

SONGS FOR BABYN YAR

TOUR PACK





Audience & Tour Info

Age guidance: 12+

Songs for Babyn Yar premiered at JW3 as part of EFG London Jazz Festival in autumn 2021, and has toured to Kyiv, Weimar, Cologne and Munich to universal acclaim. We are now booking dates for 2024/2025.

The production has a strong appeal for audiences who want to engage with Ukrainian culture and lovers of music who will rate the exceptional skills of the singers and musicians.

Audiences will also appreciate the piece's nuanced tone in tackling a sensitive historical event.

“The most moving performance I have seen in years”

AUDIENCE MEMBER, LONDON

TASTER
available [HERE](#)

ARCHIVAL VIDEO
available [HERE](#)

PODCAST
available [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)

MORE INFO
available [HERE](#)

**DASH
ARTS**

What is the show about?

Songs for Babyn Yar is a music and theatre performance that intimately weaves languages, harmonies, and cultures to unearth some of the forgotten stories and silenced songs of Babyn Yar in Ukraine.

Nestled close to Kyiv, the ravine of Babyn Yar witnessed the systematic massacre of over 100,000 people, predominantly Jewish, by Nazi soldiers in September 1941, and in the ensuing two years.

We follow three exceptional musicians with Ukrainian and Jewish roots—Yuriy Gurzhy, Svetlana Kundish, and Mariana Sadovska as they embark on a profound exploration of their shared heritage. Together, they delve into personal reflections, survivors' testimonials, traditional Yiddish and Ukrainian folk songs, and newly composed pieces. The performance also integrates the rich prose and poetry of Mariana Kiyanovska, Olena Teliha, and Anatoly Kuznetsov.

“Wonderful... Very moving, profound as well as brave and daring in raising difficult questions”

BBC WORLD SERVICE

“Sadovska’s voice holds the clarity and bite of Slavic folk styles; her stage presence has the bright-eyed intensity of Björk or PJ Harvey.”

THE NEW YORK TIMES



Technical

The show is suitable for mid- to large scale venues having been previously booked in a wide range of spaces between 150-900 capacity.

Company:

4 performers, 1 technical stage manager. Sound engineer and venue tech support required.

Minimum Playing Space:

10m wide x 8 metres deep

Run Time:

1 hour 30 minutes

Get-In:

From 9am on day of performance

Get-Out:

1 hour 30 minutes following the performance

Scenic elements:

The set of Songs for Babyn Yar comprises of 60 cardboard boxes to be assembled on the day of the performance and a 4m x 4m carpet, ordered to arrive in advance at the venue, and 2 chairs, 1 bar stool and 1 desk to be made available by the venue.

Sound:

Please provide a PA suitable for the venue

Lighting:

Full design is available in advance of tour. Pre-rig if available.

Projection:

The production uses projection mapping for which we need a 1920x1080 (FHD) projector minimum 10,000 lumens. Appropriate lens to throw onto stage approximately 10m width.

Full technical specifications are available on request.

Credits

Direction:

Josephine Burton

Dramaturgy:

Yael Shavit and Josephine Burton

Music composition and arrangement:

Yuriy Gurzhy, Svetlana Kundish and Mariana Sadovska

Video, set and projection design:

Marie Blunck

Lighting design:

Jess Bernberg

Technical Stage Manager:

Rachael Head

Production:

Cristina Catalina for Dash Arts

Songs for Babyn Yar was developed in partnership with Ukrainian Institute and Goethe-Institut Ukraine, with further support from Maria Björnson Memorial Fund, Shoresh Charitable Trust, Münchner Kammerspiele (through funding from the Foreign German Ministry and the Civil Society Cooperation Initiative) and their Sisterhood Kyiv-München programme, Goethe-Institut London and Bundeszentrale für politische Bildung. Co-promoted at JW3 with Ukrainian Institute London.



“Quietly, powerfully, deeply, holding our souls in the palms of our hands. I want to believe that other cities of the country will be able to hear this.”

**“Strong and powerful”
“Very impressive”**

AUDIENCE MEMBERS IN KYIV and LONDON



“Beautiful and breathtaking. I felt the tug on my heartstrings and feel it still... a show that deserves to be seen about a story that needs to be told.”

JEWISH RENAISSANCE

“The tone is never angry, mainly elegiac and questioning, asking how do we sing about such events, or make art out of it? Important questions in this context, powerfully realised.

SONGLINES MAGAZINE



“Such memories of Babyn Yar can unite us... Sometimes you just have to remember.”

AUDIENCE MEMBER IN KYIV



ABOUT DASH



DASH ARTS creates exceptional artistic experiences that bridge divides across art-forms, cultures, languages and communities.

Led by Chief Executive and Artistic Director Josephine Burton, Dash Arts has over the last 18 years created award-winning new work with over 10,000 artists and participants to live audiences of over 400,000 worldwide. Our international productions, live and digital events and education programmes expand the way we see the world.

Dash Arts reaches large audiences across the world. Major tours in the UK, Europe, Australia and North America have been widely acclaimed and led to numerous awards and nominations including Olivier, Evening Standard, TMA, Herald Angel and Dora Awards.

“Immersive ingenuity.. that stretches the vocabulary of the stage. Suddenly, theatre is firing on its newest cylinders.”

SUSANNAH CLAPP, THE OBSERVER, ON THE GREAT MIDDLEMARCH MYSTERY

www.dasharts.org.uk

**For interest & bookings
please contact
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