



## **After us the Deluge? A Montage**

under the patronage of  
**Meera Gandhi**  
Founder & CEO  
The Giving Back Foundation

Gregorij H. von Leitis  
(Recitation)

Michael Lahr  
(Concept & Introduction)

Premiered at the  
Elysium Festival Bernried / Germany

*„No generation has a freehold on this earth. All we have is a life tenancy with full repairing lease.“*

- Margaret Thatcher

The montage combines poems and thoughts dating from the Middle Ages through the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Dealing with topics such as war, religious fundamentalism, moral decay, the destruction of the environment, economic and financial crisis, and the disappearance of the Middle Class, these texts, written more than two generations ago, seem created for our own time. As in a distant mirror they reflect on urgent matters of today. The result is a vehement, moving admonition not to leave the world to the destructive logic of economics and to rise with full force against racism, discrimination and war.

Featured are highly political and very personal texts by Franz von Assisi, Wendell Berry, Bertolt Brecht, Albert Einstein, Lion Feuchtwanger, Erich Fried, Mahatma Gandhi, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Hans Henny Jahn, Günter Kunert, Tatanga Mani, Friedrich Nietzsche, Erwin Piscator, Chief Seattle, Jura Soyfer, Henry David Thoreau, and Kurt Tucholsky.

The critic of Münchener Merkur, one of Germany's biggest daily newspapers wrote after the premiere in May 2010: *„None of the texts, which Elysium's Artistic Director Gregorij von Leitis recited on Sunday afternoon at the baroque music hall of the Bernried monastery was younger than 70 years. But none of them seemed outdated. Under the title 'After us the Deluge?', Michael Lahr has put together a collage of texts from the 1920's and 30's which seem to have been written for our times. (...)*

*Without cut, without editing, this collage would have made a rousing radio broadcast – a wake-up call, for which one wishes many open ears“*

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