



# Solace

of Uta Gebert



production 2018

# Solace

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PRODUCTION 2018  
Show up from 12 years old  
DURATION: 55 min

## UTA GEBERT

| Artistic direction of Numen Company

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## GENERAL INFORMATION



DIRECTOR: Uta Gebert

CONCEPTION | STAGE DESIGN |

PUPPETS: Uta Gebert

ACT: Uta Gebert; Marine Chesnais or Laura Siegmund

MUSIC: Hahn Rowe

LIGHT DESIGN: Jérôme Houlès, Uta Gebert

DRAMATIC CONSULTATION: Meriam Bousselmi;  
Geeske Otten, Ruth Mariën

COSTUMES: Sonia Albartus

ARTISTIC PARTICIPATION: Gabriel Hermand-Priquet;  
Ursula Gebert

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT |

COMMUNICATION: Sophie Galibert

ARTISTIC AND ORGANISATIONAL SUPPORT: Kathrin Rachow;  
Silvia Brendenal

LIGHT AND MUSIC ON TOUR: Jérôme Houlès / Paul Friedrich

PRODUCTION: Numen Company

COPRODUCTION: Festival Mondial des Théâtres de Marionnettes Charleville-Mézières | TJP - Centre dramatique national of Alsace | Figurateatret i Nordland | Le Manège - Scène Nationale of Reims | Espace Jéliote, scène conventionnée arts de la marionnette / Communauté de communes du Piémont Oloronais | Le théâtre des 4 Saisons, Scène conventionnée musique(s) / Ville de Gradignan | SCHAUBUDE BERLIN | T-Werk Potsdam | with the support of the *Fonds Transfabrik* - French-German fund for Performing Arts.

WITH THE SUPPORT OF: Mouffetard - Théâtre des arts de la marionnette of Paris; Centre de la Marionnette de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles in Tournai.

## FIRST TOUR

*SOLACE* - by Numen Company

Show up from 12 years old

DURATION: 55 min

Tour ensemble: 4 people

STAGE: 10 m x 6 m (playground 6 x 6 m)

HIGHT: min 4 m

AUDIENCE: Approx. 200 persons

FIRST TOUR DATES 2018 :

TJP - CDN | Strasbourg (France)

Manège - Scène Nationale | Reims (France)

Figurteatret i Nordland | Lofoten (Norway)

SCHAUBUDE BERLIN (Germany)

T-Werk | Potsdam (Germany)

Fidena Festival | Bochum (Germany)

Espace Jéliote | Oloron Sainte Marie (France)

Théâtre des 4 Saisons | Gradignan (France)

Blickwechselfestival | Magdeburg (Germany)





## PRESENTATION

### THE NUMEN COMPANY

NUMEN Company is a synonym for the artistic renewal of the contemporary puppet theatre that transcends the boundaries of the genre. Over the course of her career, Uta Gebert did cooperations with several European theatres that support and sponsor her. Starting with a self-managed solo in 2005 up to the award Création et Expérimentation of the Institut de la Marionnette in Charleville-Mézières in 2015, the performer and scenographer incorporated a contemporary style into a form of art that is, up to today, influenced by tradition.

SHE uses the stage as a space for scenic experiments and artistic research, her creativity is inspired by intuition, inventive curiosity and productive spontaneity. Uta Gebert develops her own language on the stage that is marked by special visual aesthetics. An objective style of narration and a structural minimalism give each of her productions a precise and essential touch. She creates mysterious visuals of poetic beauty and an enormous power of seduction, beyond the well-known reality.

HER productions are situated in the in-between, on the threshold between life and death. Uta Gebert turns the stage into a ritualistic place without any mundane sense of time and creates a fascinating imaginative space into which the spectators can dive deep. Somewhere in the subtle balance between slowness and sensitivity she plays with the different layers of perception of the spectator and turns the apparent 'almost nothing' into a vivid experience in the blink of an eye.



**"Even while we look  
into the distance, what stays  
with us, the spectators,  
is the feeling of a world  
that is close to us in a weird way,  
that we know, each and  
everyone of us."**

**- Gert Engel  
(Das Portrait - [www.fidena.de](http://www.fidena.de))**

IF you study Uta Gebert's repertoire, it consists of single, often short scenic pieces, that remind you in form and character of haiku, you'll notice that all her productions seem to form a whole in their continuity. Always inspired by mythology and mysticism, her artistic productions demand contemplation. The topic of birth in *Cocon*, the passage symbolism in *Limen*, the last moments of life in *Jakusch* and the death in *Anubis* – all her performances are on the verge of life and death and they discover, almost investigate, that border on the stage. Numen Company explores in all its productions existential questions in its own and original dramatic language.

