

photo © Daniel Porsdorf



2020 London International Mime Festival in association with Jacksons Lane presents

## still hungry (GERMANY)

# RAVEN

London premiere

## JACKSONS LANE

**Tue 21 - Thu 23 January**

7.30pm

After-show discussion led by  
Adrian Berry: Tue 21 Jan

BSL-interpreted performance with  
Jenny Draper: Wed 22 Jan

**Runs approx 55 mins, no interval**

Devised and performed by:  
**Lena Ries, Romy Seibt, Anke van Engelshoven**

Co-Direction:  
**Rachel Hameleers**

Creative support:  
**Bryony Kimmings**

Producer:  
**Anke Politz**  
for Chamäleon Productions

### About the Company

**still hungry** is a contemporary circus collective from Berlin. Their work is fresh, feminist, strong, and unafraid to tackle intensely personal subjects that don't lend themselves easily to circus, a genre still primarily associated with entertainment. The three artist/mothers Romy, Anke, and Lena reunited after long years of friendship to create this piece of innovative circus, in collaboration with British performance artist Bryony Kimmings as creative advisor.



## London International Mime Festival

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www.mimelondon.com

London International Mime Festival (LIMF) promotes contemporary visual theatre. Its productions have been nominated for, and won, Olivier Awards and in 2017 the festival was honoured with the *Empty Space - Peter Brook Special Achievement Award* for its work over four decades. Founded in 1977, LIMF is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation.

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Jim Henson Foundation



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#### Artists' Notes

*In RAVEN we re-examine the concept of 'Rabenmutter'. We move away from the negative association, which claims that we neglect our children, towards something beautiful and positive. We want to show that the term 'Rabenmutter' can mean that one cares for one's children, but that one also cares for oneself. That one does not have to sacrifice one's self, but can integrate both. In our case it means being a mother and being an artist at the same time.*

**Anke van Engelshoven**

*Our topic is not necessarily easy, because it is very personal and autobiographical. Sometimes I almost feel we have to justify choosing circus as our form of expression. But circus is also capable of exploring complex subject areas! That's not something solely reserved for other art forms. I think especially when it comes to a topic such as motherhood and one's own role behavior as a woman, many people quickly wonder why this topic has to be brought to a circus stage. To which I can only say: Why not?!*

**Lena Ries**

*To me it was very exciting to explore our topic with the means of contemporary circus. It also feels like the image of circus is slowly changing in the classical theatre world. There are still many theatre makers who don't really take circus seriously, especially in Germany, but there are also some who are extremely open and watch new developments*

*in contemporary circus with great interest. I would love it if in the future even more were to happen here. That more and more theaters will open up to contemporary circus and that new spaces will be created together.*

**Romy Seibt**

*Imagine circus but actually feminist! This is the untold tale of motherhood... a tale of not being sure, of fucked bodies, of losing your sense of freedom and self. Unashamedly honest and brilliantly brutal. **still hungry** are my favourite circus troupe ever!*

**Bryony Kimmings**

*To produce RAVEN together with the artists' collective still hungry and to be able to tour the show to such important festivals as the Edinburgh Festival Fringe or the London International Mime Festival is thrilling and a welcome affirmation of our work. An important aim of our work is to support and promote contemporary circus in all its facets, but especially when it comes to delving into topics that circus hadn't yet explored. RAVEN and its exploration of working mothers and women on stage was an important first step. And working with artists who so courageously, openly and constructively plunge into such a relevant topic was very rewarding and a great inspiration.*

**Anke Politz**

The creation of RAVEN was funded with support from the Senate Department for Culture and Europe. It was supported by and previewed at Jacksons Lane in 2018, and at the 2019 Edinburgh Fringe Festival won a Scotsman Fringe First Award and a Three Weeks Edinburgh Award.

CHAMÄLEON Productions:

[chamaeleon-productions.com](http://chamaeleon-productions.com)

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