

Press Release: THE INVISIBLE HAND

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NEWS UPDATE AUGUST 2016:



BACK due to popular demand!

Open dates: 12th October 2016, 8pm - until 22nd October 2016

Theater Drachengasse, Fleischmarkt 22, 1010 Wien

Tel.: 01/5131444 for tickets

- TRAILERS and other material available on Youtube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BwYNg6dLi_8

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MvcTp3SxRzg>

- Production Photos: www.flickr.com/viennatheatreproject
- Cast change: David Rodriguez-Yanez is being replaced by Hashim Abbes Mouhit

PREMIERE Reminder - Members of the Press are invited to the Re-run Premiere on 12th October 8pm. 01/5131444 for tickets.

Some critics on the production in February:

"... in a confined space backed by the sound of drones and scorching heat, the four actors impress with realistic imagery." *Der Standard Feb. 2016*

"Not just a tense hostage drama, but a crash course in financial trading...fascinating" *FM4 Radio, February 2016*

"..complex piece, with a great cast, who were compelling in the confined space." *Falter-Kultur, also named the show "Theatre TIPP of the week"*

Previous information in brief:

The Play in short: vienna theatre project presents the PULITZER Prize for Drama Winner 2013 & Tony Award Play-writing Winner in Theater Drachengasse Bar &Co AYAD Akhtar with his piece „THE INVISIBLE HAND“. A fascinating ride through the world of terrorism and high finance.

Sponsored by: Theater Drachengasse, WIENKULTUR, FFAB, Demobrewery and the US EMBASSY Vienna

Starring

DAVE MOSKIN - NICK (Disgraced, Jesus Christ Super Star, 1984)

MICHAEL SMULIK - BASHIR (Another One Opens, Smooth Operators, Mein Kampf) Nestroy Prize Winner various shows.

HASHIM ABBES MOUHIT- DAR (Disgraced, Saturday Night Fever, West Side Story)

DAVID WURAWA: IMAM SALEEM (Ausstieg Rechts, La Pasada, Wienerland)

DIRECTOR: Joanna Godwin-Seidl (Disgraced, Topdog/Underdog, Plenty)

SET DESIGN: Richard Panzenboeck (Karlsonn vom Dach, Marry Me a Little, Into the Woods).

Premiere: 12. October 2016, 8pm

Further shows: 13. October – 23. October 8pm

Theater Drachengasse, Fleischmarkt 22, 1010 Vienna

Tel.: 01/5131444 Tickets: karten@drachengasse.at

On-line: www.drachengasse.at/karten.asp

www.drachengasse.at

www.viennatheatreproject.com

www.facebook.com/viennatheatreproject

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About the show:

An astounding cast will enthrall audiences this February as **vienna theatre project** once again tackles current events head on. Islamophobia, terrorism, Western involvement in the Middle Eastern crisis and how economics can influence policies and governments; can even so far as to topple societies. The fascinating play is filled with irony and dangerous philosophy. In this game, no one is a winner but everyone believes they are in the right.

Pulitzer Prize winning Ayad Akhtar (*Disgraced*) brings us another brilliant masterpiece to the stage in this European Premiere. In remote Pakistan, Nick Bright awaits his fate. A highly successful player at a major investment bank, Nick is kidnapped by an Islamic militant group, but with no one negotiating for his release, the prisoner must take matters into his own hands. Full of questionable alliances and moral bargaining, this world premiere – New York 2015 - is a chilling examination of how far we will go to survive and the consequences of the choices we make.

Be perplexed as Nick decides to take his survival into his own hands and battles it out; even making friends with a young fundamentalist who is easily influenced, by a seasoned, more dangerous terrorist and their mentor, Imam Saleem. But is Nick's fight for life filled with good moral intentions? What is Bashir's game? Who is the usurped and who is the usurper? A play that questions everything you have thought about the current crisis and will make you leave the theatre discussing the ethics of what you'd do and how far you'd go in an impossible situation.

