

International Theatre Festival  
for Young Audiences

# NAKS

2 - 4 November  
Valga



[naksfestival.ee](https://naksfestival.ee)



# Welcome, little and big theatregoer!

Theatre and performing arts in general are always pushing boundaries. Inside the person and set by the environment - outside the person. It doesn't matter whether these creative endeavours are aimed at a young or an adult viewer, the performing arts always offer food for thought, broaden the horizons, increase the ability to empathise, often also visual pleasure and sometimes the direct joy of participation.

Valga is a wonderfully beautiful small town on the southernmost border of Estonia. Before the emergence of two independent states, the city of Valka, located on the Valga and Latvian sides, was one entity. Now the state border runs in the middle of the city, on Sepa Street, and according to the Schengen agreement, a symbolic border point, but the general cultural space is still one. The inhabitants of border areas have their own charms and pains, worries and joys. Together with the festival's organising team, we have set the goal of bringing the joy of experience to Valga.

With the young audience in mind, we have chosen different productions for the program that speak to the young audience. The productions in the program are each remarkable in some way. At the same time, the festival is also a miniature overview of good examples of performance art for young viewers in Estonia and abroad. This time the focus of the Children's Culture Seminar organised as part of the festival is bullying and exclusion.

There will be a reading of two newly translated plays by a young audience, in cooperation with the French Institute in Estonia - "Nowhereland" by Nathalie Papin and the play "Stones in the stomach" by the Swedish playwright Rebecca Örtman. At the workshops organised by the festival, the smallest theatre enthusiasts can look behind the scenes of theatre making.



Creative director of the festival  
**Marek Demjanov**



## THURSDAY 02.11

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- 11.00 Kellerteater "The School of Horror" at Culture and Hobby Centre of Valga, the oval hall
- 12.30 Public reading of Rebecca Örtman's play "Stone in a Stomach" at Culture and Hobby Centre of Valga, lobby
- 15.00 & 18.00 Mine Nilay Productions "Blikk" (The Look) at Culture and Hobby Centre of Valga, the grand hall + mini-discussion at 15.00
- 19.30 Opening of the festival in the lobby. Festival club at the Culture and Hobby Centre of Valga

## FRIDAY 03.11

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- 10.00-13.00 Children's Culture seminar "Forgive me!"
- 11.00 Kellerteater "The School of Horror" at Culture and Hobby Centre of Valga, the oval hall
- 12.00 public reading of the Nathalie Paplins' play "Nowhereland" at Culture and Hobby Centre of Valga, lobby
- 13.00 & 16.00 Estonian Theatre for Young Audiences "Every Brilliant Thing" at Culture and Hobby Centre of Valga, the grand hall
- 18.00 Festival club at the Culture and Hobby Centre of Valga, mingle.

## SATURDAY 04.11

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- 13.00 Piip and Tuut Teater "Tallinn Bears" at Culture and Hobby Centre of Valga, the grand hall
- 15.00 Closure of the festival, lobby





# "Every Brilliant Thing"

(Estonian Theatre for Young Audiences)

<b>November 3rd at 13:00 &amp; 16:00</b>	<b>Duration:</b> 90 min	<b>Age:</b> 13+
<b>Valga Culture Center, grand hall</b>		

A young person must suddenly cope with a situation where their mother can no longer see a way to go on with her life. Our protagonist starts writing down things that are worth living for, hoping it might help their mother feel better:

1. Ice cream.
2. Water fights.
3. Being allowed to stay up past bedtime and watch TV.
4. The colour yellow.
5. Things with stripes.
6. Merry-go-rounds.
7. When people fall.



This begins a list of every brilliant thing, which keeps getting longer and more detailed throughout the protagonist's life, until it gradually turns into something they can themselves hold on to in difficult times. It is a story of growing up and accepting life's twists and turns. And how even in the deepest of darkness there is always light at the end of the tunnel.

Cast: **Getter Meresmaa** or **Doris Tislar** or **Risto Vaidla**

Author: **Duncan Macmillan**

Translated by **Pirjo Jonas**

Director: **Tanel Jonas** (Ugala)

Stage artist: **Kristjan Suits** (Tallinna Linnateater)

Lighting design: **Triin Rahnu**





# "Blikk" / "The Look"

## (Mine Nilay Productions ft Kloden Theatre)



<b>November 2nd at 15:00 &amp; 18:00</b>	<b>Age:</b> 13+
<b>Valga Culture Center, grand hall</b>	

What happens when bullying is concealed? When someone looks at you in a bad way, giving you a dirty look again and again when no one sees them? What happens when things go too far and split the group of friends? What happens if a video is leaked, and someone ends up hitting someone?

