



GEORGES
MÉLIÈS
LASTTRICK





HOW TO BECOME IMMORTAL? THERE'S ONE TRICK!

Theatrical performance
which is a tribute to the world of magic,
film and imagination.

“He was destined to inherit his father’s shoe store, but in childhood he likes to draw instead. In London he sees a magic show and is so fascinated that he becomes a magician. He buys his own theatre which is always sold out, because he lets women disappear and turn them into butterflies ... Then he attends the first screening of the Lumière brothers. He will become a brilliant filmmaker who creates the first film studio in the world.” Georges Méliès (1861 – 1938), a French film director and a major pioneer of cinematography.

A new staging of the Drak Theatre is inspired by the remarkable life story and work of cinema pioneer Georges Méliès. It takes viewers into the attractive settings of wizards and magic tricks. Magic tricks, that Méliès as first managed to use in incredibly imaginative ways on the film medium, still retain their visual poetry. He had particularly many followers. The Méliès world of imagination is boundless resisting even death, because celluloid illusion and fantasy weapons may perhaps even beat the Grim Reaper ... Or not? We’ll find out at the end of the journey through the fascinating story of a greatest film magician of all time.





QUOTES FROM REVIEWS

"An Anglo-Saxon theatre critic would write that Georges Méliès' Last Trick is an hour of pure theatre, an hour of eruptive fantasy, perfect playfulness, an hour of contagious joy from creativity, that is the event of the season and it is every theatre lover's obligation to not miss it. (...) Jiří Havelka has created an exceedingly excellent production in Hradec Králové's Drak Theatre, inspired by the work of Georges Méliès, using the perfectly adopted techniques of silent film escapades and Méliès' attempts at special effect tricks, and he has got a fine troupe of actors for it."

Michal Zahálka, nadivadlo.blogspot.cz

"An ingenious combination of a puppet Punch and Judy show and slapstick film, all purely through theatrical, seemingly simple means. It is a tribute to a cinematic magician, but also to playfulness, fantasy and artistic tenacity. Definitely an experience!"

Nina Malíková, Theatre Newspaper

"The Last Trick of Mr G. M. is not just an homage to the pioneer of cinematography, Georges Méliès, but also a tribute to art that does not give up and triumphs over death, mediocrity and prohibitions. An exceedingly Faust-like tribute to everlasting life in a world full of magic, tricks and enchantment."

Nina Malíková, Loutkář Magazine

"Together with designer Marek Zákostelecký and dramaturge Dominika Špalková, Havelka has created a poetic theatrical slapstick comedy which skilfully interconnects shadow theatre and black light theatre and that, as it is without words, will be comprehensible abroad. (...) The new production immediately draws you in, even adults will get lost in wonderment and enchantment for a while, not to speak of poetry with a touch of nostalgia. Drak has paid tribute not only to the first inventor of special effects from a time when everything will done exclusively by hand, but also to modern theatre, lucidly and with something grand on top of that: with the gift of surprise."

Petr Mareček, MF Dnes

"Before Georges Méliès became a pioneer of special effect films one hundred and twenty years ago, he was a stage illusionist – and he conjured up inspiration for his film experiments from these magical performances. Now Jiří Havelka has turned it around in Hradec Králové's Drak Theatre: using Méliès' film techniques, he has created a theatrical play that is literally enchanting.(...) Last Trick doesn't even last an hour all in all, but it is an hour of extraordinarily intensive theatre. Havelka combines inspiration from Méliès with the legacy of the predecessors of black light theatre and puppetry inspirations of a nearly Punch and Judy style. And he adds his interest in paradoxes of time and space."

Michal Zahálka, Lidové noviny

AWARDS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Theatre Newspaper's Award for Dušan Hřebíček in category „The Best Actor of The Season” and for Jiří Havelka and Marek Zákostecký in category „Puppet Theatre” – Georges Méliés's Last Trick

ERIK Award for the “Best Puppet Performance of the Season” – Georges Méliés's Last Trick

Festival Spotkanie Toruń, Grand Prix in categories „The Best Actor, Director and Music” – Georges Méliés's Last Trick



THEATRE INFORMATION

Name of Theatre	Drak Theatre
Country & Region	Czech Republic / Hradec Králové Region
Postal Address	Hradební 632, 500 03 Hradec
Contact Number	+420 603 865 696
Executive Director	Tomáš Jarkovský
Artistic Director	Jakub Vašíček
Contact Person	Klára Vančáková
E-mail address	vancakova@draktheatre.cz, info@draktheatre.cz
Web	www.draktheatre.cz

