

Bambole Nude

(Italia-UK)

The Heartbreak Hotel



A performance about the highs and
lows of Hollywood love

The Heartbreak Hotel



You still can find some room
For broken-hearted lovers
To cry there in the gloom

Elvis Presley

1966: a hotel in Las Vegas, at the end of Lonely Street. Three bedrooms. Three dolls. Three stories of love, loneliness and betrayal. A puppetry show of plastic dolls, pearls, mannequin heads and cutlery. The Heartbreak Hotel is an erotic melodrama, that combines puppetry and object theatre to follow the romantic traumas of the guests that inhabit rooms 203, 269 and 789.

Inspired by Elvis' rock and roll classic, *The Heartbreak Hotel*, the creators of the company Bambole Nude, take on the epic theme of loneliness and the quest to find deep deep love, whilst audaciously and rather raunchily positioning the show in a world of retro-kitsch and the ready-made.

Why Bambole Nude?

Even though we have reached our thirties, we still like to play with dolls.

In this production, we explore and subvert the romantic cliches presented by Hollywood and look at the characters of the obedient virgin, the victim of unrequited love, the maneater and the spinster.



VISUAL REFERENCES AND SOURCES OF INSPIRATION



The theatrical language of the show



The show employs a kitsch and comic strip style which evokes the pop art world of Roy Lichtenstein of garish colours and trendy dolls, however the heavy baroque-style curtains and the proscenium arch box theatre, with its petite signs in French, recreate an old music hall space reminiscent of a 1930s cabaret in Berlin. The show also takes inspiration from the surrealist cinema (Buñuel, Jodorowski, David Lynch).

Soundscape

The story unfolds with a concoction of music from the 1960s, (Elvis, Nancy Sinatra and Connie Francis), interpreted by Jenny Lou Roe, she has a stirring and sensual voice that weaves its way around minimalist arrangements on the ukulele and transports the spectator to the golden age of Hollywood.



Characters and Dramaturgy

The debutant

The ingenue resides in room 203. *La vie en rose*: a pink room adorned with pink furnishings and rose petals. Timid yet secretly salacious, she waits with apprehension for the man of her dreams to knock at the door.

This first vignette exposes the tradition of the innocent and virtuous maiden who waits for prince charming.



The wolf

The wolf arrives at room 203 to seduce the young maiden. Represented by a mannequin head from the 1950s, here we visit the Little Red Riding Hood story of the predatory man (James Bond, Wolverine) who ravishes the virtuous heroine, but then heartlessly flees in the early hours, leaving a broken doll.

Donatella

In room 269 lives Donatella Maria Versace, an emancipated plastic doll, empowered and rebellious, she is not on a quest for true love, she yearns for adventure... and has an appetite for mustached men.



Madame Bertrand

Room 789 (the end of the world) inhabited by Madame Bertrand. A wealthy woman. Desolate and disillusioned, her only friend is the mini bar.

Here we revisit another stock character of Hollywood: the witch or the crazed spinster. Madame Bertrand is inspired by the icon of the silent cinema, Norma Desmond from *Sunset Boulevard*, an untouchable diva, hysterical and tortured. Madame Bertrand is represented by a doll's head from the

Bambole Nude



The company Bambole Nude is an artistic collaboration between **il cappello rosso** (Italia) y **Jennifer Moule** (UK).

Our work:

Celebrates a poetic and surrealist world

Confronts social taboos

Deploys the rebelliousness, sensuality and irony of cabaret to make a more delirious world

Jenny Lou Roe, jazz singer, theatre maker and clown from the shores of Brighton, England, but she has made Argentina and Mexico her home in recent years. Her voice offers a seductive mix of R&B, soul and jazz. A femme fatale on stage she delivers a smokey flashback to 1950s glamour. She writes, directs and performs immersive and site-specific work in real spaces (laundrettes, hotel rooms, hair salons, car parks) with her physical theatre company Washing Line Productions and has staged work in the UK, Spain, Italy and Mexico.

Jenny Lou Roe

Il cappello rosso

Il cappello rosso is a company made of Michela Aiello and her puppets.

After graduating in Art and Performance from Rome University, she participated in many different creative roles: actress, performer and director; deepening her knowledge of gesture, which she applied to puppetry and dance. Her first encounter with the world of puppetry happened in the workshop of Pepe Otal in 2010 and since then she has travelled with her puppets to festivals in France, Italy, Mexico and Korea. In 2012 she completed a residency of investigation at the ESNAM, Charleville Mezières, and continued her formation participating in workshops across Europe, notably shadow puppetry (with Fabrizio Montecchi from the company Giocovita) and object theatre (with Agnés Limbos and Nicole Mossoux).

Technical Spec

The show can adapt to outside spaces as well as indoors, day and night.

Width : 4 m.

Depth: 4 m.

Height : 3 m.

Independent for light and sound.

Maximum size of audience: 60 personas. Publico adulto y familiar.

Duration: 15 - 20 min

Three continuous performances with intervals between each show of 30 minutes

Set up time 40 min.

Pack up time: 40 min.

<https://vimeo.com/141808989>

Link to video

Contacts

ilcappellorossoteatro@gmail.com

jmoule@gmail.com

+34-673297955

+33-613516083

+44-7588837772