

Festival du Mort
Bazar Cafe
La Charité-sur-Loire

Raze The Bar (Hortense Gerardo)

Trade in your tarot card at the bar for a glass of red or white, and the barwoman (Hortense Gerardo) will tell you your destiny. You might also get served by Death (Neil Fleming) – to a purgatorial woodwind soundtrack played on Alain Mignon's sculptural organ.

Morte au comptoir (Alain Foix)

Welcome to the underworld. Not so different from a world you might recognise. Make the transition to the other side with Barman (Fred Fortas)

Charon (Alain Aithnard) then becomes your guide for the evening, as crossing the Styx, the audience explores separate worlds created across 6 locations in the Bazar Cafe building.

Burning (Ulrike Syha)

The build up to revolutionary action - and its consequences. Meticulous evocation re-presented from the point of view of a ten year-old. (Morgane Lambert)

The Last Post (Sara Clifford)

An alternative funeral. Margaret (Anna Desreaux) marks the passing of her husband Kenneth in an unexpected way. Alain Mignon's unique sonic sculptures - Percussion and strings, with Manuele Robert as spirit dancing between the wooden sculptures, like tombstones in a cemetery. A re-interiorisation of the black trumpeter who subverts the last post with jazz extemporisation

Glass Heart Solos : Death - Plus... (Hortense Gerardo, with Manuele Robert and Alfred Alerte)

A soundtrack which moves from the sound of heavy rain to Ghanaian funerary rites through Chinese percussion to country ballad. Hortense ritually summoning the creature (Alfred) from its underground lair. A kind of hyper extended tubular pastiche gorilla... Manuele is the ghostly spirit observing, on the edge of their shared intensity. But who is master and servant? And of what?

Paris Underground (Jessica Litwak)

Sarah Bernhardt (Morgane Lambert) and Moliere (Fred Fortas) play out a joyous pas-de-deux as we flit by moonlight across the celebrated inhabitants of Pere Lachaise, against the backdrop of their ignorance of the graffitied swastika on Bernhardt's tomb, (they were long since dead) which Alice B Toklas (Penny Black) works silently to remove. This had particular poignance for those in the audience aware that the Bazar Cafe building although closed for 25 years, was once where the Gestapo made their local headquarters. (The area around La Charité-sur-Loire had a strong Maquis presence...)

Last Dog Standing (Neil Fleming)

A lone detective (Fred Fortas) co-opts the audience in his existential search for the meaning of vengeance, while trying to work out who killed him.

Baby Doll (Penny Black)

Mother Pat (Anna Desreaux) and two daughters Margaret (Morgane Lambert) and Fiona

(Penny Black) act out a macabre children's tea party with dolls. But whose story is it and how does revenge come served in the afterlife?

Translation - Fred Fortas (+ Anne Monfort - Burning)

Script Editing & Direction - Jonathan Meth

Concept and Production - Alain Foix