

Review to „Changing Winds“

Performed during December 2010 at the Gessnerallee, Zürich, Switzerland

Tages-Anzeiger, Monday the 20th December 2010

Dance Theatre

Light and playful: Danced for kids in the Gessnerallee

Zürich, Theatre House Gessnerallee – Four people are whirled onto the stage, one after the other; the fifth one is already there, behind a pile of suitcases. A violent gale has blown three women and two men to this place. Mistrustfully and shyly they stand there and examine each other. “Changing Winds” is the title of this dance theatre, an artistic co-production between the renowned Kopergieterij from Gent, Belgium, the Zürich Dalang Puppetcompany, and the Sgaramusch Theatre for Children and Adults from Schaffhausen, Switzerland. This piece, which has set itself the challenge of appealing to its younger (age 5 upwards) as well as older members of the audience, moves very skilfully. One can tell with the two Belgians that professionals have been at work here; the director Eva Bal and the choreographer Ives Thuwis, know the needs of children very well, and reinvent the theatre anew each time, so that Adults can amuse themselves equally. The scenes move between poetry and slapstick with a wonderful lightness. Less is spoken and much is sung, danced and gesticulated. The five tell us about their wishes, their fears; they fight, and show solidarity with each other. “Who am I?” asks a dancer, giving herself at the same time various nonverbal answers. After barely an hour the wind blows the grandiose actor-dancers apart again. We found it hard to leave.

Maya Künzler

Translated by Frances Werner, December 29th 2010