



S M Y S L K U R A

( C H I C K E N S E N S E )

W A X W I N G T H E A T R E

## SMYSL KURA | DESCRIPTION

Endowed with only the faintest notion of what is to come, a hen pecks at a handful of grain serendipitously scattered across an old chopping block, while the farmer's wife approaches with an apron and a cleaver. On the other side of town, an aging knight sets off in search of his fortune, and for the good luck that left him along with his youth. With hints of Dostoevsky, Cervantes and Gogol, *Smysl Kura* is an original performance by Czech-based Waxwing Theatre, combining puppets, mask and music to tell a modern fairy tale for children and adults. At turns comic, touching and cruel, the cast includes a fish out of water, a one-eyed monster who is an uncompromising realist, and a Demiurgic croupier with a flair for the butterfly effect. Is it possible to hold fortune forever at its zenith? *Messieurs, faites vos jeux!*

**Concept:** Zuzana Smolová and Peter Gaffney /

**Puppets:** Peter Gaffney / **Support:** Sladovna (Písek) / For adults and children ages 10+ / 50 min / in Czech (in English for international audiences)



## SMYSL KURA | DOCUMENTATION

Webpage: <http://waxwingtheatre.com/smyslkura>

Trailer video: <https://youtu.be/V7J8foMxiCg>

Full performance video: [https://youtu.be/V\\_fYTWBPolw](https://youtu.be/V_fYTWBPolw)

Photo gallery: <http://waxwingtheatre.com/smyslkura/#photos>



Zuzana Smolová and Peter Gaffney performing in *Smysl Kura*, Sladovna (Písek, Czech Republic).

S M Y S L  
WAXWING  
THEATRE  
K (CHICKEN  
SENSE) U R A



## S M Y S L K U R A | C R E A T I V E T E A M

Based in South Bohemia, we are a newly formed creative duo – Zuzana Smolová (CZ) and Peter Gaffney (US) – with a strong interest in multi-genre performance techniques and experimentation, creating works that engage the intense, nameless and irrational forces that shape contemporary human experience.

Our work is based on a devising process that juxtaposes movement theatre, live music and fragments of text with the expressive potential of basic materials – clay, water, sand, paper, glass, steel, wood – in order to generate unique movements, situations, characters and storylines.

Our performances speak to the intense moments of capture and escape of a world perpetually in flux, of events beyond the psychological limits of meaning and intention, and of transitional states between the human and non-human, analog and digital, living and non-living, self and other. And our stories tend to revolve around the human figure faced with moral crisis, and transformed by the general erosion of the commonsense physical limits that regulate our bodies and worldly environment.

*Smolová & Gaffney portfolio:* <http://bit.ly/2urY9Ir>

*Smolová & Gaffney CV:* <http://bit.ly/2xSk8cc>



*Peter Gaffney*



*Zuzana Smolová*

## S M Y S L K U R A | T E C H N I C A L I N F O

*Smysl Kura* is a 50-minute theater performance for adults and children ages 10+. With two performers (no technical crew), *Smysl Kura* features texts in Czech (or English for international audiences), and is appropriate for indoor and outdoor venues, day or night. The ideal venue will have a performance area of 5m (width) by 4.5m (depth), with at least 3m clearance (height), and have seating prepared for the audience. We recommend a non-elevated seating area or low elevations, with maximum capacity of 100. For indoor venues and outdoor nighttime performances, we recommend basic static lighting (*please see technical rider at the link below*). For daytime outdoor performances, no lighting, amplification or other electronic equipment is required. Setup time for indoor and nighttime performances (including light setup) = 70min. Setup time for daytime open air performances = 40min. Strike time = 30min.

*Information, stage & light plan:* <http://bit.ly/2HevOft>

## S M Y S L K U R A | C O N T A C T

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