AFTER five internationally successful productions, she continues on the path of artistic exploration in her new project *Solace*, which is of an even greater dimension and structure, and requires a whole new way of working. All with the intention to dissipate the separation between the different forms of theatre and to focus rather on its similarities.

## PRESENTATION

### SOLACE

"Our life is not behind us,  
neither before, nor now,  
it is inside."

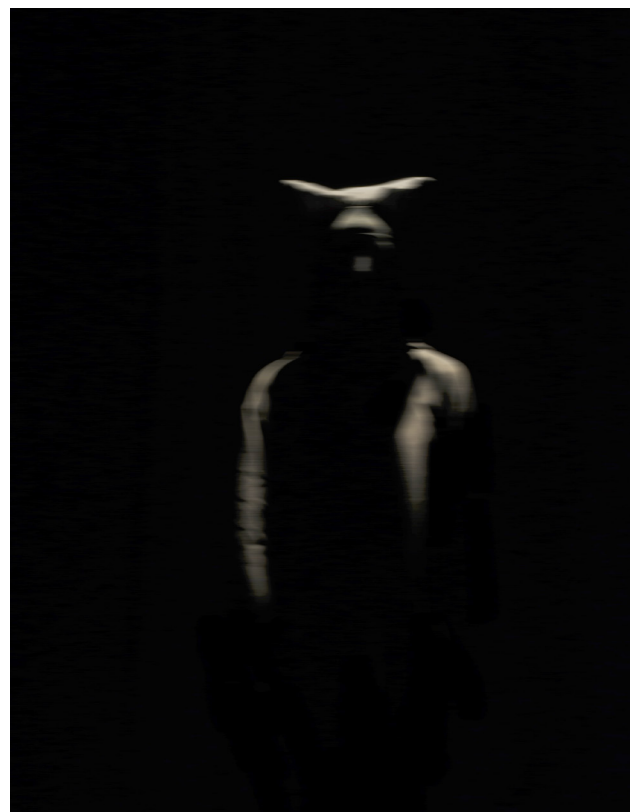
Jacques Prévert -

*SOLACE* is the production 2018 of Uta Gebert, contemporary puppeteer and artistic director of Numen Company.

CONSOLATION, shelter and support are the topics addressed in the play, narrated in the unique relationship between a child and strange, mysterious figures. Different points of time converge in a desertlike space, reminiscences and flashbacks of a forgotten past flare up, images are created, solely connected by memories.

MYSTERIOUS characters will interact with each other on the stage to experience the bodily engagement with theatrical means. This scenic co-existence creates the space for special relations that require to rethink the relationship of power and possible manipulation.

IN our current society dominated by dissociation and solitude, consolation, shelter and support became controversial topics. The voiceless and gestural dialogue between the living being and the object begs the question of our own relationship to our solitude and loneliness.



## NOTES BY THE DRAMATIC ADVISOR

BY MERIAM BOUSSELMI

| DRAMATIC CONSULTATION

HOW can you overcome the obstructions of the body and ease the soul?

How can you regain the freedom of movement and expression?

Rediscover the meaning and joy of our existence?

And to rub with ointment the hardship of life?

THE latin noun "solace" means consolation and encouragement. A very gentle but nonetheless powerful action that seeks to put the human being back into the centre of attention and to restore his or her joy of life.

EVERYBODY needs consolation at certain points in life. The Swedish author Stig Dagerman even named one of his last writings Our need for consolation is insatiably. Consolation is a basic human need both for individuals in the face of the sadness of our daily lives and for our society in the face of attacks on our common values and the loss of a political ideal. The challenge is the same: How can you alleviate pain in order to live on? How can you cope with suffering?

IN her new production, Uta Gebert explores the human capability to survive catastrophes, war, exile and daily trauma. She advocates a soul that is not inconsolable but cathartic. For her, hope is an act of resistance. Far from a theoretical or intellectual point of view, she studies the close psychosomatic connection that turns injuries of the soul into impairments of the body and tries, little by little, to draft a way to healing and salvation. Uta Gebert turns the stage into a cage of memories where past and present clash. She creates a stunning setting of the present absence and the absent present. In the clash of contrasts, she narrates the dialectic story of a fight. A fight that connects what reason separates: the living and the death, reality and fantasy, love and indifference, rage and melancholy.



## ABOUT

### UTA GEBERT

CONCEPTIONAL DESIGN | DIRECTION | PUPPET  
| STAGE DESIGN

UTA Gebert has been working as an independent puppeteer since 1996. After graduating from the Academy of Dramatic Arts "Ernst Busch" in Berlin, department contemporary puppetry, in 1994, she studied for two years at the École Supérieure Nationale des Arts de la Marionnettes in Charleville-Mézières in France.

