



Photo: Daniel Seiffert

PRESS KIT
HATE RADIO

CREDITS

HATE RADIO

A PRODUCTION BY THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL MURDER - IIPM

TEXT & DIRECTION: Milo Rau

DRAMATURGY & CONCEPTUAL MANAGEMENT: Jens Dietrich

SET & COSTUME DESIGN: Anton Lukas

VIDEO: Marcel Bächtiger

SOUND: Jens Baudisch

CAST (live) Afazali Dewaele, Sébastien Foucault, Diogène Ntarindwa, Bwanga Pilipili; (video) Estelle Marion, Nancy Nkusi

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HATE RADIO is a production by IIPM Berlin/Zürich with Migros-Kulturprozent Schweiz, Kunsthaus Bregenz, Hebbel am Ufer (HAU) Berlin, Schlachthaus Theater Bern, Beursschouwburg Brüssel, migros museum für gegenwartskunst Zürich, Kaserne Basel, Südpol Luzern, Verbrecher Verlag Berlin, Kigali Genocide Memorial Centre and Ishyo Arts Centre Kigali.

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1. HATE RADIO

On 6 April 1994, the airplane of the Rwandan President, Habyaruman, was hit by two missiles as it tried to land. This event signaled the beginning of the most brutal genocide since the end of the Cold War. In the months of April, May and June 1994, the Central African state murdered an estimated 800,000 to 1,000,000 of its Tutsi minority and thousands of moderate Hutus. The tools used to humiliate and kill people of all ages and genders were simple: machetes, sticks, and a few guns. Indeed, the most powerful instrument of the genocide was the "Radio-Télévision Libre des Mille Collines" (RTLM).

If someone were looking for simple and effective means to prevent the genocide in Rwanda, wrote the US-American journalist Philip Gourevitch, the radio station RTLM would have been a good place to start. With unspeakable cynicism, the staff of the popular station had been preparing the genocide like an election campaign for months.

The program consisted of pop music, riveting sports coverage, political communiqués, and remarkably hateful calls to murder. The newest Congolese music and the most aggressive racial analyses were combined into a dreary few-square-meter laboratory of racist ideology.



Photo: Zeno Graton

The project "HATE RADIO" returns RTLM to the airways in a reconstructed backdrop that remains faithful to the original – survivors of the genocide are standing on stage.

Central to the project is the replay of an RTLM show, run by its hosts - three Hutu extremists and the white Italian-Belgian Georges Ruggiu. How racism functions, how human beings are "talked out of" their humanity - an instillation reconstructed by the author and director Milo Rau from documents and witness statements provides the answers to these questions so that people can feel and experience these happenings for themselves.

During performances, the walls of the radio studio, which were built to match the original, turn into projection surfaces for a complex video installation with the selected stories of former perpetrators and victims. Here, the audience is confronted with the consequences of racist mind-sets. In doing so, HATE RADIO demands that audience members be observers at the centre of the inner circle, at the centre of racist thought so to speak. Simultaneously it makes them the suffering witnesses of its destructive and inextinguishable consequences.

2. IIPM

The IIPM (International Institute of Political Murder) based in Switzerland and Germany, was founded in 2007 by director and author Milo Rau for the production and international realisation of its theatrical re-enactments, campaigns and films. IIPM productions to date have enjoyed great international popularity and represent a new, documentary-style, aesthetically condensed form of political art.

Over the last few years, the IIPM has staged several shows dealing with issues like the execution of the Ceausescus ("The Last Hours of Elena and Nicolae Ceausescu"), the Rwandan genocide ("Hate Radio") and the Norwegian terrorist Anders B. Breivik ("Breivik's Statement"). It has also staged theatre performances which fought tooth and nail to have foreign voting rights discussed in Swiss parliament ("City of Change") and brought into being a completely new style of theatre in the form of judicial shows ("The Moscow Trials" and "The Zurich Trials"), both lasting several days.

Accompanied by debates, held both within the art world and far beyond, the films, video installations, performances and re-enactments produced by the IIPM can currently be seen in over 20 countries worldwide. The most recent showings of the "deeply moving" (Le Monde) re-enactment "Hate Radio" at the World Theater Festival in Tokyo, the Grec Festival in Barcelona and the Festival d'Avignon were given euphoric receptions. The eponymous 2014 radio play was awarded with the renowned War Blinded Audio Play Prize.

