

# 420PEOPLE

## WHY THINGS GO WRONG

The premiere of 420PEOPLE's performance entitled Why things go wrong, choreographed by Sylva Šafková and performed by the duo of dancers Michal Heriban and Viktor Konvalinka, was created exclusively for Studio Maiselovka.

It raises, through contemporary dance, the unique theme of the (un)moral, ethically challenging nature of human behaviour, which, although often overlooked, seriously affects the lives of everyone around us. Everyone has probably experienced a situation where everything was going right until it all went wrong. Sometimes, it is just a coincidence, but a specific culprit can often be identified. The performance addresses the grave subject of the evil that such people cause.

English friendly

During: 50 minutes, no interval

### CREDITS

Choreography: Sylva Šafková

Dancers: Michal Heriban, Viktor Konvalinka / 420PEOPLE

Text: Jiří Šafka

Music: various compositions + voiceover (Todd Nesbitt)

Music editing: Golden Hive Studio & Amak Golden

Set design & costumes: Sylva Šafková, Jiří Šafka

Scene: David Borovský, Marek Flachs

Production: Anna Borovská

PR: Aneta Jochimová

Light design: Martin Špetlík

Premiere: 11th March 2023, Studio Maiselovka, Prague, Czech Republic

This piece was produced by 420PEOPLE with financial support from the City of Prague, Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, Prague 1 and Studio Maiselovka.

The show was inspired by **Aaron James' book Assholes: A Theory:**

*“We consider a person to be an ‘Asshole’ if they systematically claim to benefit from privileges in interpersonal relationships by virtue of an ingrained sense of entitlement immunising them against other people’s complaints.”*

### **ABOUT 420PEOPLE:**

The contemporary dance company 420PEOPLE was founded by Václav Kuneš and Nataša Novotná at the end of 2007 when they had returned from a stint with one of the world’s most prestigious dance theatre companies - Jiří Kylián’s Nederlands Dans Theatre. When conceiving the company’s name, the founders were inspired by the telephone code of the Czech Republic. 420PEOPLE emerged out of a shared dream to build their own contemporary dance company in Prague. Currently, 420PEOPLE celebrates 15 years on the Czech and international dance and theatre scene.

420PEOPLE is not only a contemporary dance company but also a “brand” presenting a unique vocabulary of contemporary dance to the public in the form of performances and original choreographies at the latest interpretive and professional levels. Their continuous work introduces exceptional originality and an unforgettable artistic experience to the stage and online space. An essential part of the work is an unconventional dialogue with the audience through workshops, online projects, discussions, dance films, documentaries, screenings, and other activities that emerged during the pandemic. Even though 420PEOPLE has been performing as a contemporary dance company without a permanent theatre space, it has had its own rehearsal venue, Studio Maiselovka, in the centre of Prague since 2020. Furthermore, the company values teamwork and provides professional conditions for its members, enabling their development and education. This is supported by the systematic work of the production and administrative team of in-house colleagues and external collaborators.

Website: [www.420people.org/](http://www.420people.org/)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/420PEOPLE.DANCE.COMPANY/](https://www.facebook.com/420PEOPLE.DANCE.COMPANY/)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/420people\\_dance/?hl=cs](https://www.instagram.com/420people_dance/?hl=cs)

Youtube: [www.youtube.com/user/420PEOPLEdance](https://www.youtube.com/user/420PEOPLEdance)

# STAGE & SCENOGRAPHY

## **STAGE SIZE (premiering stage, can be altered):**

6 m wide – 10 m deep – 4 m high (floor to truss).

**NOTE:** depending on the stage size there might be a need to use masking curtains which shall be provided by the organizer.

## **AUDITORIUM:**

elevated seating

## **DECORATION:**

- inclined mirror wall made of 5/6 pieces bound together hanged from truss in the front of the stage (how exactly is the wall constructed always depends on the particular stage and must be consulted),
- rectangle of glitters on the floor evened out (approx. 260x225 cm) centred at the back of the stage,
- a hook for clothes on the side wall in front of the stage.

**NOTE:** bear in mind that glitters are dispersed throughout the show – cover any close equipment/devices in advance, if necessary, in order to protect it. There are also 2 people needed to pack the glitters away once the shows are finished.

## **PROVIDED BY THE ORGANIZER:**

- light grey dance floor with mirelon underneath all over the stage, even and clean
- reliable access to truss
- vacuum cleaner + dustpan and brush (for cleaning the glitters)
- masking curtains (to alter the stage space if necessary)

## **PROVIDED BY THE COMPANY:**

- 18 kg of glitters (30 kg in total possible to use)
  - small props (glasses, a hook etc.)
  - 5/6 pieces of mirrors (77x190x2,5 cm/each, approx. 5 kg/each)
- + hanging equipment  
(wire, snap hooks, wire rope clips) + a drill + dance tape
- 2 broomsticks

# LIGHTNING

Depends on the particular stage – lightning will be altered to fit. Always needs to be consulted with the company beforehand. However, basic lightning requirements for bigger stage than the premiering one are below.

**SET UP:** Approx. 6-7 hours to prepare.

## **PROVIDED BY THE ORGANIZER:**

- 15x par64 cp61
- 5x par64 cp62
- 5x fresnel 2kW
- 22x profile 750w 36deg
- hazer machine

**NOTE:** Light plot will be provided separately depending on the particular stage and its needs.

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# SOUND

Soundtrack is provided by the company, can be played on a computer provided by the organizer.

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# CREW: 420PEOPLE

- touring company usually consists of 6 people coming in a van (discuss details in advance)
- 2 dancers, 1 choreographer, 1 light designer, 1 production manager, 1 driver

## **PROVIDED BY THE ORGANIZER:**

- 2 technicians for set up (including hanging the mirrors), 1 light designer, 1 sound technician.

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# TIME SCHEDULE & OTHER REQUIREMENTS

The show can be prepared in one day in case of an evening performance (transportation a day ahead – depending on the distance).

- Approx. 6-7 hours set-up
- 2 hours rehearsal that ends no later than 90 minutes before start of the show.

Specific time schedule will be prepared based on the communication between the organizer and the company. The organizer provides a heated dressing room with shower and mirrors.

