FESTIVALS MALTA

THE THREE PALACES

La Conversione Di Un Cavallo. Tableaux Vivants da Caravaggio

Thursday 7 November
7:30pm | 9:00pm
Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Valletta

La Conversione di un Cavallo. Tableaux Vivants da Caravaggio

Photo by Gennaro Parricelli

Programme Notes

Based on the Tableaux Vivants technique, La Conversione di un Cavallo is a work of great visual impact and yet of extreme simplicity. Twenty-three of the best Caravaggio canvases are composed by the actors and a few props, such as draped fabrics of varied colours and texture and other everyday objects. Just one stream of light brightens up the scene, working as an imaginary frame. The changes are all "en plain air" and rhythmically punctuated by Mozart, Bach, Vivaldi and Sibelius' music.

This work was created in 2006, thanks to an educational project by the Luigi Vanvitelli Faculty of Architecture: after its first outcome, its scenic strength was clear, and since then it has seen many different forms. It has been performed at the Museum of Capodimonte on more than one occasion, at the *Maggio dei Monumenti* festival on the editions of 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and all around Italy in museums, galleries, squares and sacred spaces, always keeping its suggestiveness and its magic for a more attentive and involved public, when not warned of the epiphany of a simple, rigorous, artisanal work.

Ludovica Rambelli was invited by the Academy of Fine Arts in Naples to conduct a workshop on the theme of *Tableaux Vivants* and together with Dora De Maio, they restaged the work on Caravaggio. With the same technique, the following year, they also presented the performance *Salvi per Miracolo*, a work inspired by the votive shrines of Neapolitan devotion. Both performances, staged in the Academy as part of the *L'Accademia Svelata* review, were also guests in 2011, of the *Maggio dei Monumenti*, of Benevento Città Spettacolo.

Programme

1. **The Entombment of Christ (1602-1603)** Vatican Pinacoteca, Vatican City.

2. **Mary Magdalen in Ecstasy (1606)** Private Collection.

3. **Crucifixion of St. Peter (1601)** Cerasi Chapel of Santa Maria del Popolo, Rome.

4. **The Beheading of St. John the Baptist (1608)** St. John's Co-Cathedral, Valletta.

5. **Death of the Virgin (1604)** Louvre Museum, Paris.

6. **Judith Beheading Holofernes (1599)** Palazzo Barberini, Rome.

7. **The Incredulity of Saint Thomas (1600- 1601)** Sanssouci Picture Gallery, Postdam.

8. **The Flagellation of Christ (1607-1608)** Museo Nazionale di Capodimonte, Naples.

9. **Sacrifice of Isaac (1602)** Cremonini Collection.

10. **The Martyrdom of St. Matthew (1600)** Church of St. Louis of the French, Rome.

11. **Annunciation (1609-1610)** Musée des Beaux-Arts, Nancy.

12. **Adoration of the Shepherds (1609)** Museo Nazionale, Messina.

13. **Rest on the Flight into Egypt (1595-1596)** Doria Pamphili Gallery, Rome.

14. **Pilgrim's Madonna (1604-1606)** St. Augustine Church, Rome.

15. **Saint Catherine of Alexandria (1597)** Thyssen-Bornemisza Museum, Madrid.

16. **Narcissus (1597-1599)** Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Antica, Palazzo Barberini, Rome.

17. **Saint John the Baptist in the Wilderness (1604)** Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri.

18. **Burial of St. Lucy (1608)** Church of Santa Lucia alla Badia, Syracuse.

19. **The Martyrdom of St. Ursula (1610)** Palazzo Zevallos, Naples.

20. **The Raising of Lazarus (1609)** Museo Nazionale, Messina.

21. **Penitent Magdalene (1594-1595)** Doria Pamphili Gallery, Rome.

22. **St. Francis of Assisi in Ecstasy (1594-1595)** Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford.

23. **Basket of Fruit (1594-1598)** Biblioteca Ambrosiana, Milan.

Dora De Maio

Dora de Maio is an actress, a performer and a drama instructor. In the late '90s, she attended the Malatheatre Company, directed by Ludovica Rambelli, first as an actress, and then as an assistant to the director. She attended the Campo Teatrale School in Milan with Maestro Matteo Lanfranchi, and she kept on studying drama including training with national and international artists.

In parallel with her theatrical training- she obtained a master's degree in communications and marketing of the entertainment industry (2007) and became a Drama Instructor in disadvantaged areas and prison facilities (2008) – she graduated with honours in humanities, sector art and entertainment at the University of Salerno (2003).

After a solid work experience at the Teatro Pubblico Campano, she worked as an external expert in dramatic arts; at the same time, she taught writing and reading workshops.
From 2012 to 2015, she provided a drama workshop called Il Mondo Incantato. Impariamo a Raccontare una Fiaba (The Enchanted World. Let's Learn How to Tell a Story) at the Suor Orsola Benincasa University of Naples.

From 2012 to 2017, she taught in an advanced course for drama instructors at the Suor Orsola Benincasa University of Naples.

Since 2018, she has been a teacher and a member of the educational committee in Master in Performing Arts Management promoted by the Suor Orsola Benincasa University of Naples. In addition, she organizes performances for museums such as the so-called PAN (Palazzo Arti Napoli), the MANN (National Archaeological Museum of Naples) and the Donnaregina, Museum of Contemporary Art.

In 2016, she obtained a diploma of yoga teaching at the International Sivananda Yoga Vedanta Centre in Paris. She speaks French and Spanish fluently.

At the moment, Dora de Maio is directing the theatre company LudovicaRambelliTeatro in permanent residence at the monumental complex Donnaregina in Naples.

Credits

LudovicaRambelliTeatro

Director
Ludovica Rambelli

Assistant Director
Dora De Maio

Actors
Andrea Fersula
Serena Ferone
Ivano Ilardi
Laura Lisanti
Kiara Kija
Antonella Mauro
Paolo Salvatore
Claudio Pisani

Festivals Malta

Chairman
Norman Hamilton

Director Festivals Malta
Annabelle Stivala

Assistant Director
Frans Agius

Artistic Director
Michelle Castelletti

Festival Manager
Jeanelle Vella

Festival Officers
Monique Sammut
Mario Cassar

Marketing Team
Alice Azzopardi
Clayton Saliba
Terrence Cutajar
Felix Busuttil

Graphics & Web Development
Clayton Saliba

TV Production
Sebio Aquilina
Clive Pace
Chantal Fenech
Alice Azzopardi
Jeanelle Vella

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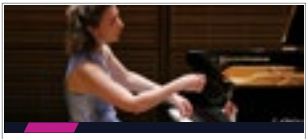

8 nov

Angela Hewitt Recital

Venue: Archaeology Museum, Valletta
Time: 7:30pm

9 nov

Stabat Mater Dolorosa

Venue: Ta' Ġieżu Church, Valletta
Time: 8:00pm

9 nov

Under a Different Sky

Venue: Archaeology Museum, Valletta
Time: 9:00pm