

material & movement - puppetry & dance

a masterclass with puppeteer Frank Soehnle and dancer Karin Ould Chih from figuren theater tübingen (Germany)

Frank Soehnle founded „figuren theater tübingen“ in 1991 as a freelanced company of contemporary puppet theatre for adults. Each production involves different Art forms and creates a special theatrical language. The combination of material and movement is always the base of their artistic work – the puppet always the center of the artistic research. Different artists from all spheres of Art are involved in the process of creation.

The masterclass focuses on the relation and impuls work between puppet and puppeteer, material and dancer, object and subject and all possibilities of transformation.

After a daily body training in Girokinesis with dancer Karin Ould Chih, different manipulation technics and materials will be explored under their range of theatrical expression.

Karin Ould Chih started her career as a professional dancer in Chicago in 1991 with 2 year scholarship at the renowned Gus Giordano Dance Center. While working as dancer, teacher, choreographer and director for shows and musicals her attention got drawn to the field of experimental theater and puppetry. After earning the degree of a diploma puppeteer (Stuttgart) in 2000 Karin Ould Chih successfully combined dance and puppetry. Since 2002 she is a permanent member of "figuren theater tuebingen" and also presents her solo works under "orange connection performing arts". Karin directs her own dance school and teaches puppetry at the Kunstakademie Stuttgart (Academy for Fine Arts).

Frank Soehnle studied Puppet Theatre from 1983-87 at the national “Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst” (Academy of Music and Performing Arts) in Stuttgart (graduated as Master of Puppet Theatre). From 1987-90 he was artistic director of the “Figurentheater Karlsruhe”. In 1991 he founded the independent **figuren theater tübingen**.

He is guest lecturer at the “Hochschule für Music und Darstellende Kunst”, Stuttgart the “Figurentheaterkolleg Bochum”, the “École Superieure Nationale des Arts de la Marionnette in Charleville-Mézières” (France), the “Hochschule für Schauspielkunst Ernst-Busch”, Berlin and the “School for Visual Theatre in Jerusalem”, among others.

Guest performances in Australia, Asia, Europe, India, Israel, Mexico, Russia and the USA. He works as performer and puppeteer, puppet maker and director.