

vom 15.11.2000, 00:00 Uhr

Update: 14.04.2005, 17:03 Uhr

Klaus Karlbauer's new play 'Password: Gilles de Rais - Die Verschwörung' examines the story behind Gilles de Rais - Joan of Arc's bodyguard and an alleged child murderer

A play about knowledge and power premieres in Vienna

Questions of knowledge and power, censorship and truth all appear in a play called 'Password: Gilles de Rais - Die Verschwörung' which premieres on Wednesday at the Atelierhaus of the Akademie der Bildenden Kuenste in Vienna.

The play focuses on Gilles de Rais, who was Joan of Arc's bodyguard and allegedly a child mass murderer.

He was burnt at the stake and became the figure behind the mythical Bluebeard. Another historical character in the play is the conspiracy theorist Aleister Crowley, who in 1939 held a lecture at Oxford University where he tried to establish Rais as an innocent victim of the witch hunts.

The play is framed by a computer game, a 'virtual reality cave' stands upon the stage in which the legendary Joan of Arc sits.

Her opponent and games master is Crowley, who is trying to convince her of Rais's innocence. The game is played in three stages, one of which is an online 'chat' with Rais and at one point the whole system crashes.

Joan has to go through a series of 'experience rooms' before she can escape from the game.

For director Klaus Karlbauer, a multimedia tutor at Vienna's Musikhochschule, the play is an interpretation of the police spy scandal currently rocking Austria's

political scene.

Crowley is played by Johannes Kirsch and Joan by Roswitha Schreiner. Live music is performed by British musician Philip Jeck and counter tenor Florian Meixner.

‘Password: Gilles de Rais - Die Verschwörung’ runs from 15-17 November and will be performed at 8pm at the Atelierhaus of the Akademie der bildenden Kuenst. For more information ring 01/587 05 04

(RW)

URL: http://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/english_news/338747_A-play-about-knowledge-and-power-premieres-in-Vienna.html

© 2013 Wiener Zeitung