



The young look beautiful when they're asleep,  
but the old - like me - look dead..

**REVENGE** (working title)

a project for 2020 from Phil Hayes / First Cut Productions.

A coproduction with Fabriktheater Zurich and Le Grütli Geneva

**Premiere October 21. 2020** at the Fabriktheater, Rote Fabrik Zürich.

Performances Zürich 23., 24., 25., 28., 29., 30., 31. October 2020

Performances Geneva Season 2020/21 tba

Performances Kaserne Basel Season 2020/21 tba

We are currently in discussion with other coproducers.

## Team

Concept/ Direction: Phil Hayes

Performers;

**Nada Gambier**

**Phil Hayes**

**Christophe Jaquet**

**Maria Jerez**

Light: Patrik Rimann

Sound: Susanne Affolter

Stage: Sina Knecht

Production: Lukas Piccolin

Diffusion: Lise Leclerc

Phil Hayes is currently preparing a project concerning itself with the idea of **REVENGE...**

Knowing that revenge destroys everything... What if we will all be held accountable for our actions.?

What if our culture was different, what if people weren't allowed to just get-away with bad actions or behaviour . What if we would all be held to account.

After the death of Elizabeth I in 1603, there followed a period of corruption and political instability. Dramatists responded with morally complex plays of dark wit and violent spectacle, exploring the nature of death, the abuse of power and vigilante justice , in short „**Difficult Theatre for Difficult Times**“...; producing the classic English Revenge Tragedies (Kyd's The Spanish Tragedy, Shakespeare's Hamlet, Marston's Antonio's Revenge, and Middleton's The Revenger's Tragedy)

Phil is attempting to compare these with the theme of revenge in Films , such as;  
Get Carter  
Dead Man's Shoes  
Kill Bill  
High Plains Drifter  
Once Upon a Time In the West  
The Vengeance Trilogy (Oldboy, Sympathy For Mr Vengeance, Lady Vengeance),  
True Grit  
Straw Dogs.

## Payback

While the Revenge Tragedies mostly contain similar effects or ingredients;

- The avenger is killed
- Villains and accomplices that assist the avenger are killed
- The supernatural (often in the form of a ghost -who asks the protagonist to seek vengeance)
- A play within a play, or dumb show
- Madness or pretend madness
- Disguise
- Violent murders
- Monologues
- Cannibalism (Thyestean banquets)
- A final act where many characters are killed (multiple corpses on the stage)

The movies too contain many similar motives, as well as;

- a rejection of law and order
- A feeling that corruption means no-one can be trusted
- A rejection of the establishment.

„I'm looking for redemption, I'm looking for forgiveness.  
If you don't have it, you don't have to...

I don't know if I have it. I didn't know I was supposed to bring it. You have to warn people about stuff like that....“



Set in a Bar, in a fictitious version of America, strangers and locals meet, all seeking Revenge. The final act of Revenge as always being a surprise for both the audience and the main characters

Collecting dialogues, snippets of conversation and accounts of real revenge acts, Phil is for the first time looking at „Dialogue“ on stage, an area he has until now tended to avoid in his work.

He and his fellow conspirators will attempt to write a play, their own „**Difficult Theatre for Difficult Times**“

Phil is also planning to write and perform SONGS. These will replace the traditional revenge tragedy form of monologues.

In October 2019, Phil visited Austin, Texas to work on a residency alongside Austin theatre-collective Rude Mechs. Whilst in Texas, Phil travelled further west immersing himself in an America that he thought didn't exist anymore, losing himself in a vast landscape that felt like a timeless metaphor for a story of revenge.



REVENGE will also reunite Phil with previous collaborators;

Maria Jerez (Legends & Rumours, Under The Influence I)

Nada Gambier (These Are my Principles...)

Christophe Jaquet ( Love & Happiness, WORK)

Rehearsals begin in Summer 2020.

For further information, please contact;

Lise Leclerc at Tutu Production [lise@tutuproduction.ch](mailto:lise@tutuproduction.ch) +41 22 310 07 62

or Phil Hayes [phil@philhayes.ch](mailto:phil@philhayes.ch) +41 79 669 2680

[www.thefirstcut.ch](http://www.thefirstcut.ch)

Phil Hayes (December 2019)