



Gagarin!

"/.../Gagarin! is a freewheeling cabaret-esque project that originated in Jurij Nagibin's children's book about the first astronaut – jam-packed with socialist phrases and a naïve sentimentality – turning it into a true-blooded theatre performance in which we find out everything (or at least enough) about Gagarin and everything (or at least more than enough) about how the Earth was spinning during the last century, and about the spin of those who dreamed of the heavens or even attempted to fly there. But the Puppet Theatre Maribor is neither moralizing nor trying to wallow in nostalgic memories of the (some would say good) old days; history is simply a chain of lucky, less lucky, and unlucky events about which any lamentation is pointless and which we might take as a reminder or – if we managed to save our bacon – as some sort of interesting experience. Adam Kubišta, Johana Vaňousová, Elena Volpi, Anže Zevnik and Jakub Vašíček demonstrate that there is another way. The Czech way./.../"
(From *Some Thoughts During the Performance Gagarin: Czech? Yes, Please*, a puppetry review by Peter Rak, Delo, 4th September 2012)

"/.../This performance displays the typical strokes of Czech puppetry tradition: it is fast, inventive, and executed in such a seemingly effortless manner as if speaking and singing in four foreign languages, all while dancing, were a cakewalk. The imaginative humorous additions overshadow the (intentional?) linguistic mishaps and charmingly clumsy finagling with the text in hidden nooks of the scene, most likely due to the requirements of moving around the minimalistic and functionally utilized scene./.../"
(From *From the Universe to the Seed of Life*, a puppetry review by Barbara Gavez Volčjak, Večer, 19th September 2012)