

A photograph of two women in a dramatic, intimate pose on a stage. One woman, with short brown hair, is in the foreground, looking upwards with her mouth slightly open. She wears a light grey long-sleeved shirt and light-colored trousers. Her right arm is bent, with her hand near her head, and her left arm is around the other woman's neck. The second woman, with long blonde hair tied back, looks down at the first woman. She wears a dark grey turtleneck and dark blue jeans. They are positioned in front of a black background with a prominent white grid pattern.

A woman and her world

Interview of Neue Rhein Zeitung

VIEW FROM NOWHERE

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The cup of coffee comes perfectly on time. Dancer and choreographer Katja F.M. Wolf has not slept much, last night's rehearsal took until just before midnight and afterwards it is hard to switch off right away. Now David Williams sits next to her. Dramaturg, performance artist and collaborator in her actual project. He has just arrived from England and right after the talk things move on for both of them. Rehearsal again. "At this point many things can still change", Wolf knows. She seems earnest, highly concentrated: the personified calm before the première storm. But maybe this is also a matter of perception which she will put to the test from tomorrow on.

Philosophy and movement

The 36 years-old is not an unknown person in her chosen home town of Düsseldorf. Katja F.M. Wolf sat in the boat for productions at the Düsseldorf Youth Theatre, by the way utterly successful: Recently her "Robinson & Crusoe" got elected to the North-Rhine-Westphalian Youth Theatre Meeting in Oberhausen. Next to that she has collaborated on "The last Show". For Wolf these commissions make one part of her work. An exceedingly fruitful one, she emphasizes: "The exchange with other colleagues triggers me." However, she has the other part even more at her heart. The part that has to do with her own projects, entitled "WOLF dances" or "Meeting Point 70" – the latter explicitly autobiographical. It was about the Stasi spying on her own family in the Ex-GDR. From there she came and there everything began, in terms of her artistic development. In the late seventies the family managed to leave the GDR.

Wolf took her Abitur and studied philosophy in Munich at first. Then she moved on again, this time to the Netherlands, to Arnhem, where she studied performing arts at the European Dance Development Center of the Arnhem College of the Arts. She stayed true to this decision. Ever since her graduation she works as a free-lance artist exclusively. Why? „Because I need the freedom“, she responds with no delay.

Why dance, not theatre? Katja Wolf looks at her colleague David Williams. Because dance is more physical as a form of expression, more grounded and older. And because dance, she says, touches all of the senses.

A new perspective

Once more such a matter of perception. Wolf and Williams dedicate themselves to this now in their performance "View from nowhere". They will show a game of seeing, seeming and believing. Dance scenes – Wolfs partner is Malven Gerbes – mix with passages spoken by Williams: his own texts side by side with playing instructions and invitations to take a closer look, to observe in a different way. Video pieces by Monika Pirch and music by Jim Campbell and Wolfgang Rixius associate to this. During the performance the audience is asked to stand up and swap their seats and by that also their perspective. "Everyone of us creates a world of its own", says Wolf, the multi-faceted, and from her mouth it sounds all too logical.

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