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Forum Neues Musiktheater der Staatsoper Stuttgart

Il cielo sulla terra

Music Theater by Stefano Scodanibbio

In Cooperation with the Terra di Teatri Festival der Provincia di Macerata

Premiere: June 1, 2006, 8 p.m.

additional performances: June 2 and 3, also at 8 p.m.

Introduction: 7:15 p.m.

After the additional performances there will be a discussion with the production team

Public rehearsal: May 29, 2006, 7 p.m.

The public is invited to see how things work at the Forum Neues Musiktheater by viewing a rehearsal of *Il cielo sulla terra*.

July 23, 2006, Performance in Macerata, Italy

Composition and conducting: Stefano Scodanibbio / **Conception:** Stefano Scodanibbio, Gianni Dessì, Giorgio Agamben / **Staging, costumes, lighting:** Gianni Dessì / **Dramatic realization:** Jörg Behr / **Video:** Claudius Brodmann / **Sound design:** to be announced

Choreography and dance: Alexandra Gilbert, Damien Jalet

Trombone: Mike Svoboda / **Percussion:** Michael Kiedaisch / **E-Bass & E-Guitar:** Gianluca Gentili / **Piano:** Fabrizio Ottaviucci / **Strings:** Emiliano Amadori, Dario Calderone, Giorgio Casati, Paolo Fumagalli, Filippo Gianinetti, Sebastiano Severi

Children: Members of the children's chorus of the Staatsoper Stuttgart

An Exploratory Journey to Utopia

Stefano Scodanibbio's new work *Il cielo sulla terra* for two dancers, fifteen children, ten instrumentalists, video, and live electronics takes a close look at the utopia(s) of the twentieth century. It provides a cross section of aesthetic and political revolutionary currents, from the trailblazers Marx and Rimbaud to Breton, from the Beat generation to those of 1968 and 1977. In Bologna in 1977 a new youth movement arose that was bitterly combated by the police, with great militancy shown by both sides. The 1970s represent the composer's youth, and hence his revolutionary period; many lists of themes and books from the 1970s and even quotations of pop music from the period in this work testify to that. An important contribution was given by Giorgio Agamben, who is one of

the most frequently discussed contemporary philosophers in Italy, because he appears in the media taking stands on contemporary sociopolitical questions.

“Utopia should not be thought of as something that will become true someday,” Scodanibbio warns. Rather, utopia is the indispensable beauty of the present. For that reason, Scodanibbio has given over much of the action to children: the true humanity that he wants to show is revealed in childhood.

Stefano Scodanibbio is a contrabassist and composer. He has become famous for his virtuosic performance, enhanced by previously unimagined timbres produced by new playing techniques, which John Cage described as “absolutely magic.” He worked with Luigi Nono and Giacinto Scelsi and has performed at all the major international music festivals. His compositions were selected for the festival of the International Society of Contemporary Music in 1990, 1993, 2002, and 2006. In 1983 he founded the Rassegna di Nuova Musica, a festival for new music that takes place every year in Macerata, Italy. In 2003 he performed in *Im Spiegel wohnen* at the Forum Neues Musiktheater.

Il cielo sulla terra was produced in cooperation with the Terra di Teatri Festival of the Provincia di Macerata and will be performed there in July.

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Wir stiften Zukunft

Das Forum Neues Musiktheater der Staatsoper Stuttgart wird gefördert von der Landesstiftung Baden-Württemberg und dem Partner der Staatsoper Stuttgart, der Landesbank Baden-Württemberg.

LB BW

Landesbank Baden-Württemberg

Partner der Staatsoper Stuttgart und des Zentrums für Kunst und Medientechnologie Karlsruhe (ZKM).