

Something you won't usually see in a circus

JYVÄSKYLÄ. The circus is glamour and beautiful people in sequined dreams. Well, no. In the performance by the group calling themselves the New World, snot flies and sweat smells. In the tiny Huoneteatteri in Jyväskylä, contemporary circus shows its most obscene side.

The performance designed by **Seija Hakkarainen** and the team, Globally Wanted is a blackish burlesque belch straight at your face. It is like a circus of freaks that one could imagine seeing in New York or Berlin. But we are in Jyväskylä, in 2011.

This challenges all forms of political correctness. Is it appropriate for the non-disabled circus artists to race on the stage in wheelchairs or with crutches and leg supports?

Even if someone is offended by this (mentally or physically), this is the most robust and hilarious example of performing arts for a long time. Why people with disabilities should have the exclusive right to wheelchairs? And a smiley after that – so no one takes offence.

Globally Wanted is contemporary circus in every aspect of the word; the starting point is not to carve solos into a forced compilation. It is roaringly black wholeness in which, unfortunately, an unnecessary intermission breaks the rhythm and leads to the conventions of the performing arts.

I admit that I was confused many times. But that was only a good thing. The viewer should be challenged to reflect.

The expression coming from parkour is pole dancing performed by men without slimy buy-me thinking of sex bars. It has a brutal and violent roughness, though it is extremely well-controlled.

The music by **Pekka Huttunen** is as twisted and slanted as the whole show. Including the throat singing and all.

I don't know what this could be compared to. Not to anything. Scary, and at the same time pleasurably filling the senses. Maybe you can compare it to a lovely nature show 'Avara luonto' by the Finnish Broadcasting Corporation, Yleisradio, but the objects are strangely cavorting people with their raunchy mustaches.

I don't remember seeing a circus act, where is hanging, kicking in the nuts and spitting on faces. But that can also make you purr with amusement.

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CIRCUS

Circus New World: Globally Wanted at Jyväskylän Huoneteatteri. Performers Sami Keinänen, Mikko Kervinen, Perttu Pihlaja, Noora Pasanen, Kaisa Pesonen and Lotta Roukala, design and direction by Seija Hakkarainen, music by Pekka Huttunen.
