

# Songs for Alice

**Performing, Puppets and Stage: Michael Vogel**  
**Live Music: Johannes Frisch, Charlotte Wilde**  
**Directed by: Hendrik Mannes**  
**Texts by: Lewis Carroll**

The strange white rabbit and the mysterious Cheshire Cat, the fat Duchess, the egg faced Humpty Dumpty and the fabulous Jabberwocky, the extincted Dodo or the rowdy twins Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum: By no means are they nice figures out of a harmless children's story, but ludicrous representatives of a bizarre logic of the absurd and of an underlying desire. The mathematician, writer and photographer Lewis Carroll invented them to entertain his little girlfriends and collected their stories in the two novels „Alice in Wonderland“ and „Through the Looking Glass“, which became classics of the world literature.

„Songs for Alice“ extracts the poems from both volumes and transforms them into scenes and songs. Puppeteer and musicians carry us off into a somnambulant twilight zone of imagination and moments of revelation which show, why Carroll's Texts aren't just great children's literature but also inspired a diversity of artists like the writer James Joyce, surrealists like André Breton, the cognitive scientist Douglas R. Hofstadter or the British comedy group Monty Python. Directed by Hendrik Mannes this production walks the line between theatre and concert with soulful hits and noisy explosions, expressive puppets and poetic machines, quiet moments and great ballyhoo, catchy tunes and last dances.

*The White Knight: 'But here I must leave you. - You are sad, let me sing you a song to comfort you.'*

*Alice: 'Is it very long?'*

*The White Knight: 'It's long, but very, VERY beautiful. Everybody that hears me sing it - either it brings the TEARS into their eyes, or else.'*

*Alice: 'Or else what?'*

*The White Knight: 'Or else it doesn't, you know.'*

**A production by Figurentheater Wilde & Vogel**  
**co-produced by Lindenfels Westflügel Leipzig**  
**and Fitz! Zentrum für Figurentheater Stuttgart**

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**and Fonds Darstellende Künste e.V.**

## The Artists

### **Johannes Frisch**

has been working as double bass player and theatre musician in different projects and constellations for over two decades. Musical co-operation, mostly free improvisation, amongst others with Albert Einstein Trio, Ensemble Sondarc, Misha Feigin. Tours in Europe and the world as a member of the band Kammerflimmer Kollektief. Theatre music amongst others for figuren theater tübingen, Puppentheater Magdeburg and Nationaltheater Mannheim.

### **Hendrik Mannes**

has been working as a freelance theatre director since 1982. Next to drama productions he developed intermedial projects with dance, improvised music, live-painting and puppet theatre amongst others for Kunsthaus Tacheles or Sophiensaele Berlin. Projects with the theatre group Ratten 07 with homeless people at Volksbühne Berlin. 2003 assistant to Peter Brook for Becketts „Happy Days“. Co-operations in puppetry amongst others with Frank Soehnle, Kompania Domsday and Christoph Bochdansky.

### **Das Figurentheater Wilde & Vogel**

was founded in 1997 by the puppeteer Michael Vogel (graduate of Department for Puppetry Stuttgart) and the musician Charlotte Wilde as a professional freelance touring company based in Stuttgart, since 2009 in Leipzig. In 2003 Wilde & Vogel co-founded the Lindenfels Westflügel Leipzig, where they are the artistic directors. With their productions for adults and children, awarded with many international prizes, Wilde & Vogel have toured more than 30 countries worldwide. Co-operations amongst others with Frank Soehnle, Christoph Bochdansky, Florian Feisel and Kompania Domsday, Puppentheater der Stadt Halle, Nørregaards Teater Ebeltoft, Staatsoper Stuttgart, workshops in Germany and abroad.