INVITATION TO THE WORLD PREMIERE OF

PINK MOUSE

A MEDIAOPERA

The Leuphana University of Lüneburg will be hosting the world premiere of **Pink Mouse**, a mediaopera by Iraida Yusupova based on a novel of the same name by Russian dissident author Victor Erofeev. The novel **Pink Mouse** presents a Russian inflected wonderland situated at the bottom of the sea where all manner of institutions – national, familial, literary – shapeshift in the ebb and flow of utopian aspirations as conjured up by the mind of an orphaned young girl with a famous surname: Mendeleyeva. As if born from a symbolist table of world historical elements, this figure summons an unending stream of chemical reactions evincing the political intrigue and complexity of today's preter-humanist moment. Erofeev's novel shows the inner child of an unhinged Weltgeist facing adult dilemmas on all fronts.

Yusupova channels Erofeev's hallucinatory critical commentary beautifully. Besides producing a large repertoire of avantgarde classical work, she has also pioneered the Russian take on »mediaopera«, a hybrid genre combining the traditional artistry of operatic song and orchestration with animation movie visuals. This both amplifies the dramatic grandeur of the staged opera in a dazzling range of special effects and makes the artform widely accessible in screen-bound delivery. Ticket price need no longer be prohibitive when opera adapts to the mobile, on-demand non-lieu of electronic devices. Yusupova's aesthetic experiment in the newly partitioned public sphere of Wi-Fi-enabled data carriers raises untold questions about art, technology, semiosis and witnessing in an age of dwindling budgets for state-sponsored institutions of legitimate culture.

This is the fourth mediaopera completed by the Tatar/Russian composer. She won the renowned Zverev Art Prize for **Pink Mouse** but, due to pandemic lockdowns and Russian invasion of the Ukraine, the piece has not been premiered to date. The libretto was translated into English by Anna Rush with the generous support of the Leuphana University of Lüneburg.

You are cordially invited to join us for the world premiere of

PINK MOUSE

on March 21st, 2023, 10 am
Leuphana University of Lüneburg
Lecture Room HS5 (»Hörsaal 5«)
– between Building 11 & Building 13 –
The mediaopera will be shown
with English captions
Free admission
The screening lasts 2,5 hours

From 14 – 17.30 pm, there will be a philosophical and theoretical workshop in the same room of the screening with international guests – artists and scholars – to discuss the mediaopera as a genre befitting our time and **Pink Mouse** as metaphysical reflection on the entrenched surrealism that has spawned said genre.

Pink Mouse creators:

Victor Erofeev (Leuphana University of Lüneburg), Russian writer, will be present to reflect on the remaking of his novel as mediaopera;

Iraida Yusupova (Tatar/Russian composer), whose work was recently featured on BBC Radio3, will join us by Zoom, if not in person.

Moderation:

Cheryce von Xylander (US philosopher specializing in philosophy of mind and pictorialism, Leuphana University of Lüneburg);

Other confirmed speakers include:

Arne Gieshoff (German composer whose piece Die Bär*in played in the Deutsche Oper Berlin last year);

Boris Groys (German-Russian art critic, media theorist and philosopher who coined the term »Moscow Conceptualism« and, in 2011, curated the Russian Pavilion for the 54th Venice Biennale);

Steve Fuller (US/UK sociologist based at the University of Warwick and specializing in social epistemology with a strong interest in Eastern Europe and transhumanism);

Evgeniya Lianskaya-Lininger (Russian musician and Yusupova expert living in Vienna and author of an essay on »Moscow Conceptualism«, see https://knife.media/mediaopera/);

Gerard McBurney (British composer of orchestral and chamber works including the Shostakovich fragment Orango);

Alfred Nordmann (German philosopher with a special interest in technoscience, materialist imaginaries and opera, TU Darmstadt).

Event supported and co-organised by:

Ulf Wuggenig (Sociologist and co-founder of the Kunstraum at the Leuphana University of Lüneburg).

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