



P.O. BOX 358 BROOKLYN NY 11217 (212) 406 4640

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January 27, 1987
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thieves Theatre
presents
the American Premiere
of
Rainer Werner Fassbinder's
TRASH, THE CITY AND DEATH

Previews: ABC No Rio
156 Rivington St., NYC
March 14 - 28, Tuesday - Sunday, 8:00pm

Opening: TBA
April 7 - May 3, Tuesday - Sunday, 8:00pm

The play was written in 1974 and has been forcefully suppressed ever since. Fassbinder was thwarted in an attempt to see his work staged during the 1974-75 season at Frankfurt's Theater am Turm, where he was artistic director. An overwhelming wave of critical and civic protest shut the project down before rehearsals could get very far along. The censorship kindled far-reaching debate. Time and again others sought to mount the play against unrelenting resistance. In 1984, for example, a production was conceived, rehearsed, publicized, and nearly opened in Frankfurt; the performance was to take place in an unused subway stop under the Old Opera House. The city forced another closing. Finally, a single performance for an invited audience was managed in Germany in 1985. Thieves Theatre now has exclusive rights to present the play in New York. The controversy surrounding the piece has lost none of its heat over time. Books have been written on a play that very few people have been allowed to see.

Trash, the City and Death was Fassbinder's response to the real estate speculation he believed was destroying the city of Frankfurt. He stipulated that his piece be performed only in Frankfurt or a foreign city like Paris or New York. ABC No Rio and its location in the Lower East Side is site-specific, and magnifies the play's relevance to our contemporary situation in this city.

We invite critical response to our efforts throughout our rehearsal process. For documentation on the controversy please write or call.



P.O. BOX 358 BROOKLYN NY 11217 (212) 406 4640

Erik Ehn
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March 10, 1987
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thieves Theatre presents
The American Premiere
of
RAINER WERNER FASSBINDER'S

TRASH, THE CITY AND DEATH

Previews: March 14 - 29, Tues.-Sun., 8:00pm
ABC No Rio, 156 Rivington, NYC
\$6, TDF accepted

OPENING: April 16 - May 10, Thurs.-Sat. 7:30pm
Sundays 2:00pm and 7:30pm
NoHo Theatre, 2 Bond Street
(3 blocks north of Houston, betw. B'Way and Lafayette)
\$10, TDF accepted (TDF plus \$5 on Fridays and Saturdays)

The play was written in 1974 and has been forcefully suppressed ever since. Fassbinder was thwarted in an attempt to see his work staged during the 1974-75 season at Frankfurt's Theater am Turm, where he was artistic director. An overwhelming wave of critical and civic protest shut the project down before rehearsals could get very far along. The censorship kindled far-reaching debate. Time and again others sought to mount the play against unrelenting resistance. In 1984, for example, a production was conceived, rehearsed, publicized, and nearly opened in Frankfurt; the performance was to take place in an unused subway stop under the Old Opera House. The city forced another closing. Finally, a single performance for an invited audience was managed in Germany in 1985.

TRASH, THE CITY AND DEATH was Fassbinder's response to the real estate speculation he believed was destroying the city of Frankfurt, and he stipulated that its world premiere could only be presented in Frankfurt, Paris, or New York.

"By dropping the unaccommodated audience member into a perplexing unedited present ... [Fassbinder] undermines complacency and puts one on his or her moral guard."
James Leverett, 'American Theatre'

"It is a very, very powerful play, there's no denying that."
Gerald Rabkin, 'Performing Arts Journal'

THIEVES THEATRE NOW HAS EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS TO THE WORK. AN ENSEMBLE OF 19 ACTORS AND A FOUR-PIECE LIVE BAND BRING THE RENOWNED FILMMAKER'S FINAL AND MOST COMPLEX PLAY TO THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

We invite critical response to our efforts throughout our rehearsal process. For documentation on the controversy, please write or call.

Contact: Ben Trovato, Publicist
(212) 406-4640

March 31, 1987
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thieves Theatre presents
The American Premiere
of
RAINER WERNER FASSBINDER'S
TRASH, THE CITY AND DEATH

. OPENING OPENING .

April 16 - May 10, Thurs.-Sat. 7:30pm
Sundays 2:00pm and 7:30pm
NoHo Playhouse, 2 Bond Street
(2 blocks N. of Houston, betw. B'Way and Lafayette)
\$10, TDF accepted (TDF plus \$5 on Fri. and Sat.)

. OPENING OPENING .

The play was written in 1974 and has been forcefully suppressed ever since. Fassbinder was thwarted in an attempt to see his work staged during the 1974-75 season at Frankfurt's Theater am Turm, where he was artistic director. An overwhelming wave of critical and civic protest shut the project down before rehearsals could get far along. The censorship kindled far-reaching debate. Time and again others sought to mount the play against unrelenting resistance. Finally, a single performance for an invited audience was managed in Frankfurt in 1985.

THIEVES THEATRE NOW HAS EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS TO THE PLAY. AN ENSEMBLE OF 19 ACTORS AND A FOUR-PIECE LIVE BAND BRING THE RENOWNED FILMMAKER'S FINAL AND MOST CONTROVERSIAL PLAY TO THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

Previews (March 14-29, 1987) were very successful in terms of audience response and press attendance. The project has already received national and international coverage (incl. National Public Radio, Voice, Der Spiegel, Stern, and a documentary filmed for German television)

Directed by Nick Fracaro -- Original Translation by Gabriele Schafer