

the Lost tone

Animated sound performance

Concept, direction and music by: **Peter Kus**

Text by: **Zalka Grabnar Kogoj**

Text adapted by: **Ajda Rooss, Peter Kus**

Stage director: **Ajda Rooss**

Proofread by: **Tatjana Stanič**

Art design by: **Kaja Avberšek**

Original instruments designed and made by: **Peter Kus, Darko Korošec**

Choreography by: **Andreja Rauch Podrzavnik**

Animation consultant: **Nina Skrbinšek**

Light design by: **Miran Udovič**

Puppets and set made by: **Atelje LGL, Jože Zalar ml., Jaka Mihelič, Brane**

Ždralo

Photography by: **Nada Žgank**

Performed by:

Miha Arh

Asja Kahrmanovi

Polona Kores

Andrej Žibert

Production of: **Forum Ljubljana** and **Ljubljana Puppet Theatre**

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PRESS REVIEWS

»... the messages in the show help educate little children and their parents by means of an innovative and extremely witty text as well as with wonderful music and genuine acting.« **Pia Brezavšček, Radio Študent** (Slovenia)

»... the sound performance about the search for the lost tone turns out to be an appropriate metaphor of today's time and its noise, where all the precious things are lost all too often.« **Špela Standeker, Dnevnik** (Slovenia)

PAST FESTIVALS

Three Are Too Many Two Not Enough, Plovdiv (Bulgaria)

PIF Festival, Zagreb (Croatia)

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

The Lost Tone is a performance of *animated sound theatre*, which was developed by its author Peter Kus. Sound and music are the focal points of the performance, and all the other elements (set design, puppets and text) conform to them. Original musical instruments are the primary means of expression in this performance, and they appear on the stage in the form of props, parts of scene or puppets. They have a dual nature - in addition to being the means of visual and dramatic expression they are also the source of sound in the performance. By being animated, the instrument assume the roles of protagonists, and by being played their expressive force is extended into the field of music. Thus the music performance on stage is intertwined with puppet animation, movement and artistic expression, enhancing the traditional puppet theatre and theatre of objects by *sound animation*.

The *Lost Tone* performance draws from the motif of an old Chinese legend that talks about an empire that lost the standard tone, necessary for tuning. The tone was the key tone not only for all the instruments but also for social life in general.

STORY

Somewhere or everywhere there is a town, where living used to be easy. Kind citizens used to live harmoniously. But little by little chaos enveloped the city, and it was accompanied by awful noise. It had spread hatred and animosity among people. Big One, the head of the city, decides that the city must be in tune again. But the standard tone got lost in the cacophony. So Big One proclaims that he will relinquish his place to the one who finds the lost tone. Little One takes on the task. He is a friendly, benevolent city boy. He embarks upon a journey, determined to once again find the true, lost Tone.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

is composer, puppet theatre director, instrument builder and educator from Ljubljana, Slovenia. In his latest projects he is exploring the field where music and theatre meet. The results are puppet/musical performances like **Black Kitchen** (2004), **The Voice** (2005), **Tristan Vox** (2006), **A King Listens** (2007), **The Lost Tone** (2010), **The Singing Castle** (2011) and **The Forest of Sounds** (2012). The performances were invited to numerous international festivals and received many awards for music and originality. Peter Kus is also an original musical instrument's designer and builder. In September 2008 he conceived a widely appraised series of exhibitions of original musical instruments **Euphonia**, presented in various towns in Slovenia. In 2012 and 2013 his exhibition **Le jardin Musical** (aka **Klanggarten**) was presented in Reims, France and in Wels, Austria. In October 2010 he published a guide book **The Singing Castle, a Guide for Making Original Instruments** in the form of a comic book together with the illustrator Kaja Avberšek.