"It's practically impossible to provoke more through documentary theatre", wrote the "Basler Zeitung" in reference to Milo Rau's lecture/performance "Breivik's Statement", which, after already making numerous stops along its way, are scheduled to be performed in the EU Parliament in Brussels and in Oslo, the place of the attacks. The production of "The Moscow Trials" resulted in a raid by the Russian authorities and in the director of the IIPM, Milo



Rau, being prohibited from entering the country.

On the occasion of its advance showing at the 2014 Kunstenfestival in Brussels, Milo Rau's latest theatrical production through the IIPM, "The Civil Wars", dealing with the premises of revolt and political engagement, was lauded by the French and Belgian Press as a "deeply moving masterpiece" (La Libre). In it, the play's actors question the human condition at the start of the 21st century given the course their own, winding biographies have taken. The world premiere takes place on 27 August as part of the Zürcher Theater Spektakel.

The on-location film "The Congo Tribunal", now the fifth feature-length cinema production of Milo Rau / IIPM, shines a light both on the eastern Congo and, as part of a three-day tribunal, on the reasons why war has raged in the Great Lakes region for almost 20 years; A war to which up to six million people have fallen victim to date. Its international premiere will take place in the spring of 2015.

Artistic Director of the IIPM, Milo Rau, was recently presented with the Swiss award for theatre, the "Schweizer Theaterpreis 2014" as well as the "War Blinded Audio Play Prize" and has been nominated for the German Art Film Award, the "Deutscher Kunstfilmpreis".

3. TEAM

MILO RAU (TEXT & DIRECTION)

The author and director Milo Rau was born in Bern in 1977. He studied sociology, German and Roman studies in Paris, Zurich and Berlin under Tzvetan Todorov and Pierre Bourdieu among others. He started his first reporting trips in 1997, travelling to Chiapas, Cuba. From 2000 he worked as an author for Neue Zürcher Zeitung, and from 2003 as a director and writer at home and abroad with, among others, the Maxim Gorki Theater in Berlin, Staatsschauspiel Dresden, HAU Hebbel am Ufer Berlin, Theaterhaus Gessnerallee Zurich, Teatrul Odeon Bucharest and Beursschouwburg in Brussels. In 2007, Rau founded the theatre and film production company International Institute of Political Murder which he has been running ever since. His theatrical works and films have been invited to some of the biggest national and international festivals, including in 2012-2013 the Berliner Theatertreffen, Noorderzon Performing Arts Festival Groningen, Wiener Festwochen, the Kunstenfestival Brussels and the Radikal Jung Festival where he was awarded the critics' prize for direction. Alongside his work for stage and film, Milo Rau lectures on direction, cultural theory and social sculpture at universities and colleges. His productions, happenings and films (including "Montana", "The Last Hours of Elena and Nicolae Ceausescu", "Hate Radio", "City of Change", "Breivik's Statement", "The Moscow Trials" and "The Zurich Trials") have been invited to the Festival d'Avignon among others and nominated for the Prix de Soleure, while also touring the world. The Swiss newspaper Tagesanzeiger recently named him one of today's "most sought-after directors", with the German weekly Der Freitag calling him "the most controversial theatre director of his generation"



JENS DIETRICH (DRAMATURGY AND CONCEPTUAL MANAGEMENT)

Jens Dietrich studied applied theater studies in Giessen. After his studies he worked at Richard Foreman's Ontological-Hysteric Theater in New York, at the *Städtischen Bühnen* in Cologne, and at the Theater Freiburg. He is a freelance dramaturg in Hamburg, Berlin, Cologne and Vienna. In addition to numerous single projects, he regularly works with the director Angela Richter and does research for historical documentaries for SWR and WDR.



MARCEL BÄCHTIGER (VIDEO)

Marcel Bächtiger was born in 1976 in St. Gallen. After his *Matura* he studied architecture at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETH Zurich). Since receiving his degree in 2002, he has been working as a freelance filmmaker and architect. He has worked as director and editor for numerous films, including films on architecture, theatre videos for the *Schauspielhaus* in Zurich, the documentary "Ein Tor für die Revolution" (SF/400asa), music videos, commissioned films and commercials. His short film "Dr. Strangehill" (2007) was invited to film festivals around the globe.



