

THE NORDIC COUNCIL ■ ■

# HÄPPY HOUR

CIRCUS OF THE MORNING

AFTER THE NIGHT BEFORE



# HÄPPY HOUR



A new Nordic circus creation  
by The Nordic Council

Häppy Hour is an ode to the deep dark north and its social culture. It grapples with the contradictory relationship to alcohol, and explores the weird and awkward experiences that the northern nightlife has to offer. Interpreting it through the lens of contemporary circus and comedy, Häppy Hour approaches real life situations through awkward humour, showing how things aren't always that serious, and that it's ok to laugh at ourselves, even at our worst.



# WORKING GROUP

Created and performed by: Merri Heikkilä, Jakob Jacobsson, Bjarni Árnason  
Directorial input by: Olli Vuorinen & Roberto Magro  
Sound design and live music: Merri Heikkilä & Jakob Jacobsson  
Light Design: Kenneth Danielsen

Production: The Nordic Council  
Co-produced by: Nuua company (FI) & Dynamo Workspace (DK)

Supported by: Dynamo Workspace (DK), Tjarnarbío (IS), Nordic Culture Point, Nordisk Kulturfond, Taike Arts Promotion Centre Finland

## Videos

[Premiere in Dynamo Workspace](#)

[Trailer](#)

Runtime: 65 minutes. Audience age: 8+. Minimum stage: 8m wide, 6 deep, 6m high



The Nordic Council continues their exploration of life in the north with their second full length show. Bringing audiences their mix of peculiar humour and contemporary circus.

This show delves into the moments and situations that arise when you mix cold winters, alcohol and awkward northerners. It looks at both the traditional and the current ways we drink our sorrows away and shares them with the audience with a hearty dose of self awareness and circus skills. The show invites the audience to lighthearted self-reflection in settings that (almost) anyone can recognise themselves in. The three northern artists come together to collaborate on their collective heritage, coming from Iceland, Sweden and Finland there's space for them both to share the similarities, but also to express their differences.

Häppy Hour is a one-hour circus show in which juggling, physical comedy and acrobatics blend with live music and nordic stereotypes to create a show that is both surprising and intriguing.

# THE NORDIC COUNCIL



The Nordic Council is a contemporary circus collective, creating shows about Nordic identities and making circus based on the artists collective Northern heritage. The Nordic Council was created in 2017 by Merri Heikkilä (Finland), Bjarni Árnason (Iceland) and Jakob Jacobsson (Sweden), whilst the three performers were still studying at Codarts Circus Arts in Rotterdam.

The company was founded on the common sense of humour and shared experience of the three artists, and therefore it is logical that this was also the inspiration for the first show of the trio.

The first show was created as a way to share their common heritage both with audiences who have a direct relation to the north, but also to share it with audiences for whom the material is completely foreign. Bringing audiences together with their particular amalgamation of Nordic cultures has since been the motivation for their continued touring and creations.

# TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

As a circus show containing aerial acrobatics, this show will require some special circumstances to play. The show requires rigging points strong enough to hold a person (WLL 400kgs). The same rigging system requires one more ceiling point to pull the rope out sideways, and a floor connection point to anchor the system to.

The show requires black linoleum dance flooring, and the ability to fully black out the performance space.

Minimum stage dimensions	8m wide, 6m deep, 6m high to rigging point
Preferred stage dimensions	8m wide + 1,5 m wings on the sides, 8m deep, 8m high to rigging point
Duration	65 min
Age recommendation	10+
Set up time	8 hours
Break down time	2 hours
Crew	4 people (3 performers, 1 technician)

For details and light plot check the technical rider

Show material and ensemble travels by van and will require parking on the location, as well as accommodation for 4 people

# CONTACT:

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