

Love in Fragments

Visual concept: Alexander Polzin
Choreography: Sommer Ulrickson
Violin: Gergana Gergova
Cello: Alban Gerhardt

Featuring music of Bach and Jörg Widmann (including 24 Duos for Violin and Cello by Widmann, solo cello pieces by Bach, and maybe the *Zweistimmige Inventionen* by Bach arranged for violin and cello) The programme follows the course of a relationship, falling in and out of love, in 8 fragments. The Cellist Alban Gerhardt and the violinist Gergana Gergova undertake this adventure with the Choreographer Sommer Ulrickson and sculptor Alexander Polzin. Between chosen pieces of Bach and Jörg Widmann they will investigate various terms and concepts from Roland Barthes *A Lover's Discourse*.

Scientists have shown it takes between ninety seconds and four minutes to decide if you fancy someone. Research has shown this has little to do with what is said, but rather: 55% is through body language/appearance (dance/visuals), 38% is the tone and speed of their voice (music) and only 7% is through what they say (text).

Fairly immediately after these four artists met and got to know each other's work, they decided they needed to create a project together. This came from a desire to move slightly away from each individual's comfort zone; concert stage, theatre, atelier and into an area where they can combine their talents and efforts to find a common, yet undiscovered language. They want to invite and challenge their audiences to engage as many of the senses as possible in order to take in the experience.

When you take apart the word "Fragment" you get 'a part broken off or detached', 'isolated, unfitted or incomplete'. As a verb: to collapse or break into fragments, disintegrate, divide, disunify. These words provoke associations that are active, destructive, explosive and sometimes desperate. Love in Fragments - to observe love in its single components. To see it as gutted, taken apart - to be examined like a puzzle. We shine a light on the pieces and try to understand - musically, physically, and visually - how they belong together or belonged together. One feels unequipped to deal with such a situation; perhaps we are missing some vital tools.

This space is a practice area - in order to get better, to develop the tools or to fail miserably.

A joint collaboration between Maestro Arts and HarrisonParrott