

Translation of the article “Oder escape drücken”, by Florian Malzbacher,

Frankfurter Rundschau, 30th of Nov. '02

Or press escape

Antonia Baehr, William Wheeler, TMT Jones and Edit Kaldor to the
'Plateaux'-festival's finale

Hansel and Gretel too don't die out, and get lost every once in a while in the forest of the new confusion, this time they were called Antonia Baehr and William Wheeler and contributed to the last evening of the 'Plateaux'-festival with their piece “Holding hands”- but completely without evil witch. (*To the photo*)

When they stand shyly on the stage in their old fashioned brown cloths in which they seem to be stuck in by others, holding hands and at the same time at biggest possible distance to each other – then we almost feel like pitying this dissimilar couple. In men's shirt and trousers, but to that the nails decently red, the lips too, androgyny and indefinite: him slight, her sturdy, stand and merely look into the white stage-box, look straight ahead, never at each other, they who nonetheless hold each other indefatigably. They turn the gaze upwards in sync; distort the mouth in slow motion into a minimalistic smile. During minutes, nothing else than that happens.

When applause, music, and lastly even an aria get started from the portable CD-player and foist through the sound a meaning on the mime, then that alone already works as an almost physical sensation.

Touching and at the same time full of wit, Antonia Baehr and William Wheeler set their precise gestures to the last evening of the international 'Plateaux' festival for young directors at the art-house Mousonturm in *Holding hands* – and stick into your memory with their in great composure always clear and definite stage-presence.

(...)