SHE became internationally known with her productions *Cocon*, *Anubis*, *Limen* and *Manto*. In 2013, she founded Numen Company whose latest production in 2018 is *Solace*, that was shown at numerous international festivals. Numen Company guested, among others, in Germany, France, Switzerland, Portugal, Czech Republic, Norway, Cape Verde, South Africa, Japan and Chile.

APART from her solo work, Uta Gebert cooperated with several international directors. From 2001 to 2007, she guested as a puppeteer in multiple productions of the American director, scenographer and puppeteer Roman Paska. Since 2015, she has an engagement as a puppeteer and actress in the production *The Ventriloquists Convention* by Gisèle Vienne.

IN 2015, Uta Gebert won an award from the Institut International de la Marionnette, Charleville-Mézières for "Création/Expérimentation". The prize is given to young artists or companies that renew the language, practice and aesthetics of puppetry.

Since 2000, Numen Company cooperates regularly with the SCHAUBUDE BERLIN and since 2013 with the TJP, Centre Dramatique National d'Alsace in Strasbourg.

UTA lives and works in Berlin.



#### COCON

Direction: Uta Gebert | Music: Morgan  
Daguenet | Video: Silja Lex | Light: Paul Friedrich,  
Uta Gebert | (30min)

#### ANUBIS

Direction: Uta Gebert | Artistic participation:  
Gabriel Hermand-Priquet, Ilka Schönbein  
| Music: Ulrich Kodjo Wendt, Mark Badur |  
Costumes: Sonja Albartus,  
Uta Gebert | (30min)

#### LIMEN

Direction: Uta Gebert | Artistic participation:  
Ursula Gebert, Gabriel Hermand-Priquet |  
Music: Ulrich Kodjo Wendt, Mark Badur | Light:  
Uta Gebert, Paul Friedrich | Costumes: Sonja  
Albartus, Uta Gebert | (20min)

#### MANTO

Direction: Uta Gebert | Singer: Harald Maiers  
| Artistic participation: Michel Cerda, Gabriel  
Hermand-Priquet, Inga Schmidt | Music: Mark  
Badur, Ulrich Kodjo Wendt | Light design: Fabien  
Bossard, Uta Gebert | Costumes: Sonja Albartus,  
Nicole Reinbold, Uta Gebert | (50min)



## PRESS

### ANUBIS OFFERS MYTHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE TO TIP-FEST

BY JOUKO GRÖNHOLM (Translated by Jussi Aaltonen)  
| Turun Sanomat newspaper 22.11.2011

***"Anubis", a solo show by German Uta Gebert gathers its ingredients from the Egyptian mythology.***

In big puppetry inspections you always meet shows that give fabled dimensions to the festival. In the TIP-Fest offering the world of myths and mythological contents hasn't now been very rich even though Eric Bass's "Autumn Portraits" had some references to it in some of its scenes in the Sunday afternoon.

Uta Gebert's solo performance *Anubis* brought mythology to the stage in full and in a refreshing way. The theme is introduced by a quote from a poem by Hugo von Hofmannsthal, a classic from the Austrian literature, and just a moment later the stage is taken by Anubis, known from the Egyptian mythology. It was wild, in its own way, to see the show on a day that is marked as Judgement Sunday in Evangelical-Lutheran liturgical calendar.

Already mentioned in the ancient pyramid texts as an Egyptian mythological creature, Anubis protects the dead and leads them to afterlife. In the rich visualization and attractive soundworld of the show we face a journey that carries us from an oval burial place to a boat and to the weighing of scales.

The shadows of past generations take the stage over when Uta Gebert does a wild death dance, the like of which is seldom seen in theatre; although as a subject it is also familiar from dramas. The death dance leads the puppet and the puppeteer to an exceptionally intensive interaction that is very compelling to watch.

The Berliner Uta Gebert has already worked as a puppet artist for fifteen years. *Anubis*, rich in its expression, proved that puppet theatre has exceptionally profound things to say also in the German tradition.



# TECHNICAL SHEET

## *SOLACE* of Numen Company

### CREW TOUR

Uta Gebert – puppeteer

Marine Chesnais or Laura Siegmund – performer

Jérôme Houlès / Paul Friedrich - technical director

### GENERAL INFORMATION

Duration : 55 min.

Capacity : 200 spectators

### ATTENTION FOR THE SMOOTH RUNNING OF THE SHOW !

**The floor of the stage must be visible to the entire audience!**

(it may be necessary to elevate the scene).

