

Spectacle

Marzabotto

(based on documentary evidence and popular testimony)

Produced by:

Associazione Culturale Ca' Rossa / CentroTeatrale per l'Oralità

with the collaboration of:

- The Emilia-Romagna Region
- The Bologna Province Arts Council
- The Mountain Community of the Five Bolognese Valleys
- The Co-Operative Theatre of Budrio

written by : Carlo Lucarelli
and Matteo Belli

music: Paolo Vivaldi

directed by and starring: Matteo Belli

director's assistant: Katia Pietrobelli

scenery, lighting and sound : Luigi Sermann

costumes through the collaboration of: Ileana Colognesi

organization: Maurizio Sangirardi

graphic design: Mirella Pagin

One of the worst massacres of the Second World War –and of the whole twentieth century – is re-read in the light of how history was to treat it from the immediate postwar years onwards.

This terrible event was to undergo judicial proceedings that seem to have set out to cover up investigations into who was responsible for it out of respect for the new geopolitical balance of the postwar Europe.

In the era in which a re-armed Germany became a fully active member of NATO (1955), some European governments and courts thought it 'inconvenient' to re-open cases liable to cause serious international embarrassment, and so they remained buried in the archives, sometimes ending up truly forgotten.

After all, if Germany had had to pay for its mistakes, then what about other countries, like Italy – which had certainly not come out of its campaigns in Greece, Ethiopia and Montenegro smelling of roses?

File number 1937 remained hidden until 1994, when it was found in a wardrobe with its doorsturned against the wall at the end of a corridor in the Military Public Prosecutor's Office in Rome.

Our narration bases itself upon documents and popular testimony to tell the story of the massacre of 770 civilians in and around Marzabotto from the 29th of September 1944 to the 5th of October by various bodies of German and East European troops.

It also continues with a story of silence and missing court cases lasting up to the present day and bearing witness, once again, of how memory is perhaps one of the very few instruments allowing us to give a voice to the voiceless and transmit the sense of sacrifice to further generations.

This is a performance that offers itself to the public in light of the fact that we should never forget that there is a Theatre of Narration that is not merely superficial but also able to reveal hidden meanings that are part of the warp and weft of reality and that the language of the arts can help to make clearer to the spectator.

We should particularly like to thank Loris Lepri and Germano Maccioni for the documentary “Lo stato d'eccezione” and, for their testimony, Salvina Astrali, Walter Cardi, Renato Clerici, Maria Dani, Caterina Fornasini, Ferruccio Laffi, Gianfranco Lorenzini, Cornelia Paselli, Fernando Piretti, Elide Ruggeri and Lucia Sabbioni.

- **length:** 90 minuti

ITALIANS CONTACTS

Associazione Ca' Rossa - Centro Teatrale per l'Oralità

- **ART DIRECTOR:** Matteo Belli

web site: www.matteobelli.net

email: belli.matteo@gmail.com

celular: +39 335 7054129

- **TECHNICAL DIRECTOR:** Luigi Sermann

web site: www.mann74.com

email: mann74@tele2.it

mobile: +39 393 9844510

- **ORGANIZATION – PROMOTION :** Maurizio Sangirardi

email: maurizio.sangirardi@fastwebnet.it

mobile: +39 339 3953869

- **WEB DESIGNER:** Mirella Pagin

web site: www.mimmagini.it

email: mirellapagin@libero.it

mobile: +39 347 9066685