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Title of the show - original:	POSLEDNÍ TRIK GEORGESE MÉLIÉSE
English translation:	GEORGES MÉLIÉS´ LAST TRICK
Authors	Jiří Havelka, Marek Zákostelecký
Director	Jiří Havelka
Art design	Marek Zákostelecký
Dramaturgy	Dominika Špalková
Music by	DVA
Date of premiere	5. 10. 2013
Duration of performance	60 minutes
Not Suitable for performing outdoor / Suitable for audience of age 9+ / non verbal	
Max. number of audience	350
Number of performers	5
Total touring number (m / f)	9 M / 3 F
Means of travel	2x Ford Tranzit, 1x IVECO
Accommodation	Total 12, Single 2, Double 5

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Stage Dimension (in meters)	
Minimal Width: 10m / Minimal Depth: 10m / Minimal Height: 5m	
Set-up Time: (in hours)	5:00
Dismantling Time: (in hours)	3:00
Electricity: (Watts)	3x 230/400 – 32 A
Lights (own) Request:	the possibility to connect own sound to the local XLR PA system (2 lines) .
Sound (own) / Projector (own) / Number of stage moves:	6
Location of stage moves:	the distance between the stage moves 0,5 m
Required depth from first move to stage horizon is at least	7 m.
Possibility of perfect dark in the hall / Horizon:	black / Curtains: black
Help with setting up:	presence of local technical staff at the time of construction (electricity)
Time of arrival	5 hours before the performance / Minimum number of dressing-rooms: 2
Another requests:	open fire on stage (candle, cigarettes), using fog/smoke machine (own) the sound and light technician sit in front of the forestage no audience allowed on balcony

COMPANY INFORMATION

Name of Company: Divadlo Drak a MIFD o.p.s. / Drak Theatre
Contact person: Klára Vančáková
Telephone: +420 603 865 696
e-mail: vancakova@draktheatre.cz
Web: www.draktheatre.cz

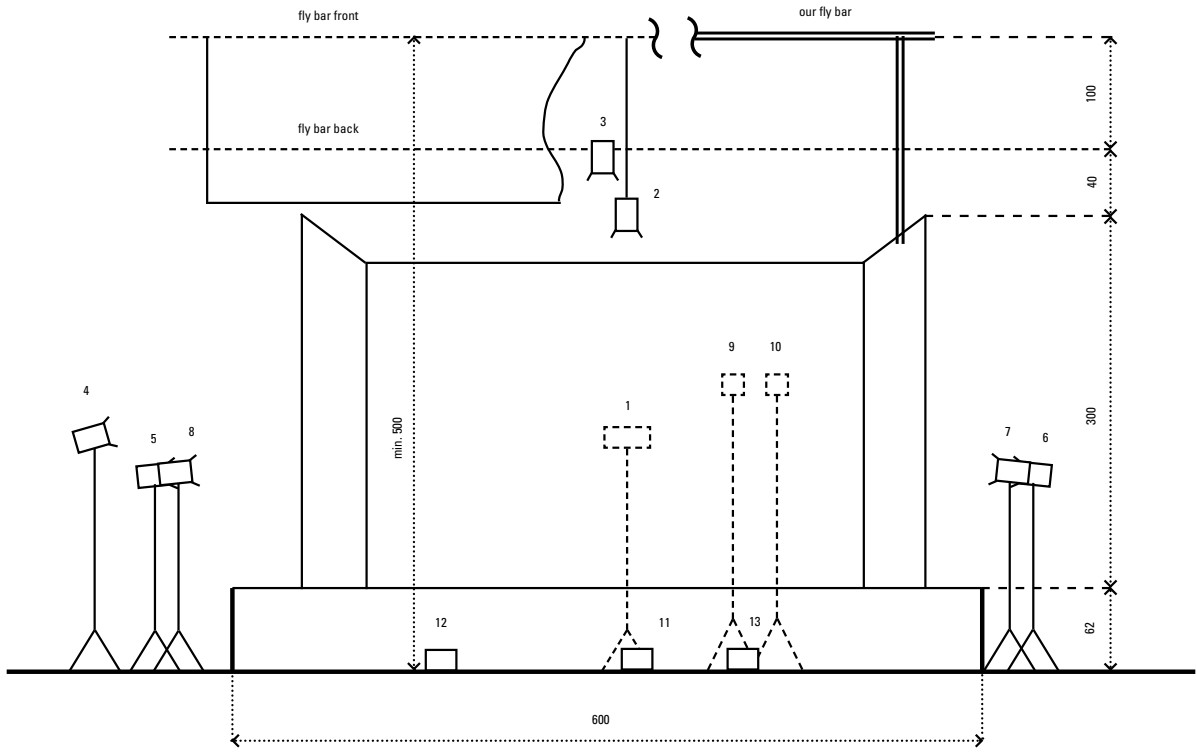
CAST

Luděk Smadiš
Milan Hajn
Petra Cicáková
Jan Popela
Milan Žďárský

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/decgUXSLvks>

www.draktheatre.cz

FRONT VIEW



VIEW FROM ABOVE

