



CASA NOSTRA

HOMBRE COLLETTIVO

directed by Riccardo Reina
with Angela Forti, Agata Garbuio, Aron Tewelde

in collaboration with BRAT *and* Associazione Malerba

Scenario Infanzia 2020 *award*
Direction Under 30 2021 *critics award*

Visual theatre
Objects theatre
Without words
14+

HOMBRE
collettivo

*What we pretend to fight outside us, is already inside us,
inside our everyday life, also if we are not aware of it.*

R. Scarpinato - Italian magistrate

23 September 2021: Palermitan Assizen's sentence on the State-Mafia negotiation process brings back to our mind a piece of the past. A piece of the past which, however recent, it's already history. A piece of history which, however decisive, already risks falling into oblivion with all its paradoxes and contradictions. A fundamental piece to understand the puzzle of our present time. A piece that has been tried in every way to hide, alter, ignore: a missing piece.

Casa Nostra is not only a title and a pun which put together the most famous Italian mafia (*Cosa Nostra*) with the idea of a private and secret place ("*casa nostra*" in Italian means "our home"): ours is the home we are inhabiting today with all the things it contains. Ours, we want it or not, is that strange thing we have inherited from the former tenants. Ours is the playroom in which we have been locked up, where children are left while "the grown-up" deal with the serious things, those things that children are better not to hear, not to see.



Casa Nostra wants to investigate the recent history of Italy starting and taking as a reference the years of the State-Mafia Negotiation, also in the light of the recent judicial news and trying to retrace the fatal years between 1990 and 1994. These years have been decisive to understand not only the current state of Italy: they also determined the current international role of Italy and of Mafia in the world. Those were the years when Cosa Nostra could have been definitely destroyed, thanks to the brave work of the Italian magistrates, many of which lost their lives to fight against the Mafia. But, instead of fighting it until the end, the Italian State – mainly in the persons of Premier Silvio Berlusconi and his right-arm man Marcello Dellutri – decided to treat and cooperate with the Mafia. This caused a very strong transformation and infiltration process in the Mafia, which brought it to have a very important role in Italian as well as in international politics, economy, and illicit trafficking.

Casa Nostra doesn't want to talk only about the Italian mafia, but rather wants to investigate in general the mechanisms and dynamics of organized crime and its relationship with power and the institutions. We didn't want to give a judgment about these dynamics, rather we preferred to put ourselves in the shoes of both the attackers and the victims because, in our vision, everyone lives these two conditions in his everyday behavior. Crime is not something far from us, the Mafia is not only an Italian historical phenomenon: it can hide everywhere, at any time, in the most unsuspected situations.

For this show, we chose a language made of images and symbols, able to meet all types of audiences and to intercept the simultaneity and multimodality of our present world. The show is without words and is built on the juxtapositions of love songs and television programs. The stage dynamic is built on four characters/animations who are locked up in a metaphorical playroom and try to retrace history and behaviors by the interactions with the toys through objects theatre and visual theatre techniques.



Scenario Infanzia 2020 Award Motivation of the Jury

In a scene studded with signs of great visual impact and evocative force, four actors /functions move like dowsers in search of secrets. They are those of a recent Italian history but still difficult to decode, overflowing from subsidiaries and school books and, like an incandescent magma, burns anyone who wants to put the hands in it. They do it with courage and desire to risk Angela Forti, Agata Garbuio, Riccardo Reina and Aron Tewelde of Hombro Collettivo in a show, *Casa Nostra*, which is announced as a detonator of debate for the audience, called to grasp the edge of an intricate skein that it is our task to untie, with painstaking patience and passion for truth and justice.



Direction Under30 2021

Critics Awards

For the desire to understand a contradictory theme, obscure and decisive for Italian history, for the audacity to have gone through an open wound and for the intent to submit it to the generations of adolescents who have not experienced these facts firsthand, while suffering the consequences on their own skin, the award of the critical jury goes to *Casa Nostra* by Hombre Collettivo as a gesture of support for a path full of potential, clear and conscious language and moved by the desire to propose a theater that does not end in the only spectacular event, but that aims at a widespread planning in the educational and social areas.





Hombre Collettivo was born in 2019 from Animateria, professional puppetry course held in Italy by Teatro Gioco Vita, Teatro delle Briciole and Teatro del Drago. Already from the first study, the group demonstrates its propensity for research and experimentation on the different languages of puppetry and visual theatre, which translates into the strong tendency to hybridization and the contamination of techniques and codes. A practice shared by the group's members in its theoretical foundations, making use of the diversified skills that the group manages to hold together in a coherent and multifaceted artistic vision. Their first study *The Unspeakable Cities* consisted of an attempt to explore both the potential and limits of object theater and shadow theater, intertwining them with narrative theater. Complex aesthetic research supported and at the same time stimulated to overcome its limits by the dramaturgy of images in which the visionary writing of Italo Calvino's *Le città invisibili* already unravels through the accuracy of the word. After these first instructive and constructive thrusts, the group dedicates itself to an equally complex project full of possibilities with the creation of the self-produced show *Casa Nostra*, winner of the Scenario Infanzia Award 2020 and the Direction Under30 Critics Award in 2021. This show focuses on the intersection between object theater and civil theater, in an attempt to address fundamental and very current issues relating to the historical and political dimension in an alternative and not predictable way. The ambitious goal is to combine a dramaturgy in images with an almost documentary or investigative component. Nowadays, the company is working on its second show, *Alle armi*, produced by the Teatro Metastasio (Prato, Italy) which will be focused on the war industry and will debut in March 2023.



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HOMBRE COLLETTIVO

Premiere

Vicenza, Teatro Astra, 17 June 2021

The show is realized in collaboration with **BRAT** (Porpetto, Udine)
and **associazione malerba** (Parma).



Contatti

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