



franz  
ensemble

# THE POOR FRIDDLER

puppet theatre concert  
based on franz grillparzer



## artist biographies

**franz ensemble** Expansive chamber music, compact orchestra. The eight musicians of the franz ensemble – recognised soloists and prize winners of major competitions – are united by their passion for playing together and known for captivating audiences with their energetic interpretations. Equally dedicated to performing the music of their namesake Franz Schubert and (re)discovering hidden treasures of the repertoire, franz ensemble is also actively expanding the genre through new concert formats and commissioned works by composers such as Helena Winkelman and Johannes Mutschmann. In 2020, their debut recording featuring the music of Ferdinand Ries was recognised with an OPUS Klassik, and the ensemble has since maintained a busy schedule of appearances at renowned festivals including Musikfest Bremen, Kissinger Summer and Gezeitenkonzerten.

franzensemble.de

**helena winkelman** is widely considered one of Switzerland's most interesting and versatile musicians. She began composing in 1998 during a year abroad in New York and has continued throughout her prize-winning career as a soloist and chamber musician. Today her music is performed by ensembles the world over, including the Arditti Quartett, Steamboat Switzerland, Ensemble Phoenix and the Munich Chamber Orchestra.

helenawinkelman.ch

**janna mohr** was raised in Zurich and studied physical theatre in Brussels, theatre of the oppressed in Rio de Janeiro and contemporary puppet theatre in Berlin with grants from the Migros Culture Percentage and the German Academic Scholarship Foundation. She has served as assistant director and theatre pedagogue for a multitude of projects within the experimental independent scene as well as at established theatres such as Schauspielhaus Zürich. As a puppeteer, she has performed at the Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona under the direction of William Kentridge and has been a permanent member of the ensemble of Theater Orchester Biel Solothurn since the 22/23 season.

**sebastian ryser** is a Swiss puppeteer and director. He studied art history at the University of Zurich and later contemporary puppet theatre at the Ernst Busch Academy for Dramatic Arts, where he was engaged by the Volksbühne Berlin, among others. He has since been active as both performer and director at established theatres and within the experimental independent scene. Concentrated at the intersection of various disciplines and media, his work strives to create comprehensive visual theatre. Ryser was recently awarded a development grant by the St. Gallische Kulturstiftung and has works in production at various festivals throughout Germany and Switzerland.

sebastianryser.ch

**moritz schönbrodt** is a puppeteer, writer and puppet maker. After completing his studies in contemporary puppet theatre in Berlin, he further studied contemporary arts practice and literary composition in Bern and Biel. Schönbrodt gained experience as a puppet maker in the workshop of Ingo Mewes, where he worked on a large puppet for MiR Gelsenkirchen's production of "Frankenstein" as well as the theatrum mundi project "Von der Kraft der Luft" (On the Strength of the Air) for the city of Magdeburg. The dramatist's continuing collaboration with the composer Johannes Kürschner explores the intersection of music and puppet theatre, most recently in the production "Driving Forces" at the Spreehalle Berlin.

schoenbrodtkuerschner.de



**Programme:** Concert experience with puppet and shadow theatre

**Duration:** 50 minutes, no intermission

**Personell:** 7 musicians, 1 puppeteer, 1 stage/lighting technician

**Room:** Black-box with elevated stage or raked seating (should the intended room not meet these requirements, please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss possibilities.)

