continued his storytelling research, creating shows that are still currently in his repertoire (*Tracce, Corpo di Stato e Frollo*).

In 2015, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the First World War, he starred in the show *Trincea*, which won him the Franco Enriequez award for best interpretation. The show gave start to the post-narrative cycle, the de facto evolution of narrative theatre. *Una notte sbagliata* is also part of this trend: also produced by Marche Teatro, it sees Baliani in the dual roles of performer and author. In the year of the pandemic, Baliani wrote and directed the show *L'attore nella casa di cristallo*, staged from 15 June 2020, the day of the reopening of theatres, in the square located in front of the Teatro delle Muse in Ancona. The show later became also a book, published by Titivillus Edizioni.

In 2017, Baliani was called to direct the show *Sette contro Tebe*, presented at Teatro Greco in Syracuse as part of the 53rd cycle of classical performances. Aimed at large spaces was also the 2021 show *Quinta stagione*, based on the poem of the same name by Franco Marcoaldi, directed and performed by Baliani at Teatro Grande in Pompeii, with scenes by Mimmo Paladino.

With regard to opera, in 2002, with music by Giovanni Sollima, he directed *Ellis Island*, a project dedicated to the memory of Italian migration to America, produced by Palermo's Teatro Massimo. In 2012, for the Auditorium Parco della Musica in Rome, Baliani took care of the direction and playwriting of Dino Buzzati's *La famosa invasione degli orsi in Sicilia*, featuring the JuniOrchestra of the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia. In recent years, with the musical

direction of Mauro Montalbetti, he created the libretto and directed the contemporary operas *Il sogno di una cosa*, on the fortieth anniversary of the massacre of Piazza della Loggia, and *Corpi eretici*, dedicated to the work of Pier Paolo Pasolini. In 2021, he directed the opera *Gianni Schicchi*, presented by Marche Teatro, under the musical direction of Marco Guidarini.

In the field of cinema, he worked with directors such as Francesca Archibugi, Roberto Andò, Saverio Costanzo, Cristina Comencini and Mario Martone. As a writer he has published novels, short stories and essays, including *Ho cavalcato in groppa ad una sedia* (Titivillus edizioni), as well as for publisher Rizzoli, *Corpo di stato*, *Pinocchio Nero*, *L'Amore Buono*, *Nel Regno di Acilia*, *La metà di Sophia*, and *L'occasione*. In 2021, his novel *La pietra oscura* was published by Bompiani.

INFORMATIONS

Reservation +41 (0)79 646 16 14

Online: www.teatrosanmaterno.ch

Tickets

Fr. 15.– (Fr. 10.– students, AVS, member of Associazione e-venti culturali, Club Rete Due and participants to the Circolo Teatri del Locarnese Girino; free entry young people until 16 years old and journalists Teatro San Materno is accessible to wheelchairs (non-electric) and people with disabilities.