

**Cultural tip: Premier of Piece of Pleasure May 22 at Ponec Theatre**

**The Tantehorse ensemble shines a light on today's burning questions through a unique physicality that reckons with risk and surrender. For the viewer with an open mind and imagination, their performances are a powerful experience. And it will be no different on May 22 at the premiere of the new production Piece of Pleasure in Ponec – the dance venue. A generational statement about a state of being, where crisis as a status quo does not seek solutions or overcoming, is inspired by the post-activism of the thinker Bay Akomolafa, the ex-Buddhist nun Kaira Jewel Lingo and the paintings of the artist duo Muntean and Rosenblum. Online ticket sales: <https://divadloponec.cz/cs/piece-pleasure>**

How would we identify a crisis if it had a human form? How would it look, think, communicate? Together with seven performers, we expose its physicality, we dive deep into the wounds testifying to our fulfilled lives. We indulge in the experience. We meet face to face with the crisis in a closed room, we wait, we play, we don't have to be anywhere in an hour. We hug each other. We sleep together, we smoke in the morning. We remain, we are, we surrender to the scarred body in the hope that "something" will happen. We practice faith in that "something" as well as faith that even "nothing" can be the result.

The authors of the concept and choreography are **Miřenka řechová** and **Markéta Vacovská**, who also directed **Piece of Pleasure**. The co-creators are the performers themselves: Aneta Bořková, Tereza Holubová, Kateřina Jabůrková, Daniela Kolková, Andrej Lyga, Eduard Adam Orszulik and Vi Tranová. "We invited the Italian choreographer, dramaturge and inspirer Mirko Guido, who has a successful career at Cullberg Ballet, Dansens Hus Stockholm, Work Space Brussels, PACT Zollverein, Summer Studios Rosas and others to the dramaturgical collaboration," Miřenka řechová and Markéta Vacovská said, highlighting what the audience can expect at **Piece of Pleasure**: "Seven young performers dealing with the possibilities of alternative existence in the contemporary world, live music by Vi Huyen Tran, monstrous paintings full of unattainable pleasure, sanctified wounds that we worship."

**About the authors:**

The **Tantehorse** ensemble is continuously engaged in the original creation of dance-movement, multi-genre and documentary projects with a strong emphasis on current social issues. Its domain is an extension to other artistic genres (film, fine art, performance art, installations and happenings), experimentation with form (e.g. site-specific dance variants, documentary escape games, the connection of storytelling and dance, lectures and performances) and an effort towards permanent development and the search for new means of expression in the contemporary theatre environment.

**Miřenka řechová** is a performer, director and choreographer, creating original projects in the field of docu-dance, multimedia and cross-over. She has been experimenting for a long time with genre overlaps, engaged themes and autobiographical material, both as a director and as a performer. With the Tantehorse ensemble, she supports budding performers with the curated Emergency Dances series and long-term Tantelab labs. She is also a co-founder of the Spitfire Company and dramaturge of Laterna Magika.

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**Markéta Vacovská** is a choreographer, dancer and performer. In the Czech Republic, she has collaborated with, for example, the Kolonie Theatre, Studio Hrdinů, the Tantehorse ensemble, Cirkus Mlejn, Cirkus TeTy or the Žongléros ensemble. She is a member of the Spitfire Company, with which she has created over a dozen productions as a performer or choreographer. She has received many Czech and foreign awards for the production of *One Step Before the Fall*. In 2020, she launched her auteur project *Separation*, which arose from her need to talk about a taboo topic such as the loss of a child. In 2021, she won an award for the production at the Czech Dance Platform, for exceptional performance and interpretation. The project was included in the wider nominations for the Thalia 2021 awards.

The **Piece of Pleasure** project was created in co-production with the Ponec Theatre and with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, the City of Prague, the State Cultural Fund of the Czech Republic, Micro and Macro Dramaturgies in Dance and the Creative Europe Program of the European Union and Vintage Room 31.

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