

Nadia Tsulukidze: Ready for love. Seven fragments of identity, 2010 (Performance)

In her performance *Ready for love. Seven fragments of identity* (still in developing process) artist **Nadia Tsulukidze** (born 1976 Tbilisi, Georgia, lives and works in Amsterdam) tries to deconstruct the notion of identity in order to understand it better. She questions on one side the society with its values, traditions, but also repression that constructs your identity. Individuals learn how to perform, develop behavior, what is asked from them, starting from the family and ending with society demands. On the other side there is a fight of an individual with the construction of the society. Individuals start to question it; they fight for their own freedom, for their own sense of love and creativity. They start to construct their own personality according to individual requirements, things that they think they need.

As a form the artist uses the lecture performance in which again she uses interviews with her mother, photos from the family album, TV footage, text and dance. "This format helps me to create a distance between me 'the performer' and the material that I present. The performer has a direct contact with audience and has a possibility to step in and out of the material. As an author I construct the discourse and historical context from outside. I am the author, the performer performing myself and I am my own biographical material. This split of a personality is complicated, but it fascinates me at the same time. It mirrors the idea of the performance that identity is fluid and fragmented and the mental borders between the author and his material, performer and his role merge with each other." (N.T.)

Ready for Love or Seven Fragments of Identity

Concept and performance- Nadia Tsulukidze

Dramaturgy advice- Bojana Mladenovic and Andreas Bachmair

DasArts Final Project

'Ready for Love or Seven Fragments of Identity' is an autobiographical performance, based on my personal stories linked with political events.

I construct my personal history, as a reflection on my historical context. Being born in Soviet Union and educated in West allows me to draw a geographically fragmented line. Living in different cultural surroundings, being shaped by different cultural values I see my self as a product 'made in East/West'. For this performance I employ the strategies of Documentary Multi Media Theatre, using videos, photos, dance and text to construct the fragmented narrative of identity.

In this performance I am the author, the performer and I am my own biographical material. I am interested in relations between those three in the process of creating an identity as a fluid and fragmented body.

'Ready for Love or Seven Fragments of Identity' is a collage of 'Guruli Marseillaise', soup bubbles, 1980 Olympics, 'Samaia', Grandpa Brejnev, love letters and politics.

Nadia Tsulukidze was born in Georgia, after finishing the Music Colleague she was living and studding dance in Germany. Coming back to Georgia in 2004, as a freelance artist she collaborated with visual artists and cofounded a multimedia performance group *Khikali Juice*. She took part in international projects and exhibitions in Turkey, Armenia, Hungary, Italy, Pollen, Slovenia, France and Germany. In 2010 she finished Master of Theater studies at DasArts with the documentary theater piece *'Ready for Love or Seven Fragments of Identity'*, she was nominated with this work for the *Neu/Now* Festival 2011 and in 2012 she presented the work in Georgia and England within a frame of an European project 'Carmen/State of Exception'. She worked as an artistic assistance with Edit Kaldor (*The Work*) and Jochen Stechmann (*The Critical Piece*), Lado Darakhvelidze (Museum TV Station).

www.nadiatsulukidze.blogspot.com

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