



CROATIAN NATIONAL THEATRE IN ZAGREB



## A Play for the Living in A Time of Extinction

Miranda Rose Hall /Katie Mitchell / Anica Tomić

26 June 2022 | Zagreb, Croatia

*The premiere of the project A play for the living in a Time of extinction, directed by Anica Tomić and produced by the Drama of the Croatian National Theater in Zagreb, will take place on June 26 in the multifunctional space of the club Peti kupe on Trnjanska.*

*The play is part of the EU project STAGES, which is financed by the European Commission, and will be performed in ten European partner theaters. STAGES (Sustainable Theater Alliance for a Green Environmental Shift) is a neverbefore-seen theater experiment that involves the cultural sector in a revolutionary way to interact with the concept of sustainability.*

*The Croatian version of the play is unique in that children participate. Playwright Jelena Kovačić, in collaboration with writer Miranda Rose Hall, specially adapted the text for children.*

*Fourteen influential theater organisations, including academia partners and a leading European theater network, have teamed up with director Katie Mitchell and choreographer Jérôme Bel – two artists known for incorporating sustainability into their work – to tour new plays about the climate crisis.*

*The play, which points to all the ecological disasters of today and appeals to the sustainability of the planet, is played entirely by two girls. Twelve-year-old Naomi Temitope Okoli is originally from Nigeria, and as a child of immigrants, she talks about the coming disaster, talking about class and racial differences. Thirteen-year-old Eva Markulin is from Zagreb and reviews her actions on a daily basis and claims: "I haven't done enough for the Earth."*

*When I watched the play, which was conceptually designed as a monodrama for an African-American actress by Katie Mitchell and Jérôme Bel, it was immediately clear to me that in the Croatian version I wanted a girl to play it, that is, two girls. I immediately remembered the little girl Greta Thunberg who passionately addressed the UN and said: "How dare you? How dare you?" In my concept, two little girls who will face the future of ecological disaster in their mature age, speak seriously, passionately, but also worriedly about what awaits us. They want to warn, click, if a lecture should be held so that we all remember that we are part and inseparable fabric of the weaving of the only planet that we as humans have, which is Planet Earth. Children are our future, they are already living the ecological crisis that greeted them in their formative years, emphasizes Anica Tomić, saying that *A Play for the Living in a Time of Extinction* is a ballad about us who can still prevent irreversible catastrophe. The world premiere of the original version of the text was produced by Baltimore Center Stage (Stephanie Ybarra, Artistic Director/Michael Ross, Performing Director). The play was performed and developed by LubDub Theater Group, Caitlin Nasema Cassidy and Geoff Kanick, Artistic Directors, Robert Duffley, Playwright. It was partly developed with the help of Orchard Project ([www.orchardproject.com](http://www.orchardproject.com)), Ari Edelson, art director. The concept of the production and the direction of the original play are signed by Katie Mitchell, who conceived the project with Jérôme Bel, from the Théâtre Vidy-Lausanne, in collaboration with the Competence Center in Sustainability of the University of Lausanne.*

*The electricity used in the play is produced by the performers on stage.*



**Video recording:** <https://vimeo.com/729888635>

*To respect artistic rights, the password for this video is available only upon request.  
You can contact "admin@sustainablestages.eu" for this purpose*