



## NOVECENTO – the legend of the pianist on the ocean

### Cast & Crew:

Jürg Kienberger	as Danny Boodman T.D. Lemon Novecento
Nik Schmid	as Tim Tooney
Marco Schädler	arrangements, piano & accordion
Daniel Sailer	double bass
Peter Conradin Zumthor	drums
Laura Lienhard	the lady at the bar

Musical arrangements:	Atlantic Jazz Orchestra
Director & script writer:	Manfred Ferrari
Scenery & costumes:	Ursina Schmid
Production management:	Gianna Cadonau
Production:	ressort k, Chur
Co-production:	Theater Schaffhausen, Tuchlaube Aarau, Kleintheater Luzern

**Opening night: May 17, 2012 at Postremise Chur**

### Synopsis / brief description:

The orchestra formerly employed aboard the ocean liner *SS Virginian* has indeed seen better days, as the musicians now find themselves touring mainland Europe, performing night after night in various clubs and salons. In their hearts, the band is joined by its former bandleader every night, the legendary “ocean pianist” Novecento who never in his entire life set foot on shore. In various short scenes and songs the clarinet player Tim reminisces about his friend Novecento. Joining him on the piano, Jürg Kienberger takes Novecento’s seat and presents beautiful jazz tunes from a long-forgotten era. Though, is it really Kienberger? Or isn’t that frizzy-haired guy at the piano... a certain Danny Boodman T.D. Lemon Novecento himself...?

### A note from the director

Do you really need to travel the world and visit as many different places as possible in order to get an idea of what the world is like? Are “worldliness” and savoir-vivre things you have to “earn” by actually traveling the world and going places? According

to Baricco, the creator of the original Novecento, the answer is no: His protagonist is an extremely experienced and worldly character – although not because he’s seen it with his own eyes, but because he absorbs all the narrative bits and pieces, the tales, the looks on the faces, the smells and the songs the passengers bring aboard the SS *Virginian*. That’s the palette he uses to paint his own picture of the world. Of course his painting might look somewhat different than the “actual world out there”. But then again, what’s “real” anyway? It’s basically a tale about how this odd fellow uses the information offered by others to define his own home, to create a place where he can happily exist. The more he finds out about the world, the more he knows where he belongs. And perhaps that’s the ultimate lesson to learn in this world: to know which part of it is right for you. Choosing no more than a few square meters in the hull for his retreat, Novecento can be a free man; he’s part of this little world, and of course he has to perish with it, because he doesn’t belong anywhere but here. (Manfred Ferrari)

## Theater Company «ressort k»

ressort k is a professional company based in Chur. Established in 1995 by drama producer Gaby Bernetta and director Manfred Ferrari, the group has been defining drama and theater in its hometown for over 20 years, essentially putting Chur on the map. While the city’s Stadttheater focused entirely on performances by visiting companies between 1995 and 2004, ressort k played a key role in actually producing original plays in Chur, offering local productions and remaining prolific in the dramatic arts: Producing drama in German, Italian and Rhaeto-Romanic, ressort k created more than twenty productions, often dealing with local issues. Comprised of actors from Switzerland, Germany, and especially Graubünden, ressort k does not have its own venue but usually performs at Theater Chur. Additionally, ressort k has also been performing at the city’s former Postremise, and it received various invitations to perform at festivals around the country and abroad (e.g. Swiss Theater Encounter, Theaterspektakel Zurich, Theaterfestival Cervia (Italy)).

## booking-contact:

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teaser (6.20 min. / Deutsch (english subtitles): [www.vimeo.com/259255478](http://www.vimeo.com/259255478)