

ELINA PIRINEN: *Ghosts of Rosegarden* (2026)



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Ghosts of Rosegarden is a multi-part maternal, neo-primitivist, avantgardist, hilarious and demanding autopsy of **Igor Stravinsky's** *Rite of Spring*. It will premier in Dance House Helsinki Erkko Hall on 6th of October 2026. The piece is co-produced by Zodiak- Center for New Dance, Soltumatu Tantsulava Tallinn and Dansens Hus Stockholm.

In **Elina Pirinen's** and composer **Ville Kabrell's** hands, the polytych is a rite of birth in which no one is sacrificed. The original narrative of Igor Stravinsky is experimentally and creatively turned in another direction and the artists change the writing of history. The sacrificial girl is allowed to live, she is continuously reborn in different forms of weird delicious art and life.

The stage is like a magical feminine placenta where the life and livelihood of the body and corporeality blossom in its union between exaltation and mechanics is made possible. The work serves as an altar of birth, where the body, corporeality, birth itself and the body of death is always born together with the birth itself. From the original libretto as well as the composition material, the sensual and robust tendrils, which should swell more in this time and with this gesture, are extracted. Pirinen and Kabrell are happily and creatively stealing from Stravinsky like he stole from Lithuanian folklore tunes and melodies.

Six dancing, singing and speaking dance artists, a bassoonist and a string quartet will place themselves at the altar of birth. Together they form collective, enchanting and primary and queer creative rites of birth, celebrations of various ghosts, spirits and ancestors, the shared subconscious dreams of the spectators and the artists. Drawing on the notion of *maternalism* and interartistry the

work is a state, landscape and an atmosphere where deeply recognisable corporeal imagination is a bridge from loneliness to connection, to the painful rupture that is born in us when we come out of the womb, from destruction and death to the energy of hope, from fear to rage, from apathy to grieving, from the individual body to the collective integration of subjects, not surrendering to the art-hostile time, to giving birth to the art of corporeality and keeping it alive.

The materials between the parts intertwine and separate from each other. The materials of the parts are expressive and primitive ritual choreography, a text orchestration written into the work performed live by the performers, a string piece that can also include other instruments, a live camera work, where the video artist Jakob Öhrman and the camera construct a live image happening in the Erkko Hall now, the main roles of which are the audience, the performers and the absurd, transgressive and hilarious intimate ritual play between them, which transforms the stage suddenly also a theater of corporeal cinema.

Ghosts of Rosegarden proposes a post-consensual stage art where artistic integration between the performers and the audience is bravely and creatively negotiated and intensively challenged, strengthening the social resilience in surrendering to the corporeal art as language towards the 2030s.

CREDITS

Direction, choreographical practice, poetry: Elina Pirinen

Composer, sound designer: Ville Kabrell together with Stravinsky's original material

Dramaturge: Heidi Väättänen

Dancers: Simone Benini, Karolina Ginman, Age Klinkmann, Elina Pirinen, Arolin Raudva and Felix Urbina

Lighting and space designer: Mateus Manninen

Live camera concept and direction: Jakob Öhrman
Strings to be announced soon

Bassoonist: unnamed

Production manager: Maija Eränen

Administration: Outi Järvinen / Arts Management Helsinki

Photos: Anna Poleteli (2024)

Supported by: Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation

Co-production: Zodiak - Center for New Dance (Finland), Sõltumatu Tantsu Lava (Estonia), Dansens Hus (Sweden), Libidian Wonders (Finland)



SCHEDULE

4th-24th Aug 2025 | residency at Söltumatu Tantsu Lava, Tallinn, Estonia

1st-13th Dec 2025 | residency at Zodiak, Helsinki, Finland

TBC Spring 2026 | residency > looking for a place

3rd Aug-6th Oct 2026 | rehearsal period

6th Oct 2026 | the world premiere in Erkkö Hall, Dance House Helsinki, Finland

8th-10th Oct 2026 | performances in Erkkö Hall, Dance House Helsinki, Finland

TOURING

16th-17th Oct 2026 | performances in Söltumatu Tantsu Lava, Tallinn, Estonia

6th-7th Nov 2026 | performances in Dansens Hus, Stockholm, Sweden

Number of people touring: 15

The planned scale of the piece is from middle to large



BIO

Elina Pirinen's artistry and practice is entangled in choreography, dancing, music making and experimental writing, pedagogy and curating. She is committed to make stage, performative, aural and linguistic autopsies to the subconscious registers, deep primary emotions and intelligence through them. The focuses of her art are in imagination, romanticism, doom, obsessions, nightmares, daydreams, taboos, sorrow, lust, despair, joy, suffering, silence, horror, satisfaction, shame, unwantedness, consolation and hope driven by feministic psychoanalytical depth and try to say something about these realities and experiences here through it. With deep Karelian roots Pirinen lives in Helsinki and by the lake Kalliojärvi.

In Finland she has been collaborating with Zodiak - Center for New Dance, Kiasma Theater of Kiasma Museum of contemporary art, performance art venue Mad House, Theatre Academy of Arts University Helsinki, Helsinki Dance Company and Dance House Helsinki. Abroad she has worked with

Iceland Dance Company, Carte Blanche, Spring Festival, Arsenic Lausanne, Hellerau Dresden, Buda Kortrijk, New York Live Arts, ImpulsTanz, Seoul Performing Arts festival, Ice Hot Nordic Dance Platform, Norrlandsoperan and Bit Teatergarasjen, Lithuanian Theatre and Dance Academy among others. She has toured widely with her works *Mortal Tropical Dances*, *Personal Symphonic*

Moment, Meadow, meadow, meadow, Concerto under Waterlilies, Brume de Mer and La Beaute du Coeur and Lover of the Pianist.

Elina Pirinen works with a support of 8 year state grant for artists for 2017-2025. She is awarded with the Finnish State Art Award 2022. She is awarded with Prix Jardin d'Europe prize in ImPulsTanz Vienna 2015 and with The Finnish Critics' Association honorary prize Critics' Spurs 2014. Pirinen is represented by Plan B - Creative Agency for Performing Arts.

She also works with domestic animals in need and plays and sings affective, romantic, peculiar and thunderian doom-baroque-synthesis-psycho-mortal-lyrical music with her orchestra Al2Be3.

CONTACT

Choreographer Elina Pirinen, pilvielina.pirinen@gmail.com

Producer Maija Eränen, tel. +358 50 3800 979, maija.eranen@gmail.com

www.elinapirinen.com