**Stage Dimensions:** Minimum 8×4 m (Width×Depth)

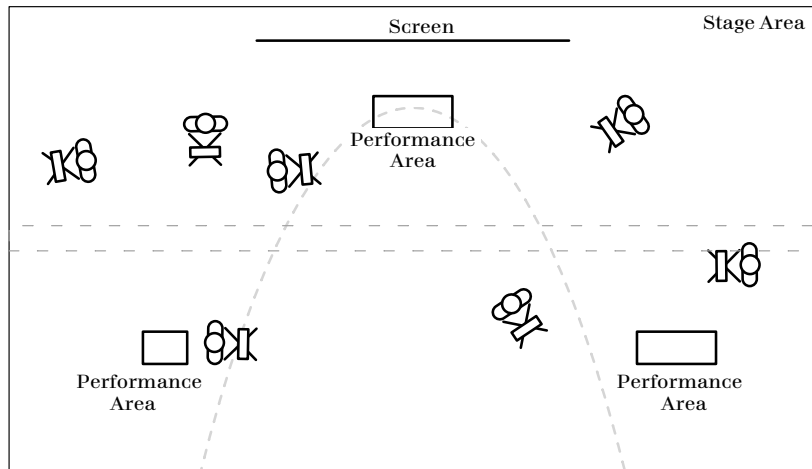
**Lighting:** The organiser shall provide stage lighting (minimum requirements can be found under “Lighting Plan”). Should the organiser not have access to theatre lighting, lighting equipment can be rented upon request.

**Technical contact:** Janna Mohr, [janna.mohr@posteo.de](mailto:janna.mohr@posteo.de)  
Sebastian Ryser, [sebastian.ryser@bluewin.ch](mailto:sebastian.ryser@bluewin.ch)

**Advertising:** A3 Posters, Programmes/Flyers A6 will be provided

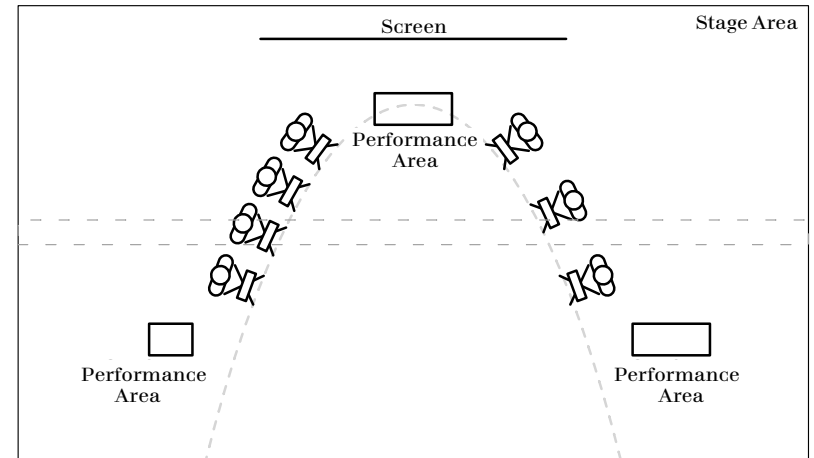


Position 1 (Beginning)



Audience

Position Part 2: Remainder of work

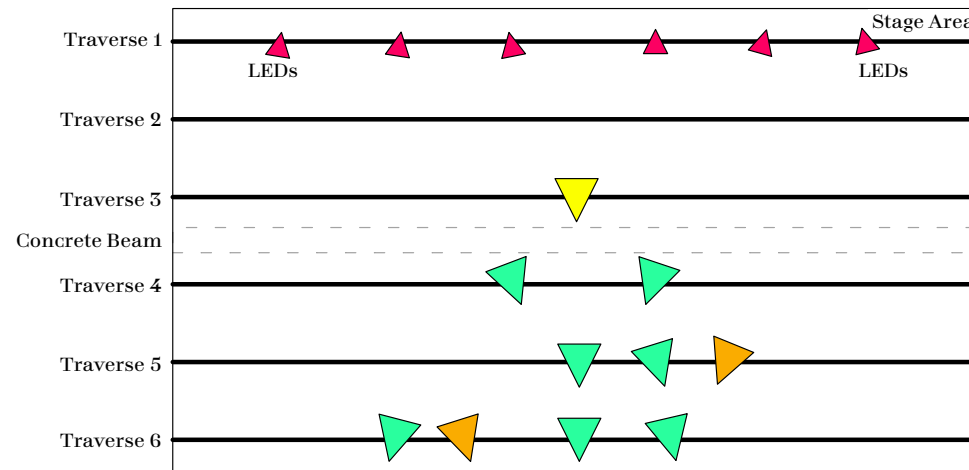


Window

Audience

- PAR
- ERS
- Fresnel

Position of rear LEDs tbd at the lighting rehearsal



Audience



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