

BRUCH variété (Die schlimme Botschaft)

Cabaret Voltaire, in collaboration with Theater Neumarkt, Zurich

6 June 2023, 8pm

The series BRUCH variété explores historical cabaret and variété forms as precarious laboratories for individualised and ephemeral modes of rupture, mixing commercial entertainment, aestheticised revolt and esoteric experiment. At Cabaret Voltaire, BRUCH adapts Carl Einstein's didactic play "Die schlimme Botschaft" (1921) as an agitprop variety show. The anarchist art theorist's long forgotten dramatic text, which was banned for 'blasphemy' upon publication, retells the passion of Christ by transposing it into present times. Departing from the fiction that Einstein along with comrades premiered the piece in Zurich fifteen years later in order to mobilise fighters for the Spanish Civil War, his meditation on art, politics and religion is staged in the form of performative drafts developed with the ensemble of Theater Neumarkt.

With David Attenberger, Sofia Borsani, Challenge Gumbodete, Stanislav Iordanov, Yara Bou Nassar, Melina Pyschny.