



Media release

****STRICTLY EMBARGOED UNTIL 10AM SATURDAY 5 NOVEMBER, 2016****

HORROR

A BREATH-TAKING NIGHTMARE ON STAGE AND HOMAGE TO THE HORROR FILM GENRE.

DIRECTED BY JAKOP AHLBOM

VENUE: The Civic

DATES: 21-26 March

ARTISTS: Jakop Ahlbom Company (The Netherlands)

Horror is a creepily fantastical live show that pays homage to the horror-movie genre. Unfolding before frightened eyes, the stage show that references spine-chillers like *The Ring*, *Evil Dead* and *The Exorcist* is ingeniously gruesome, strangely poetic and pee-your-pants funny.

A woman returns with two friends to her parental home. The house is haunted by a tragic family event and no one knows what happened to the woman's older sister. Her vengeful spirit eventually appears, though, and the past re-emerges: the cruel parents, the crushed youth. The youngest sister is brutally confronted with the hidden past and the only way to survive is to face the terrible truth.

Swedish-born theatre maker Jakop Ahlbom's shows garner rave reviews and play to sell-out houses everywhere they go. In *Horror*, he uses special effects to truly surprise - blood spurts up to the ceiling, a dismembered hand crawls, wailing as it goes, across the floor.

This immersive stage spectacular and tour de force continues Ahlbom's recent legacy of highly visual stage works without dialogue. Over the last ten years' Ahlbom has developed a trademark theatrical form that unites theatre, mime, dance, music and the world of illusion. He has a unique talent for combining powerful visual language with equally powerful content.

Having been fascinated by horror films since a young age, he says, "In my youth, I devoured every film in the genre I could find. I enjoyed the absurd fantasies and special effects, the extreme events, the sense of a dark unknown, and the rush of adrenaline they all triggered. I was also intrigued by the dark humour of the films; the combination of the slapstick and the surreal made them captivating and terrifying."

A major hit in its recent UK season, *Horror* sees Ahlbom unleashing his imagination using special effects that have rarely been seen in theatre. It is sinister, chilling, comical, messy, absurd...and brilliant.

Ahlbom uses his special effects to truly surprise. The boundaries of his inventiveness are remarkably elastic. Horror is sinister, chilling, messy, comical and absurd – and the acting is excellent. - Het Parool

This is an ingeniously gruesome and imaginative homage to the horror genre. Everyone – including those who don't know their horror classics – will be sitting with at the edge of their seat in childlike delight for 90 minutes



... you get all the floating, vanishing and reappearing you could possibly wish for ... Ahlbom makes well-crafted movement theatre for large audiences. - Trouw

PERFORMANCE DETAILS

TICKETS	A Res \$69 A Res Conc \$63 B Res \$59 B Res Conc \$53 C Res \$45 D Res \$35
WHEN	21-23 Mar 8.00pm, 24 Mar 9.00pm, 25 Mar 8.00pm, 26 Mar 5.00pm Talk: Wed 22 March.
WHERE	The Civic
BOOKINGS	Ticketmaster.co.nz 09 951 2501
DURATION	1 hour 20 mins, no interval
IMPORTANT INFO	Suitable for ages 15+ Contains strobe lighting
MORE INFO	Info www.jakopahlbom.nl http://jakopahlbom.nl/voorstelling/horror/?lang=en Video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e7-BiNziy5c https://www.facebook.com/JakopAhlbom/videos/1202415123164264/ Facebook https://www.facebook.com/JakopAhlbom/
FOLLOW THE FEST	Facebook / Twitter / Instagram: @AKLFestival #aklfest
CREDITS	Concept and direction: Jakob Ahlbom Cast: Luc van Esch, Yannick Greweldinger, Judith Hazeleger, Silke Hundertmark, Sofieke de Kater, Gwen Langenberg, Maurits van den Berg, Reinier Schimmel Dramaturge: Judith Wendel Design: Douwe Hibma, Jakob Ahlbom, Remco Gianotten (assistant) Music design: Wim Conradi with Bauke Moerman Costume design: Esmee Thomassen Special props and make-up: Rob Hillenbrink Hair and make-up: Nienke Algra Lighting design: Yuri Schreuders Producer: Wilma Kuite / Alles voor de Kunsten <i>Horror was made with the financial support of the Performing Arts Fund, the Municipality of Amsterdam, Fonds 21 and the Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds.</i> With support from Netherlands Government
ABOUT THE AAF	Taking place annually in March, the Auckland Arts Festival is a globally recognised event that celebrates people and culture, and showcases the unrivalled location, cultural diversity and vibrant energy of New Zealand's largest city. Over 1.6 million people have attended the Festivals to date. Auckland Arts Festival is governed by the Auckland Festival Trust. Trustees are John Judge (Chair), Rick Carlyon, Evan Davies, Sarah Judkins, Tarun Kanji, Margaret Kāwharu MNZM, Jim Moser, Ben Taufua and Fred Ward. The Trust receives core funding from Auckland Council through the Auckland Regional Amenities Funding Act, and Creative New Zealand through the Toi Tōtara Haemata programme. Significant support for AAF 2017 is received from Foundation North, Pub Charity, NZ Community Trust and The Lion Foundation.
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