

MASPETH

Full length play in one act by Marco Calvani

“No man is an island, entire of itself;
every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main.
If a clod be washed away by the sea, earth is the less,
as well as if a promontory were,
as well as if a manor of thy friend's or of thine own were:
any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind,
and therefore never send to know for whom the bells tolls; it tolls for thee.”

(John Donne)

“No man is an island,
but each man created his own island to cope with the prejudice and censure.
The time for politeness has to end.”

(Derek Jarman)

Characters:

ANJA, 35

VICKY, 25

SAM, 25

Plot:

Sam and Vicky, roommates, friends, and occasional enemies, live together in a townhouse in Maspeth, Queens. Without Sam's permission, Vicky invites her co-worker Anja – a Serbian immigrant with an abusive ex-boyfriend and a penchant for the peculiar – to stay with them, causing their uneasy cohabitation to quickly descend into emotional chaos. When a young boy's body is mysteriously discovered along a creek near their home, Anja seems to know more than she's letting on, and it becomes increasingly clear that the truth under the mystery lies closer to home than they ever knew. MASPETH is an exploration of the need to belong in this world, this life, and ourselves.

Production history:

First performance (staged reading): 30 June 2016, Planet Connections Theatre Festivity.
Directed by Shira-Lee Shalit. With Evgeniya Radilova, Christina Toth and Alexander Lodge.

Originally written in English

Available also in Italian