

## **Les Estivants**

By advocating direct, festive and collective theatre, a group of 10 actors/actresses bring Gorky's "Summerfolk" to the stage with a touch of mischievousness and derision.

This text, written in 1904 and focusing on the stance taken by the middle class during a period of total social upheaval, echoes our current-day context incredibly well.

Which choices does our era invite us to embrace? What great decisions can we, yes us too, take hold of?

Summerfolk is the story of a group of friends who've come to enjoy summer in the country.

They delight in the great outdoors, drink, relax in the sun and talk about education, literature, love. Yet these sometimes fulfilled, sometimes incensed discussions basically just mask the heightened edginess which consumes them.

Everywhere around them something is starting to crack, a transformation is taking place: revolts rumble and upheavals explode.

Yet they, like holidaymakers of History, appear to be overwhelmed by their powerlessness.

But are they really powerless? What if a change was to gradually take place in this group? What if word was about to become deed?