Being subjected to "dirty looks" can be experienced as threatening, bullying and exclusionary and can quickly form the basis for larger conflicts. And when good girls become warriors with no inhibitions, the conflict can grow completely out of control...

BLIKK is a performance for youth and young adults which brings dirty looks, bullying, girl gangs and violence to the stage. Only girls participate in this explosive and dramatic play that punches the audience right in the gut.

Through her work with genres such as street theatre, the Norwegian-Turkish director Mine Nilay Yalcin has been concerned with accessibility, diversity and representation in the performing arts.

In collaboration with Kloden Theatre and SPKRBOX

Please note that the performance contains strong language and depictions of violence.

Script, director, producer: : **Mine Nilay Yalcin**

Translated by **Lise Lærdal Bryn**

Costume design: **Synne Reichelt Føreland**

Dramaturgy: **Christine Helland**

Lighting design: **Clement Irbil**

Technical manager: **Kai Luni Fjell**

Cast: **Hina Zaidi, Madeleine F. Røseth, Julia Sørensen, Amalie Hyun Ju Eggen, Lisa Birkenes Thun**





# "Tallinn Bears"

(Piip and Tuut Teater)



<b>November 4th at 13:00</b>	<b>Duration:</b> 130 min	<b>Age:</b> 6+, family
<b>Valga Culture Center, grand hall</b>		

"Tallinn Bears" is a musical based on a libretto by Lauris Gundarsi and music and lyrics by Siim Aimla. The musical tells a story about a bear family, who is forced to leave their home as the city is expanding to forest. Cornered animals behave unpredictably, and so do people when bears appear on the urban landscape.

Young bear Aka has a plan to attack the city, to scare and to cause chaos in order to make clear to the people living in the city that bears have been living in forests way before the city was established and so bears have also rights to their home like people have.

During the bears' invasion, a ten-year-old girl, Hele, is taken from the city. Imprisoned in a cave among bears, she turns out to be the first person to be able to communicate with bears. Hele understands that in order to live side by side and be together we have to listen to each other, understand and try to find common solutions.

The bear family gives an opportunity to young and older spectators to identify themselves with characters on the stage and to live along to problems that seem impossible to solve at first. The musical reflects our attitude towards family, strangers and the nature around us, talking about staying together in difficult circumstances and about humanity even if the main characters are bears.

Author and director: **Lauris Gundars**

Music and lyrics: **Siim Aimla**

Artist: **Inga Vares**

Choreographer: **Marge Ehrenbusch**

Lighting designer: **Priidu Adlas**

Poster art: **Joonas Sildre**

Cast: **Haide Männamäe, Grete Konksi, Maarja Tammemägi, Stefan Hein, Rauno Kaibiainen, Toomas Tross**





# "The School of Horror"

## (Kellerteater)



<b>02 and 03 November at 11.00</b>	<b>Duration:</b> 1 hour	<b>Age:</b> 8+
<b>Valga Culture Center, oval hall</b>		

Children of all ages are fascinated by horror stories and urban legends. We are all familiar with spine-tingling stories such as "In a Dark, Dark Room", "The Green Ribbon" or "The Night it Rained". Such campfire stories have inspired the book entitled "School of Horror". Its author, Grigoriy Oster, is also known as the screenwriter of the animated films "PT for the tail" and "38 parrots".

The horror stories associated with this genre are witty and funny. The typical characters in such stories include a demon of studies, enchanted gym equipment, a bloodsucking blackboard eraser, and many others. These short stories take us back to the Soviet era, to a 70's school where the reign of total order and an outdated educational system create an environment that is absurd and goofy. "School of Horror" is a parody that draws on horror film clichés.

The play leads the young audience to realise that the changing, uncertain, and unsettling world around us - about which the media tells us so much - is not so scary after all. In fact, the play advises that we look at the world through the lens of humour, absurdity, and irony because, if you can laugh at the "monster in the closet", it won't look so scary anymore.

