

teatro caprile:

Closed Borders – Dangerous Flight

PROMISED LAND – ERETZ AUSTRIA ?

Interactive theater with guided day hike in the Krimmler Achental

After WWII most of the Eastern European Jews who survived the Holocaust didn't wish to live in Europe anymore, where their social, cultural and economic bases had been destroyed. Between 1945 and 1948 250.000 Jews from Eastern Europe had been illegally transferred to the western occupation zones. They lived as "displaced persons" in camps like Givat Avoda (Hebrew for "hill of work") in Saalfelden with the goal to reach eventually Palestine – "Eretz Israel".

"teatro caprile" follows that path of Jewish "displaced persons" in the summer of 1947 with a day hike in the Krimmler Achental. During Great Britain's mandate in Palestine and France's mandate in Syria and Lebanon, both wanted to prevent a Jewish Exodus from Austrian camps and in particular immigration into Palestine. By contrast, American occupying forces in Salzburg and Upper Austria were tolerating these movements and the Austrian Ministry of the Interior explicitly ordered police force of Krimml "not to look out of the window" in order to enable the Exodus over the Krimmler Tauern. Groups of up to 200 people were hiking over this 2.635 meters mountain pass.

In outdoor scenes on the way from Krimml (1.067 m) to the Windbach-Alm we show that Palestine or "Eretz Israel" was the last hope for those who survived Nazi concentration camps as well as for Jews from Eastern Europe, who had to face anti-Semitic resentments and pogroms in their former home countries. In the "land of fathers" (Theodor Herzl) they wanted to contribute to the founding of a Jewish state which was intended to provide for Jews a friction-free future as a nation among others.

These refugee treks through a high-elevation Alpine landscape were organized by the Jewish organization 'Bricha' which had a tightly woven network of contact points along the escape route to Southern Italy. Marko Feingold (*1913), survivor of four concentration camps and today's President of the "Jewish Community Salzburg" had, together with the legendary mountain guide Viktor Knopf, who was also a survivor of concentration camps, detected and selected a pathway over the Krimml Alps, after previous escape routes of Reschenpass and Brenner (both in the French occupation zone) had been shut down for refugees.

Will the Krimmler Tauern be revived as escape route if the Brenner pass should again be closed and fenced off for refugees and asylum seekers??

Researcher / Director: Andreas Kosek

Actors: Julia Leiter, Heide Maria Hager, Georg Beham-Kreuzbauer, Eszter Hollosi, Céline Nerbl, Andreas Kosek u.a.

Assistant Director: Maria Steinberger

Mountain guide / Narrator: Hans Nerbl

Events will take place at any weather!

DATE: June 22, 23 and 25, 2017

- **Meeting point: 8:45 AM at Tourisms Office Krimml**

Hiking tour: total elevation 600m

Dogs are not allowed!

Personal fitness and safe footing is required!

Don't forget hiking boots, sun protection and drinking water!

Participation is at your own risk!

Program:

1st scene: 9 AM Musikpavillon, Krimml

Hike to the Krimml waterfalls

2nd scene: at the power plant

ascent of 300 m (about 1 h) on the old Tauernweg

taxi transfer to Krimml Tauernhaus

3rd scene: in the Krimml Tauernhaus

Break until 11:45 AM

taxi transfer towards Windbach-Alm

4th scene: in open air

hike (45m ascent) on the old Tauernweg

5th scene: in open air

hike (60m ascent) on the old Tauernweg

6th scene: in open air

hike (60m ascent) toward Windbach-Alm

7th scene: in open air

along the way (60m ascent) to Windbach-Alm

8th scene: at the Windbach-Alm

Closing 2 PM

taxi pick-up intersection Windbach-Alm 3 PM

More Information: www.teatro-caprile.at

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