

# SEX, DRUGS, GESCHICHTE, ETHIK & ROCK 'N' ROLL



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## Sex, Drugs, Ethics, History, & Rock'n'Roll

A Contribution to a Basic Education

Age: 13+

*Theater and pedagogy! A happy marriage  
or a catastrophe in the making?*

TheaterGrueneSosse transforms the stage into an educational arena and addresses five selected themes, which are too often overlooked in the classroom. Using the most modern instructional methods theater has to offer, as well as . . . no . . . wait a minute . . . something is missing . . . let's start again:



TheaterGrueneSosse brings a true pearl of educational programming for young adults to the stage.

Why was John Lennon often nude? How much money should one person be allowed to have? Is drinking champagne a mark of high culture? How virtuous should a Snow White be? Are weapons OK, if they're used to make art? How much do women earn in Germany? Is every corner shop proprietor a drug dealer? What should we know . . . and understand?

**Acting:** Kathrin Marder, Friederike Schreiber

**Direction:** Leandro Kees

**Dramaturgy:** Ossian Hain

**Stage:** Detlef Köhler

**Costume:** Patrick Bartsch

**Assistance:** Philipp Kehder

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**Watch the complete show:**

<https://vimeo.com/301610469>

# Frankfurter Allgemeine

ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

## Are you supposed to learn something here?

TheaterGrüneSosse goes into the attack on education

The title is basically a no-go. "Sex, Drugs, Geschichte, Ethik & Rock 'n' Roll", that's just too bulky. Except if you read it the way that seventh- or eighth-graders might rattle off their timetables at school. Consequently, in the fifth school hour it would be time for Rock'n'Roll. Which looks like this, with Friederike Schreiber and Kathrin Marder: Their lips are pursed, their hair is open, while they wear black leather jackets and sunglasses, and stroll lasciviously up to the edge of the stage - to unpack. Two frighteningly real-looking paintball guns. And while they go bang, bang, bang against the table, at the very latest then you realise, that all of this might be dangerous. The shooting colours and the making theatre.

The group TheaterGrüneSosse, which has been a fixed star in youth theatre for more than 30 years, has given itself the mission to change. It's becoming younger at the moment, more people on and behind the stage - an especially: More women. Two of them, Marder and Schreiber, on top of this now topple an eternal law of theatre for young audiences: In contrast to the adult stages, it never reflects on or makes a subject of itself. Especially not ironically. Regarding that, it's a little revolution, which is taking place here, at the anniversary of sixty-eight.

The theatre for young audiences fights back against the requirement of always offering something to be learned. "A work of art by Beethoven, for example, is not created to be understood!", that's the justified objection. But art for the youngsters is seldomly understood as art, but rather as a mediator of utility or an illustration of educational material. The Trigger, if not true, then very well invented, was supposedly the opposition of a teacher after a play at a festival. The piece hadn't been "understandable", she said. Hopefully, the festival management in real life didn't freak out the way Schreiber is performing it. In general, the sudden changes of attitudes, from fits of rage to a heart attack - from a markedly sober presentation to youthful enthusiasm -, are a trademark of this production. The TheaterGrüneSosse has cooperated with choreographer and performance artist Leandro Kees for this piece, which brings about unusual physical movement, spontaneity, and an appetite for the uncertain. The audience is sometimes becoming very noisy and restless - which is intentional, another breach of conventions.

The amount of conventions still present in theatre for youngster, is ridiculed by Schreiber and Marder. They present gender stereotypes, a snow white costume, and "everybody listening?"- clichés which seemed to be obsolete. Because theatre has decided to turn the tables. Because if it's supposed to be teaching then, here we go, you get utility in five chapters, from CPR via sex to drugs. Armed with concise whiteboard drawings and practical demonstrations, which takes pleasure in tickling the brute humour of the teenagers in puberty. If this was class, it wouldn't be okay, but like this, at the theatre, everything goes - that's the motto.

They treat morals and ethics, genders and the lies of the adults. The one-hour-performance is not completely clear about whether it wants to set up an aesthetics of childrens theatre, a pamphlet, or a theatrical satire on school. The dilemma is obvious: On the one hand insisting - rightly - on not having to explain anything, on the other handy proclaiming and explaining your own being art, that doesn't work together. These five loosely connected scenes work best, when they devote themselves completely to the playful moments, defiantly and cheekily.

**EVA-MARIA MAGEL, translated by TheaterGrüneSosse**

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# Frankfurter Rundschau

## That, which is wrong in the world

The theatre TheaterGrueneSosse from Frankfurt teaches differently - with sex, drugs and rock'n'roll. How are young people to develop an interest in theatre, if their needs don't play a role there? This question was posed by the team of TheaterGrueneSosse, and they decided to do it differently. In their theatre piece "Sex, Drugs, History, Ethics and Rock & Roll" youths from the age of 13 experience via "a contribution to general education", that it can be a lot of fun, to frankly communicate about things. In Theaterhaus, packed up to the roof, there's constant blusterin, chuckling and laughing, while the two performers Kathrin Marder and Friederike Schreiber do their cheeky stuff on stage. What are the really important things to be learned in this world? Is it maybe CPR? - Yes, because it's very helpful. You can really save lives with it. But it's not mandatory at school. Why not, by the way? If you practice it again and again, you also learn responsibility and a sensibility for the meaning of life and death.

The next important Topic is: sex. Who were the hippies and what did they contribute to gender equality? Which leads to the question, why women still make less money than men. Next are drugs and the thesis, that everything that's white isn't snow. You oughta know that. Education through confrontation. How nice can it be to have your head over the toilet at a party? On the subject of ethics, they ask, what's going wrong in the world. Why 8 Men own as much wealth as half of humanity combined, and why 260 million children don't have access to education.

And what would the ministry of education say about why the events of post-1945, like the war in vietnam or the fall of the berlin wall almost don't come up in history classes of middle school?

Instead of that, we expansively teach the development of the imperium romanum, medieval city planning and confessionalisation. You can answer that question on your own, but then don't argue about young people being frustrated and not understanding the complexity of the world.

A flippant and funny hour on stage. An electronic guitar is being rocked and colourful bombs are being thrown. A school lesson with intensive contact, no smartphones. There are no fears of coming too close. But a lot of confidence.

**11.09.2018 Nr. 211, S. 34**

Von Swantje Kubillus, translated by TheaterGrueneSosse

Stage setup - "Sex, Drugs, History, Ethics, and Rock'n'Roll"

"Sex, Drugs, History, Ethics, and Rock'n'Roll" is a stage piece.

It should be played in a theatrical setting. We need a Sound system and a lighting system.

A studio stage is preferably to an elevated stage.

Lighting needs a general basic light, different coloured ambiances which are best created by LEDs, and Backlight.

The piece should be shown in rooms where the ground can be seen. The room can't have daylight.

Wen need an area of play of at least 6m width, 7m depth and 3,5m height.

The stage design consists mainly of an oversized flipchart (2,40 x 2,40), two tables and two chairs.

At the end of a presentation, the flipchart is shot on with paintball bullets. These bullets are filled with a coloured liquid, which is very easily washable. The coatings are made from wheat starch and are

biodegradable.

The inclusion of the air pressure guns can lead to retraumatization of specially predisposed people.

A technician accompanies the shows.

Setup takes 3 hours for the lights, the runtime is approximately 55 minutes. Disassembling takes one hour.

For questions regarding organisation or technical questions:

069- 450554

School version:

If the line of sight is reasonable, the piece can also be played without an additional lighting setup, for a limited amount of viewers.

TheaterGrueneSosse can bring lighting in these cases. This entails higher costs.