

vtp: "Night, Mother" opens at the theatre on Petersplatz

# "I'm gonna kill myself"

By Barbara Ottawa

A woman comes into the kitchen of her house on a Saturday night. She seems a bit lost and confused. She calls for her daughter. Jessie enters the room, asks for old towels and sheets – and "daddy's" gun.

"I'm gonna kill myself" is the sentence that changes the whole evening. Jessie has decided to leave this world because she is "sad and tired of it all". Slowly the audience is led into the isolation, loneliness and despair in Jessie's life.

Her mother, Thelma, who heavily depends on her daughter, tries to talk Jessie out of her suicidal plans with every possible tactics she can think of. In the course of the dialogue, hidden secrets surface and honesty intensifies the mother-daughter relationship. For Jessie the question remains whether she should have told her mother about her intentions or just have said "Night, Mother".

An intense and moving play about how much it takes for someone to want to live on.

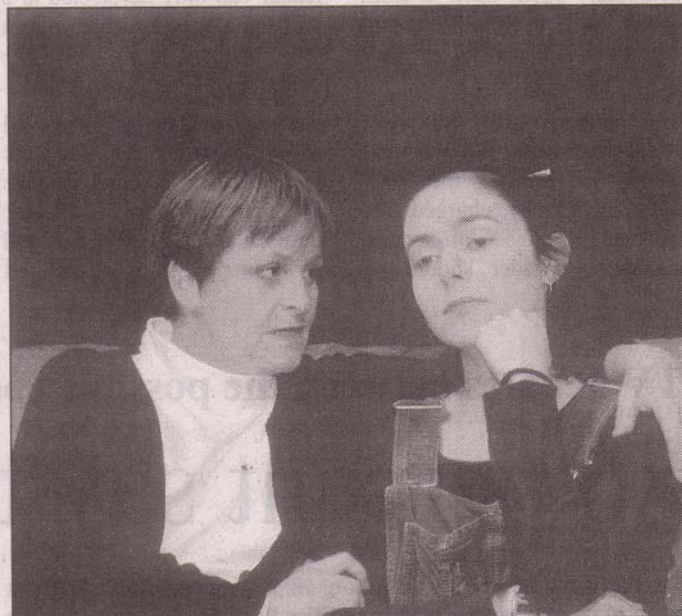
Bronwynn Mertz convinces as Jessie and Kathy Tanner makes the audience fight with her for her daughter's life.

"Night, Mother" by Marsha Norman won the Pulitzer Prize in 1983. It is the second production by the vienna theatre project (vtp), founded in spring this year. Artistic and executive director Martin Buxbaum, who had the idea for

this theatre project, aims to present high-quality English-language theatre productions. He choses different venues in Vienna for each play.

The play is shown at the Ensemble Theater on Petersplatz in Vienna's first districts. Performances are every day at 7.45 p.m until November 30.

For more information on the vtp: <http://www.viennatheatreproject.at>



Talking about life – mother and daughter. Photo: vtp