

Festival Off: "Negative Space," a visual poetry between laughter and questions

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Reckless Sleepers in "Negative Space"

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Reckless Sleepers present us with a space that, at first glance, has only the proscenium and the ceiling as an opening. The actors therefore climb over the plywood walls before opening trapdoors and frantically entering and exiting. Not a word is exchanged, but violent, threatening gestures with hammers or tender gestures of flower-giving are used.

Once the ballet of six actors has taken hold and twirled around the room, the methodical yet anarchic destruction of this space begins. The postures are comical, which leads to laughter and smiles.

The proposed situations, however, vary little from beginning to end, and the pace would have benefited from being more diverse. The gags are therefore recurrent, and the repetition of comedy, while partly effective, would have gained momentum with clearer narrative elements. Therefore, the proposed destruction situation would have made more sense.

Nevertheless, a free interpretation is offered to the spectator who can completely project himself into a visual poetics of his own and one perceives sensitive and necessary subjects such as gratuitous violence towards others or assiduous and unwanted lessons made to women. It is sometimes appreciable to enjoy an artistic gesture that is pleasant in its first degree and by the free interpretation that one can have of it.