

Sex and Suicide

A new dance and theater project staged by the Nowy Theater in Warsaw uses the story of a tragic porn star to explore themes such as lust, longing for fame and sexual objectification.

Directed and choreographed to trance music by France's Claude Bardouil, the new show *Exhausted*, (Polish title *Wyczerpani*), is inspired by the life and death of Shannon Michelle Wisley, better known as adult film star Savannah, who took her own life when she was only 23. Despite her young age, Savannah was an established star in the world of X-rated movies, having appeared in over 100 of them. She led a troubled life, which included dark sexual episodes in her childhood.

To Bardouil, Savannah is an anti-heroine whose "exhaustion" acquires different meanings throughout the play. Audiences see Savannah committing suicide in a white Corvette, after which she goes to heaven and meets other female erotic icons who, like her, are the objects of desire. Together with his dancers and actors, Bardouil explores what it is that turns a human being into an object.

The music for the show was written by Paweł Andryszczyk, Piotr Maślanka and Adam Walicki. The cast includes Ewa Dałkowska, Bartosz Gelner and Magdalena Popławska.

Upcoming performances: Feb. 1, Feb. 4-8, 8 p.m.
Ujazdowski Castle Center for Contemporary Art (CSW), 2 Jazdów St.

Tickets zł.40 (regular) and 25 (concessions), available at the Nowy Theater box office at 20 Madalińskiego St. and at www.e-bilet.pl and www.bilety24.pl