

Delo  
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## A performance in the imperative

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*Show your face!*, a new performance by Pograjc with Betontanc and the Latvian group Umka.LV, is actually "a puppet show". However, this seems like an anachronistic expression so let's rather call it a play with objects. But again, this is not exactly true, because it doesn't capture the performance as a whole, which is a more or less equal corpus of theatre, choreography, music and object. And it isn't true because the main "hero" of the performance – an object indeed, a children's hooded Babygro - is actually its subject. Moreover, it is its symbol, that of the one who doesn't have a face, and who the shout from the title of the performance is aimed at.

This being with a soul, projected to it by a group of performers (and musicians), is also the main achievement of this technically complex, although dramaturgically not always balanced performance. Not its technical animation or its symbolic worth, but its immanent objectivity, so to speak. This "Babygro" is the nucleus of the whole happening, the centre of almost all stage investments, it is some kind of union of the complete stage energy, in which we don't see "a child", "a person" or some sort of surrogate being, but just the energy itself: the energy, a point, a hole as it is. This sight is deeply moving, full, charged to its maximum. Furthermore, this energy punctum radiates its energy (whether it's predominantly dark or predominantly light is unclear) to animators, performers, but it doesn't individualize them, contrary to expectations. It collectivizes them, exposes their group energy and organizes them like a machine. To look at it is, strangely enough, empowering, positive, even optimistic.

*Show your face!* is a performance in the imperative, an attempt with an appeal, which deals with existential and identity issues, as well as with social fields, especially with resistance and revolution. Its tissue is thick, as if saturated with music, at times over-transparent and sometimes not transparent enough.