

Phillipe Quesne
Farm Fatale

fierce

Warwick Arts Centre
Tuesday 11 October 2022, 7:45pm-9:15pm

A post-apocalyptic scenario in the not-so-distant future: five scarecrows, who have lost their original jobs due to climate change, come together in a commune. These disarmingly funny characters, though, are undeterred by the difficult conditions: the dying sounds of nature are meticulously recorded for posterity; demonstration signs and slogans are prepared; pop music is blown into the airwaves via pirate radio; insect deaths and pesticides are discussed.

With *Farm Fatale*, world-renowned French director Philippe Quesne, celebrated for his hybrid, strikingly visual performances, envisions an absurdly charming universe, inhabited by gentle dreamers and activists with a penchant for laconic commentary.

Artist Bio: PHILIPPE QUESNE, born in 1970, received his education in Visual Arts. For 10 years he designed sets for theatre, operas, and exhibitions. In 2003, he created the Vivarium Studio Company as a laboratory for theatrical innovation and collaboration between painters, actors, dancers and musicians. As he did as a child, collecting insects, he now works and studies small communities under his microscope. The scenography is used as an ecosystem in which he immerses his actors into. His shows, such as *La Démangeaison des ailes* (2003), *L'Effet de Serge* (2007), *La Mélancolie des dragons* (2008), *Swamp Club* (2013), compose a repertory of tours all over the world.



In addition to his work for the theatre, he creates performances and interventions in public spaces or natural sites, and displays his installations in the context of exhibitions.

Since January 2014, he has served as the co-director of Nanterre-Amandiers, National Dramatic Center. In 2018/2019, he created *Crash Park, la vie d'une Île* at TNB in Rennes, and in Nanterre-Amandiers, and *Farm fatale* at Kammerspiele in Munich. In parallel with his theatre works, he directs workshops and conferences in Art Schools and for academic purposes.

He was the artistic director of the awarded French pavilion at the Prague Quadrennial in 2019.

In 2020, he created a scenic version of Gustav Mahler's symphony *Das Lied von der Erde* at the Wiener Festwochen (Austria) and the set design for choreographer Meg Stuart's new creation *Cascade* in 2021. In 2022, he starts a new original work *Fantasmagoria* a play without actor with the Théâtre Vidy-Lausanne as producer that will be created on May. Since July 2022 he is the new artistic director of *La Ménagerie de Verre* in Paris, a creative and artistic laboratory and avant-garde venue in the 11th arrondissement in Paris. He has been named as the artistic successor of Marie-Thérèse Allier who was owner of *La Ménagerie de Verre* since 1983.

Credits

Concept, Set design and Direction: Philippe Quesne

Performed by: Léo Gobin, Sébastien Jacobs (part created by Stefan Merki), Nuno Lucas (part created by Damian Rebgetz), Anne Steffens (part created by Julia Riedler), Gaëtan Vourc'h.

Set design Collaborator: Nicole Marianna Wytyczak

Costume Collaborator: Nora Stocker

Masks: Brigitte Frank

Light Design: Pit Schultheiss

Sound Design: Robert Göing, Anthony Hughes

Director's Assistant: Jonny-Bix Bongers, Dennis Metaxas

Dramaturgy: Martin Valdés-Stauber, Camille Louis

Technical and Stage Manager: François Boulet

Sound Manager: Grégory Adoir

Light Manager: Vincent Chrétien

This show premiered on March 29th, 2019 for the repertory of the Münchner Kammerspiele, Munich, Germany.

Production of the Creation: Münchner Kammerspiele – Munich and Théâtre Nanterre Amandiers, CDN.

Production of the Tour: Vivarium Studio – Charlotte Kaminski