We need a deep black on stage and in the audience during the show (sometimes very low light intensity)

### SCENIC SPACE AND TECHNICAL ROOM

- Stage frame in black, otherwise black leg
- Minimum scene opening : 6 m
- Minimum distance between the edge of the scene and the background: 6 m
- Minimum distance from wall to wall : 8 m
- Minimum height under gril : 4 m
- 7 legs « italienne », wide min 2 m
- black backdrop
- 2 borders
- The technical control sound & light must be as close as possible and in the axis of the stage, (to avoid closed control rooms or under a balcony).

### STAGE (cf plan stage)

*We provide:*

- 1 Sand box
- 3 fans
- 3 tissus (black gauze) (size : 3 m x 4,5 m, 2,9 m x 4,5 m and 2 m x 4,5 m) each comes with a folding bar and some rope to tie them up.

Thank you to provide heavy enough Pipes in the same dimension to weight them down.

*The Theater has to provide:*

- 100 KG of Chinchilla Sand : <https://www.ebay.de/i/111461114849?chn=ps&var=410453094145>

### SOUND

*We provide:*

- a computer, external Soundcard and a 2xRCA>2xJack cable.
- Music is played using Q-lab.

*Requested material :*

- a capable connection to the Soundsystem (Jack or RCA, Stereo)
- Stereo sound system with subwoofers capable of full range, high headroom sound reproduction.
- System should cover all areas of the audience seating with even coverage.
- Stereo stage monitoring system capable of clean, high fidelity sound.
- Full independent EQ for House and Stage systems, and crossover for subwoofers.

### LIGHT

*We provide:*

- a computer with Entec usb pro (or Avolite Titan) and gels:
- Lee : 201, 204, 205, 206, 242, 285, 503, 711, 728, 730.
- Rosco 119, 132.
- Gam 882.
- (It would be great if you have some of these matching the sizes of your gelframes)

*Requested material :*

- 21 profile 25/50° (ETC junior)
- 4 profile 15/30°
- 11 PC (10 banddoors)
- 5 Pinspot (PAR36)
- 1 Cyclode (Flood)
- 3 Iris for profile 15/30°
- 1 gobo holder Size M for profile 25/50°
- 6 light stand
- 6 Floor plates
- 47 Dimmer + audience

# TECHNICAL PLANNING AND TOUR REQUIREMENT

*SOLACE* of Numen Company

Travel Day		
Arrival of the Company, Transport Set to the Stage		

Day before the show		
9h / 13h	14h / 18h	18h / 21h
Set up light and sound Set up stage	Set up light and sound Set up stage	Focus light

Day of the show			
9h / 13h	15h	17h-18h	20h
Focusing light. light adjustments Sound check	Rehearsal Corrections	Set	Show

## SET UP

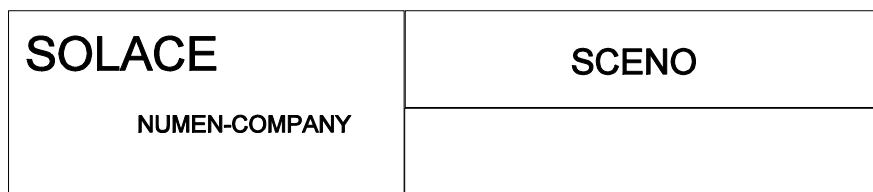
- We need 2 technicians for mounting sound, light and scene.
- A pre-assembly of the black box, black backdrop, dance mat and additionally Pipes for light is needed.
- Arrival of the team on D-2, and unloading of the equipment
- Technical assembly and adjustment at D-1
- Dismantling after the last performance

## CATERING / LOGE

- one Room for the Dancer to warm up
- one Loge for 4 people with tee, coffee, water, fruits....

## ACCOMODATIONS

Free board and lodging (4 single rooms).





