

Dakh Daughters Band

At the international festival being held in Slovakia from 23 till 28 September, Divadelna Nitra, Ukraine is represented by Dakh Daughters Band. This is Ukrainian women's theatre and musical group led by Vlad Troitskyi. Their first performance took place in 2012 in the framework of GogolFest festival. Group positions itself as a freak cabaret.

Cabaret as a syncretic genre resembles theatre. In this case, we can say that this is a musical theatre. The organic combination of driving music, poetry recitation, provocative performance in grotesque. Rock, punk and folk are expressed on the stage as a powerful energy drink. Like a cocktail flavoured with political and social accents, but the main ingredients are love of the country and a call for freedom and peace.

They showed the program «Roses» at the festival in Slovakia. The program involves a symbiosis of musical genres and a theatrical performance by the six girls. The girls perform in short white dresses put on over gymnastic leotards with clown-white faces. Each of them is a virtuoso, plays an instrument singing and dancing at the same time. The team takes advantage of the compositions of different texts: Ukrainian music, folklore, poetry by P. Tichina, contemporary poet S. Zhadan. Several compositions performed by the Dakh Daughters are related to current events in Ukraine. This is a political and social dimension. For example, the composition Take it, which uses poems by S. Zhada, is connected with a war in the Donbas.

Take and then go.

We will never return,

Never be back here...

Composition Roses Donbas is a conceptual song. Donetsk in the past was called the city of a million roses. Now the word Donetsk for many is only associated with war. That is why, when the girls are singing this song, images of destroyed houses, arms, abandoned houses are emerging. Also another aspect, the social one, is related to this. Many people were forced to leave Donetsk and have become displaced.

The Dakh Daughters is not just a conceptual music in which every listener can see their meaning. This group makes the product, which has a political, social and artistic dimension. Despite the fact that head of the band Vlad Troitsky indicates that the group does not pursue a political aspect, the viewer sees it differently. The band represents Ukrainian culture in all its diversity. A powerful energy, a high degree of emotion, and above all – a professional

performance. The Dakh Daughters is a modern theatre performance based on music. This is a new format in theatre art, which allows to organically connecting multiple genres.