ANTON LUKAS (STAGE DESIGN/EQUIPMENT)

Anton Lukas was born in Neumarkt in der Oberpfalz. After studying graphic design at the *Fernakademie* in Hamburg he studied interior design at the University of Applied Sciences (Fachhochschule) in Rosenheim. After subsequent further training in set design (TU Berlin) and costume design (Deutsche Oper Berlin), he has been working as a freelance set designer since 2002. He has developed numerous set designs, and works regularly with the choreographers Constanza Macras and Anna Konjetzky and for Rossini Festival productions in Wildbad. He was responsible for the set design and equipment used in the 2009/10 IIPM production *The Last Hour of Elena and Nicolae Ceausescus*.



AFAZALI DEWAELE (ACTOR)

Afazali Dewale was born in 1978 in Rwanda and was adopted by a Belgian family as a child. He studied acting and directing at the conservatory in Liège (BE) and performed in diverse film and theater productions with Dominique Serron, Arne Sierens, René Georges and Ismail Saidi among others. He played one of the protagonists in a film about the Rwandan genocide entitled "Le jour où Dieu est parti en voyage" by Philippe van Leeuw. While filming



he returned to his home country and met his family for the first time. In HATE RADIO Afazali Dewaele plays the radio station DJ and, spinning Congolese music and inflammatory songs that were disseminated over RTLM frequencies.

SEBASTIEN FOULCAULT (ACTOR)

After studying French literature at the Sorbonne in Paris, Sepastien Foulcault studied acting and directing at the conservatory in Liège. As part of his intensive collaboration with the Belgian theatre director Françoise Bloch, he has specialized in theatre in documentary form. In 2010 he founded the theatre collective "Que faire?" and staged a play of the same name with which he toured Belgian and France. In HATE RADIO he plays Georges Ruggiu, the Belgian radio host who moved to Rwanda three months before the start of the genocide, and who then began to work at RTLM.



DIOGÈNE Ntarindwa (ACTOR)

Diogène Ntarindwa (Atome), born on 6 April in Burundi as the son of Rwandan parents, grows up in exile in Burundi, joining the Front Patriotique Rwandais (FPR) at the age of 17 before marching with the rebel army into a Kigali devastated by genocide in 1994. In 1996 he begins studying Law at the University of Butare and takes roles in a number of theatre plays, including the successful production of "Corps et Voix". From 2002 to 2006 he studies Acting at the Conservatoire Royal de Liège, becomes a member of the Ensemble Groupov and accepts a role in "Rwanda 1994" – a production about the genocide perpetrated upon the Tutsis, which is a worldwide success that tours Europe, Africa and America. In 2007 Diogène Ntarindwa (Atome) writes his first play "Carte d'identité" in which he connects Rwanda's history with his own. The play is invited to the Festival d'Avignon and is produced for Deutschlandradio Kultur as a radio play with the title "Identitätsausweis". In HATE RADIO, Ntarindwa embodies the role of the host, Kantano Habimana, the feared 'ideologue' of the airwaves.



BWANGA PILIPILI (ACTRESS)

Bwanga Pilipili is native of Kivu (East of the DR Congo). After studying marketing management and working for the Special Olympics Belgium (training and competitions for people with an intellectual disability) she studied acting in INSAS and performed in diverse theatre productions and film with Nathalie Uffner, Christian Schi-



aretti, Alain Brunard, and Rosine Mabakam among others. She is member of Les Rougisseurs, a street art company.

In HATE RADIO, Bwanga represents the role of Valerie Bemeriki, the most popular female moderator of the RTLM.

NANCY NKUSI (ACTRESS)

Nancy Nkusi escaped Ruanda "during the events of 1994" as she writes in her biography. After studying psychology she went to the acting Conservatoire of Acting in Liège (Belgium) and performed in various film and theater productions such as "Gamblers" (2011, written and directed by Dorcy Rugamba).

ESTELLE MARION (ACTRESS)

Estelle Marion grew up in Brussels as the daughter of a Rwandan woman and has had a strong connection with her mother's home country since her early childhood. She studied acting in Brussels and began a long carrier as an actress in 1973. After some members of her family fell victim to the genocide, she began to deal intensively with the events occurring in Rwanda in her artistic work. Along with Dorcy Rugamba, she was involved in the play "Rwanda 94" by Jacques Decuvellerie as both actress and coauthor, and toured with the play throughout Europe and Africa.