



LITHUANIAN NATIONAL DRAMA THEATRE



# THE METAMORPHOSIS. Based on the work of Franz Kafka Oliver FRLJIĆ

31 May 2023 | Vilnius, Lithuania

## **CREATORS:**

**Director, author of the adaptation:**

Oliver FRLJIĆ

**Set and Video Designer:** Igor

PAUŠKA

**Costume designer:** Morta NAKAITĖ

**Light Designer:** Dainius URBONIS

**Director's Assistant:** Augustas

GORNATKEVIČIUS

**Dramaturgy Assistant, Translator:**

Eglė POŠKEVIČIŪTĖ

**Producer:** Agnė PULOKAITĖ

## **CAST:**

Rasa SAMUOLYTĖ

Rimantė VALIUKAITĖ

Gediminas RIMEIKA

Aistė ZABOTKAITĖ

Algirdas GRADAUSKAS

Kęstutis CICĖNAS

Marius REPŠYS

Rytis SALADŽIUS

Augustė ŠIMULYNAITĖ

Vaidilė JUOZAITYTĖ

Jūratė VILŪNAITĖ

Toma VAŠKEVIČIŪTĖ

Dog Mira

*You can kill a man, but you can't force him to be someone else. (Robert Antelme)*

*How, when, and why do we stop seeing the Other as human? At the very heart of Franz Kafka's work, one can always grasp the different forms of dehumanization being explored. The story of Gregor Zamza, the insect-turned-man, raises the question of the limits of our compassion for the other: how the process of identification is carried out, how the Other is constructed, and whether we can accept the Other as a part of humanity. This performance will seek to explore the complex dialectical relationship between two different political (in the broadest sense) mechanisms: empathic identification on the one hand, and dehumanization on the other.*

*The field of meanings in Kafka's works is infinitely wide, and not amenable to simple, unambiguous interpretations. In striving to open up their different levels, the most important thing in the performance is, however, to engage in a dialogue with the reality in which we live. On 28 July 1914, the First World War broke out, and just a few days later, Kafka began to write what is perhaps his most famous novel, "The Trial" (which remained unfinished and was only published without the writer's permission only after his death). And although the two events are not linked by mutual causality, the experience of war is evident in this and other works by the writer. Scholars of Kafka's oeuvre argue that in "The Trial" he foresaw the totalitarian ideologies that were soon to engulf Europe, as well as the nature of that war. On 24 February, when Russia went to war against Ukraine, it was said that this war would initiate the next phase of European history, ushering in a new world order. So, it may well be that we, Europeans in the 2020s – like Kafka, who became a contemporary of the First World War – will live through a watershed epoch that will usher in a new world order.*

*The performance was created by recycling sets found in the theatre, all costumes were found in the theatre's warehouse or bought from second-hand clothes shops.*

**Video recording:**

<http://vimeo.com/902267646/c8eabc90be?share=copy>

*To respect artistic rights, the password for this video is available only upon request.*

*You can contact "admin@sustainablestages.eu" for this purpose*

