

THEATRAUTEURS

www.theatrauteurs.com

By Simone Alexandre

An Address to the Academie

Through his writings, Kafka raises a number of questions. There is one that everybody has asked or will someday ask: does the human species really descend from apes? Whether we are great scientists or simply curious, this will inevitably be controversial. Firstly because it is a disturbing idea and we don't particularly enjoy being disturbed. However, the subject remains crucial to whoever wants to further their understanding...

Red Peter, aka Erik Stouvenaker, certainly looks handsome! The man is tall, athletic, has dark hair and a deep voice. He shows no sign of degeneration, but whatever happened to his character?

Because only five years ago, the man you are looking at was an ape (how is this possible, will you ask?) who was wounded, captured, caged and transported on a boat. From that point on, the prisoner will focus all his efforts on escaping the inevitable; the zoo. There was only one way: metamorphosis. (And we know Kafka to be an expert on the topic.)

Too bad for those who remain convinced that animals don't think and are only driven by instinct because this proves otherwise. The intrigued spectator is captivated by the narration, wonderfully interpreted by the actor. Even the skeptics will be won over by the level of involvement and conviction displayed, and if anybody still has doubts they will at the very least be entertained. Given that this play, based on a novella by the great Tchek writer is very short, it needed not one but two epilogues.

We then enjoy the final duo between Erik Stouvenaker and Hassam Ghancy, two handsome and talented actors who conclude this unusual moment with a musical extract by Schubert, therefore proving, if needed, that music is good for the soul.