About Ayad Akhtar

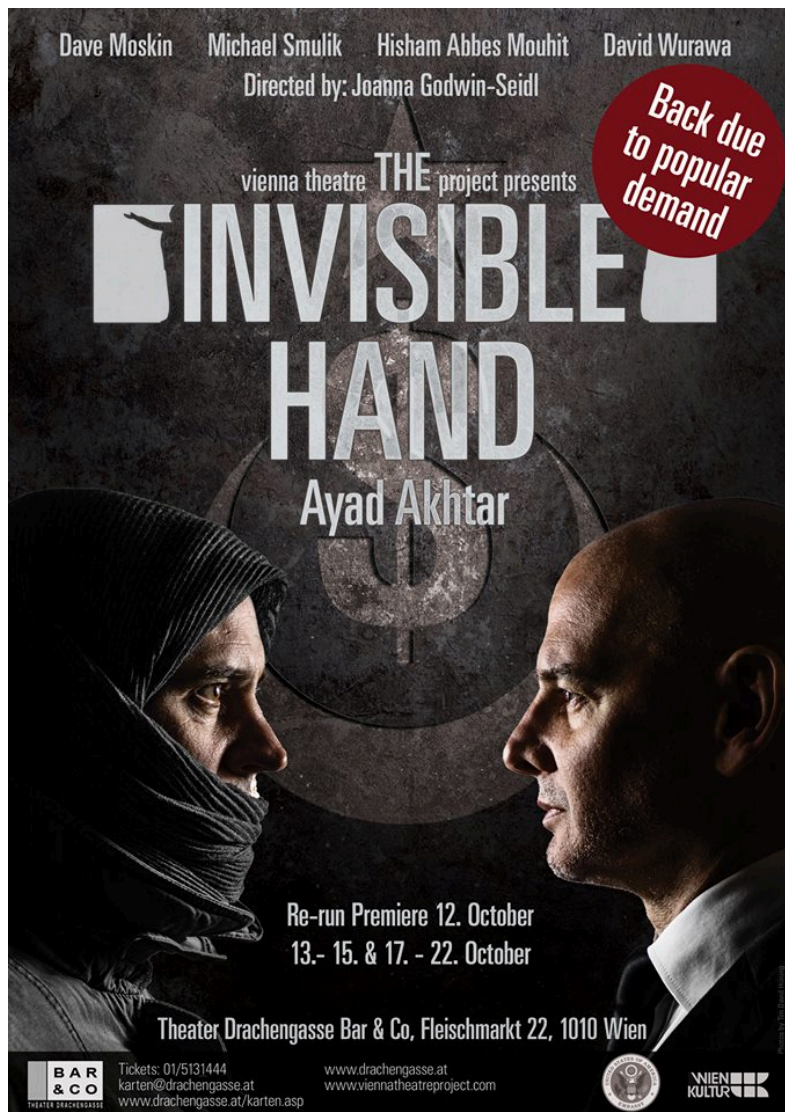
Ayad Akhtar was born in New York City and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He is the author of *American Dervish*, published in over twenty languages worldwide and a 2012 Best Book of the Year at Kirkus Reviews, Toronto's *Globe and Mail*, *Shelf-Awareness*, and *O (Oprah) Magazine*. He is also a playwright and screenwriter. His stage play *Disgraced* played at New York's LCT3/Lincoln Center Theater in 2012, and won the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. His latest play, *The Who & The What*, premiered at La Jolla Playhouse in February 2014, and will be opening in New York at LCT3/Lincoln Center Theater in June 2014. As a screenwriter, he was nominated for an Independent Spirit Award for Best Screenplay for *The War Within*. He has been the recipient of fellowships from MacDowell and Yaddo, as well as commissions from Lincoln Center Theater and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. He is a graduate of Brown and Columbia Universities with degrees in Theater and Film Directing.

What the other press say?

"Compelling and brilliant." Broadwayworld.com

"Confounding initial indications, the play is not a captive narrative about pain and torture but a scary (and dreadfully funny) treatise on the universality of human greed... a sly and subtle plot." Variety

"The Invisible Hand has layers of delicious irony." The Guardian New York



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