



THE 12TH INTERNATIONAL NEUROPSYCHOANALYSIS CONGRESS, **BERLIN**

THE RECEPTION: 25 JUNE, RADIALSYSTEM V

We are delighted to invite you to a performance of **Gruesome Grey Pulp**, a dialogical concert of a psychoanalyst and a neuroscientist, received with great acclaim in North America, which we are proud to bring to Europe...

In other words, a scientific screwball comedy in 2 acts and 5 scenes, lasting one hour.

This witty show is an unusual performance piece presenting a unique marriage of music and dialogue. Liz, a psychoanalyst, and George, a neuroscientist, meet at a roadside service station on a remote highway while a mechanic is trying hopelessly to resuscitate her engine-dead car. A scientific discussion ensues. In a fun dialogue, the two characters argue how psychoanalysis, as founded by Sigmund Freud, can be related to the brain. Considering the recent progress in neuroscience, the science of the brain, one may be inclined to argue that Freud could be replaced by the neuroscientists of our day. But aren't we, as humans, more than just our brain and its grey matter? What about our Ego, our sense of Self? In 5 short scenes, Liz and George touch upon deep existential issues about the nature of humanity and our standing in the world, while the witty and animated dialogue hints at their growing attraction for each other.

The author, the pianist and the composer whose close collaboration and individual expertise and qualifications resulted in this unique piece are:

- **Georg Northoff** (author/George), neuroscientist, psychiatrist, and philosopher, originally from Germany, is unique in his research and qualifications. Currently a resident of Canada, he holds two Endowed Chairs at the University of Ottawa. Most recently, he wrote a neurophilosophical mystery novel for a general audience that has led to several readings invitations on both sides of the Atlantic.

- Internationally acclaimed Austrian pianist and actress **Elisabeth Eschwé** (pianist/Liz) is one of the world-leading specialists in combining dialogue and music. Her latest and critically acclaimed CD, in which she combines readings of Clara Schumann's love letters to Robert Schumann with his piano music, is a brilliant example.

- Armenian-American composer **John Sarkissian** is author of symphonic, chamber, vocal, and stage music performed world-wide live and in broadcast. His music has been awarded the top prize at competitions in the United States and Europe. His keen ear for drama in music and his predilection for humour make his music ideally suited for *Gruesome Grey Pulp*.