



FUTURE NARRATIVES

for Planet Earth

Performance in Prishtina

Last May the Future Narratives for Planet Earth project marked a significant step forward with the *The Premeditated Killing of a Dream* that took place in PRISHTINA, Kosovo.

Held at the ODA Theatre, <https://teatrioda.com/en/homepage/>, the starting point of this play is the story of a crime, which happened 25 years ago, in a recently liberated Prishtina, which was then administered by the United Nations Mission in Kosovo.

According to unofficial data, over sixty percent of Albanian villages in Kosovo were burned and destroyed by the Serb army and police during the war. Therefore, when the war ended in June 1999, shelter was one of the most pressing issues for the majority of people.

The United Nations Administration had no swift solution to this problem. But a 'solution' was offered by people from the underworld, businessmen and construction firms, who rushed to exploit this 'fruitful terrain' for personal profit.

A society traumatized by the war, and in an epic struggle to restore life, unwillingly became subordinate to this shadowy group that offered a housing 'solution'.

Prishtina started to grow, with buildings planted overnight, of poor construction quality, and without any kind of urban plan, or observance of building criteria. Parks were turned into construction sites; public spaces were shrunk by buildings. Small houses were demolished, and on their site, skyscrapers were planted.





At that time, and almost alone, Rexhep Luci, architect and Prishtina's head of spatial planning, tried to establish urbanism controls. But that was not a time of people who thought about the future. Rexhep Luci was threatened a number of times by people from the underworld and then, on 11 September 2000, he was killed by an unknown assailant inside the entrance to his apartment in Prishtina. Rexhep Luci is like Ibsen's Dr. Stockmann.

Except that for his truth about Prishtina, he paid a much higher price. Today, the issue of illegal construction in Prishtina and in Kosovo has taken on catastrophic dimensions. Construction, without plan or control, has made our cities suffocating, and public spaces, unsafe and unfriendly.

"PRISHTINA. The Premeditated Killing of a Dream" address these issues on stage and invites us to rethink our relationship with, and responsibility for the city, at a time when this destructive cycle has become institutionalized and normalized.

In the 25 years since the end of the war, the city of Prishtina has transformed into a large construction site – perhaps the biggest site on the planet. A parallel, ghost city, looms over it, a threat to life and the future.

Director: Blerta Neziraj
Ass. Director: Gëzim Hasani
Art Director: Aurela Kadriu
Actors: Armend Smajli, Verona Koxha, Shpëtim Selmani, Kushtrim Qerimi, Afrim Muçaj // Set design: Alice Vanini
Costumes: Njomza
Luci // Composer: Tomor Kuçi
Choreographer: Gjergj Prevazi
Video: Besim Ugzmajli
Researcher and artistic collaborator: Agron Demi & Instituti Atlas
Dramaturg: Jeton Neziraj
Dritat: Mursel Bekteshi
Development support: Sven Skoric
Translator: Alexandra Channer
Coordination: Flaka Rustemi
Technical support: Bujar Bekteshi, Adem Salihu, Nikolas Pipero, Arbresha Caka, Njomza Rexha.

*Based on the play "In Five Seasons: An Enemy of the People" by Jeton Neziraj. The production is part of the project "Future Narratives for Planet Earth" supported by the European Union, through Creative Europe. Partners: UniT Graz (Austria) Het Nieuwstedeljik (Belgium), Theatre Bellevue (Netherlands), Cesie Ets (Italy), The Hessisches Landestheater Marburg GmbH (Germany), Mhtconsult (Denmark).

Landscape with Radioactive Dogs



The beginning of 2026 marked another important step for the *Future Narratives for Planet Earth* project. Another important performance produced by one of the partners, Theater Bellevue, took place in February.

Inspired by his family history, writer and director Espen Hjort lets a pack of radioactive dogs pursue a Norwegian professor. The performance takes us to a mysterious research institute during the early years of the Cold War, where radiation experiments are conducted on dogs. Five actors play both humans and dogs in an ever-mutating story about progress and responsibility.

When one dog escapes and mutates, a series of scenes unfolds that connects seemingly unrelated characters: the professor's wife, a caretaker who buries the dogs, an invisible director, a young photographer, and a performance artist appearing at the summer party. A hallucinatory chain reaction is set in motion, one that far outlasts the Cold War.

With *Landscape with Radioactive Dogs*, Espen creates a poignant performance about the consequences of human action. How can we look beyond the human? What is justice in the relationship between human and animal?

I freeze

I stare in astonishment

The dog won't let go

Text, direction Espen Hjort

Play Marlies Heuer, Lowie van Oers, Anne-Chris Schulting, Romy Vreden, Clarette Schouten

Lighting design Varja Klosse

Costume design Daphne de Winkel

A performance by Theater Bellevue

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