## Legend

### Light's

Source 4 Zoom 15-30° 4

Source 4 Zoom 25-50° 21

6" PC 11

Asymetric Flood 1

Pinspot 5

### Effects

Fan 3

Company Equipment

### accessories

Barn Door 10

Iris 4

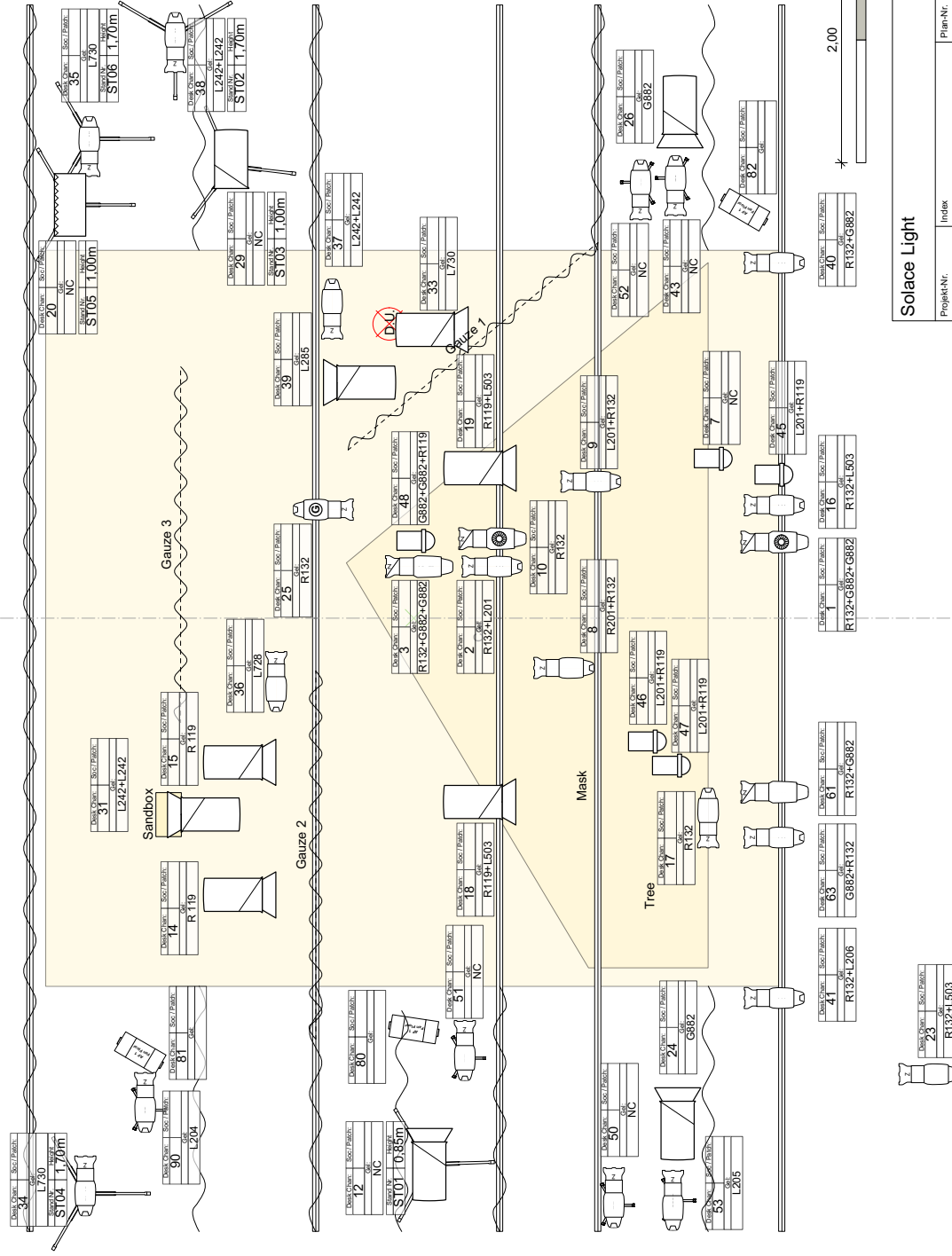
S4 Jr M Template Holder  
(a gobo size M will be brought by the company)

Floor Stand 6

Light Stand 6

### Gels

Fabfilter	Größe	Anzahl
G882	PC	2
G882+G882+R119	Par 36	1
G882+R132	S4 Jr 25-50°	1
L201+R119	Par 36	3
L201+R132	S4 Jr 25-50°	1
L204	S4 Jr 25-50°	1
L205	S4 Jr 25-50°	1
L242+L242	PC	1
L242+L242	PC	2
L285	PC	1
L728	PC	1
L730	PC	1
R 119	PC	2
R119+L503	PC	2
R132	S4 Jr 25-50°	2
R132+G882	S4 12-30°	1
R132+G882	S4 Jr 25-50°	2
R132+L201	S4 Jr 25-50°	1
R132+L206	S4 Jr 25-50°	1
R132+L503	S4 Jr 25-50°	2
R201+R132	S4 Jr 25-50°	1



## Solace Light

Projekt-Nr.	Index	Plan-Nr.	Maßstab
	A	Light	1:35
Datum gez.	Bauvorhaben		
09.04.2018			
Datum ggr.			
/			
Gezeichnet	Zzeichnung		
PF	V00 Numen Solace v2018.vwx		
Geprüft	Auftraggeber		
/			

# CONTACT

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