Director, dramaturgy: **Virko Annus**  
Artist: **Britt Urbla Keller**  
Lighting design: **Rene Topolev**  
Sound design: **Andrus Kanter**  
Translated by **Ilona Martson**  
Cast: **Tarmo Männard**







# Childrens' Culture Seminar

## "Forgive me!"

In this years' seminar lectures and performances will be given by four performers with different backgrounds and experiences with this topic.

At 10 o'clock Writer Lauri Räpp explains what state and situation bullying can lead to in the human soul based on life experiences and many encounters with young people.

At 10.40 will be the front speaker educationist Tiiu Kuurme whose passion is to find solutions against bullying in our schools, homes and in society overall.

At 11.20 Policemen from Valga County give us an overview about what is happening in Valga County and introduce us to our rights and opportunities to notice bullying and to stop it.

at 12 o'clock public reading of Nathalie's Paplin play "No One's' land" Nathalie Paplin'i

Seminar is free for everyone!

<b>03 November at 10.00</b>	<b>Duration:</b> 3 hours
<b>Valga Culture Centre</b>	



# Readings of the plays

## Nathalie Papin "Nowhereland"

Translated by Reeli Pärn

**Friday 03.11 at 12:00 in the gallery  
of the Valga Culture and Hobby Center**

"Nowhereland" is a fairy tale about a land whose king has caged every last sound, voice or sigh, i.e. all kinds of emotions accompanying life, and imprisoned in the lake all the colors that make the world beautiful. The king is sure that the princess will finish what he started and will also destroy the lake itself. Unexpectedly, a young man appears in the country and changes the course of things.

**Starring: Anette Lee, Riko Pähno, Eke Egor and Mario Susi**  
Supervisor Maria Usk

## Rebecca Örtman "Stones in the Stomach"

Translator Heidi Rannik

**Thursday 02.11 at 12:20 in the gallery  
of the Valga Culture and Hobby Center**

"Stones in the Stomach" is a story about three children who meet in the forest. Each of them has their own fears and worries, which are like stones in the stomach and hurt. Together they decide to get rid of these stones.

**Starring: Maria Tamm, Hannamaria Pohh, Eke Egor, Riko Pähno**  
Supervisor Kaido Rannik



# Stick puppet workshop

## Puppet Theater Museum

In the stick puppet workshop, several different types of puppets are introduced, after which theatrical stick puppets are made. After the doll is completed, each born character can step onto the theatre stage for the first time. Scissors, glue and felt are used in the workshop.

The workshops last 40 minutes and will take place on November 3rd in Kaseke and Walko kindergartens.





# TEAM

## **MAREK DEMJANOV**

Creative director  
marek@piipjatuut.ee

## **ANNIKA LAND-REISSER**

Festival project manager  
naksvalga@gmail.com

## **MARIA USK**

Festival coordinator  
mariausk@gmail.com

## **LISETTE METSNIIT**

Sales manager and sponsorship relations  
naksfestival@gmail.com

## **REELI LONKS**

Organizational support  
naksfestival@gmail.com

## **TEVE RAJAMETS**

Marketing, social media  
trajamets@gmail.com

## **TÕNU KARPOV**

Technical manager  
tonu@valgakultuurikeskus.ee

## **TUULI POTIK**

Festival coordinator

## **CARMEN SELJAMAA**

Festival design and visuals

## **INGA VARES**

Festivali artist

## **MART LAUL**

Festival photographer

## **TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

Tamber Juzar, Marek Vodi,  
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Kirill Balihhin

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Marek Demjanov, Jaanika Juhanson,  
Tuuli Potik, Kaido Rannik, Maria Usk

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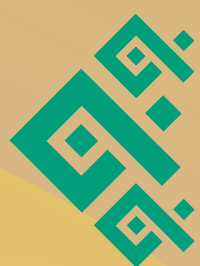


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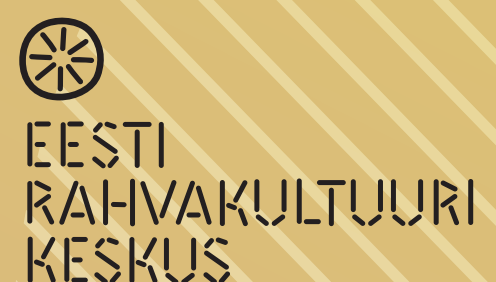
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