GHOSTS :: who's watching you?
An observation for one observer and one actor at a time
after the *«New York Trilogy»* by Paul Auster

A project by **mikeska:plus:blendwerk**
in coproduction with **Theaterhaus Gessnerallee Zurich**

The spectator's cell-phone is ringing. A client orders him to observe a person named "Black". The client puts the observer via cell-phone on the track. The observer follows Black to different locations in the city, which turns more and more into an artificial scenery. The credibility of reality is at stake.
First, the voice in the observer's ears sounds like a request by a stranger, and later on, as a commentary to the perception of the observer, almost as if he would talk to himself – as if he would permanently listen to his own internal voice. It also could be the voice of a stranger, in whose acoustic reflection a gap opens between the immediate surrounding and the aural and optical perception.
In their third project, which breaks up with the classical theatrical setting, Bernhard Mikeska and Dominic Huber extend the stage area of Theater Gessnerallee into the urban space of Zurich. Every 15 minutes an observer-actor couple starts on a journey along Zurich's district 4. Deeper and deeper, the observer penetrates into the city, the history and Black's world. He gradually gets caught up in the maelstrom of his strolling mind and in the focus of his own interest: he becomes the protagonist of the movie in his own head.

In their latest project «GHOSTS::who's watching you?» mikeska:plus:blendwerk aim at new variants in the practice of conventions of observing and theatre-going. As already seen in the previous works «Falls City::The Brandon Teena story» and «RASHOMON::truth lies next door», the spectator as observer gets into focus but remains at the same time in a safe and protected position from which he can actively watch and hear. He does not have to intervene or say anything but he still has the opportunity to do so…

mikeska:plus:blendwerk create spatial systems at the borderline between hyperrealism and extreme artificiality making a subtle use of light and sound. mikeska:plus:blendwerk consists of Bernhard Mikeska (director) and Dominic Huber (stage design). Bernhard Mikeska creates (after completing his doctor in theoretical physics about complex systems), theatrical evenings that re-evaluate and re-adjust the watching habits, attitudes and relation between actors and spectators. Dominic Huber is working as stage designer after graduating in architecture in both cities, Zurich and Berlin. The team works regularly together with blendwerk's cofounder, Christa Wenger (light & video) and actors from Zurich. After «Falls City :: The Brandon Teena story» (2005) especially the last work «Rashomon :: TRUTH LIES NEXT DOOR» (2006) gained extraordinary success. The piece has been invited to several theatre festivals around the world,among others to Fadjr International Theatre Festival in Tehran and IMPULSE 2007. Actor Sascha Geršak (Tajomaru) won the prize as "Best actor" of the Fadjr Festival Tehran.

with Miriam Fiordeponti, Sascha Geršak, Wowo Habdank, Dominique Müller, Andrea Schmid / Lara Körte, Luc Müller **director** Bernhard Mikeska **set design** Dominic Huber **costumes** Esther Krapiwnikow **dramaturge** Andreas Regelsberger **light** Christa Wenger **sound design** Martin Wigger **assistant** Charlotte von Bausznern **technical assistant** Jan Goettgens **production** blendwerk GmbH **Co-production** Theaterhaus Gessnerallee **sponsored by** Präsidialdepartement der Stadt Zürich, Fachstelle Kultur Kanton Zürich, ProHelvetia, Ernst Göhner Stiftung, Migros Kulturprozent

Next Shows November 06 - 08, 2008
within International European Theater Meeting at Theaterhaus Gessnerallee Zurich
Shows can be performed in English or German upon request

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