

AN AMUSING MOSAIC

The Salzburg Summer Scene Opens the Season with a Spirited World Premiere

Wim Vandekeybus calls his latest piece *Always The Same Lies*. Its world premiere in the Salzburg Stadtkinosaal Thursday evening was the prelude of the Summer Scene. It is a multifaceted piece, a carpet of memories and patterns which are exchanged like pieces of clothing.

The willful artist was inspired by the life story of the old actor, Carlo Verrano, whom Vandekeybus met in Hamburg. The old man's statements give the piece its basic association and lay down a carpet of resonance. Verrano is shown on film which allows us a glimpse into the landscape of this wrinkled face and shows him in his surroundings.

The strength of Vandekeybus and the company is that they are never boring. The tension always remains and beautiful images are created: a multicolored patchwork made of clothes used as background, raw eggs flying through the air; a singular figure stumbles clumsily across the stage or through life.

In spite of the work's serious theme, the company doesn't hold back on wit. The tension of the often breathlessly acrobatic scenes are relieved by a laugh. Life however, always remains the basis of the theme: constantly changing, surprising yet familiar, full of constant deceit and everyday lies.

According to this year's theme, the Summer Scene succeeded with *Always the Same Lies* in proving itself to be a reliable producer of exciting new works. This coming Tuesday the festival presents the next program, the unusual theater world of the Vienna Serapiones Theater.