

LE FEMMINE DI SEM BENELLI

The females by Sem Benelli, new production of the Teatro G.A.G. at Palazzo Ducale on 26 September, 8.30 pm, ONE OF THE CLOSING SHOWS of the Dubbing Glamor Festival for the celebration of the Centenary of Warner Bros on 28 September at Palazzo Spinola.

Experiment of contamination between audiovisual and entertainment.

From the vast literature of Sem Benelli and of the time, emerges the portrait of a female condition forced by the conditions of the time, which is associated with the figure of the seductive and inaccessible femme fatale, as in synthetic or synecdochic portraits. This vision belongs to an Italy which, with the New Code of Criminal Procedure, the restrictions and bans on women participating in political life, leaves the great myths unchanged, including that of Sarah Bernhardt, or Theda Bara (formerly Vamp), sees the major writers in the field express themselves on the matter. And so the theme of sex is addressed in detail, minds are crowded, in disbelief literally suspended already by the Seduction Manual by Marinetti, ambassador and spokesperson of the fascist government, initially a friend of Sem Benelli, who considers himself the fairer sex inferior.

The danger of seduction seems to be based on a double phenomenon of attraction and repulsion. It is here that between the "true Italian mothers" glorified by Mussolini and the "meat urinals" (Giovanni Papini), modernity insinuates a third type of woman, a minority in numerical terms, but dominant in cinema, dubbing, radio and in women's magazines, that she was free, uninhibited and elegant, even perverse. The «type three woman», (U. Notari, 1929) «new female creature, direct result of the machine». Outside the domestic sphere, therefore, the false myth of a perverse and evil femininity was born, precisely at the moment in which the Italian film industry was unable to survive the post-World War I economic crisis and femme fatales almost completely vanished with the restoration of the twenty years of fascism. Any dream of emancipation from the social roles of the 1910s disappears, but it will be Sem Benelli's testimony that draws conclusions and dispels any doubts.

The actors from the Teatro Piccolo in Milan and the Teatro Biondo in Palermo, very good at a high level.

Sem Benelli's females

Palazzo Ducale - Porticato Maggiore, Tuesday 26 September 2023, 8.30 pm

Direction and adaptation: Daniela Capurro

Cast: Francesca Tripaldi, Nicolò Parodi, Valter Sarzi Sartori

Music: Filippo Zattini

Scene video: Gabriele Pirisi and Luca D'Alessandro

Makeup: Barbara Petrolati

Thanks to the National Theater of Genoa