A SORT OF A MUSICAL BY RASMUS AND THE TOXICOS

What happens to human intimacy when it is mediated by state bureaucracy? *A Sort of a Musical* is a performative and sonic exploration of migrant life in contemporary Denmark. The work traces the profound shift from navigating cold immigration frameworks to the vibrant, messy realities of finding love, building community, and finding stability in a new land. As an ensemble entirely composed of migrants, the production team directly intertwines their own diverse personal histories, legal battles, and lived experiences into the very structure and construction of the piece.

On stage, the practicalities of paperwork collide with a fluid world of memory. The production reimagines the musical genre by blending traditional instruments with found objects and noise-producing devices, creating a rich, layered acoustic environment. As the performers weave songs out of legal forms and personal histories, A Sort of a Musical bridges the gap between official procedures and intimate encounters, offering the audience a performance with an emotional, rhythmically charged exploration of belonging.
A Sort of a Musical is intended to be presented during the third quarter of 2027 at Sydhavn Teater

Technical Description

A Sort of a Musical is a hybrid contemporary music theater project that dives into performance art, avant-garde live sound design, and stage experimentation. Structurally, the production lies on a collaborative environment where performers act simultaneously as live musicians, using a mixed setups of traditional instrumentation alongside amplified everyday objects, toys, and custom-built noise-producing devices.

Because the text and music intertwine with legal documents and live choreography, the core team is built to balance strict technical performance execution with complex musical conducting and immersive spatial audio cues. The project operates under a unified creative structure, where the pre-production phase feeds directly into an intensive, 15-day staging and tech block at Sydhavn Teater to lock down the production's unique scenic, lighting, and acoustic environment.

The production team of the project consists of David Sebastian Lopez Restrepo – Director, Lead Performer & Designer, Pape Arce Bayona – Composer, Music Director & Performer, the live performers and musicians are Sarah Buchner, Tomas Gubbins and Mikka Persdottir, Kristin Wichstrøm – Technical Advisor & Light designer and Marcela Lucatelli as Artistic Consultant.

DETAILED TIME SCHEDULE

Pre-Production & Concept Development

Duration: 2 Months (July 1 – August 15, 2027) **Team:** Director and Composer only.

July – Week 1 & 2: Structural Mapping

Director maps out the dramatic structure and scene breakdown based on the bureaucratic themes. The composer begins testing sound environments and composing structures.

July – Week 3 & 4: Audio-Dramatic Integration

Script outlines are integrated with early musical sketches. Direct development of the song concepts regarding official procedures versus personal stories.

August – Week 1 & 2: Technical & Final Prep

Music and sound layers are locked into a workable production draft.

Ensemble and Rehearsals

Duration: 15 Days (August 17 – September 11, 2027)

Venue: Rehearsal Space at Sydhavn Teater **Team:** Full Artistic and Performing Cast.

August – Week 3: Ensemble Integration (Days 1–5)

Full cast meets. Table readings of the script and music workshops.

August – Week 4: Scenographic & Sound Merging (Days 6–10)

Incorporating costumes, props, and set elements into the action. Intensive vocal and musical pacing rehearsals to intertwine songs with performance art elements.

September – Week 1: Run-Throughs & Refinements (Days 11–15)

Full, uninterrupted run-throughs of the entire musical framework.

Technical Setup & Test Shows

Duration: 1 Week (September 13 – September 19, 2027) **Venue:** Sydhavn Teater.

September – Week 2 (Early Week): Tech Week

Move-in to the venue space, lighting design focus, and live mic/sound adjustments.

September – Week 2 (Late Week): Audience Test Shows

Test Show 1: First public run-through with an invited test audience, audience feedback.

Test Show 2: Second test show following added suggestions of the audience in the previous session.

Official Performance Run

Duration: 2 Weeks (September 21 – October 4, 2027)

Performance Load: 8 Shows total. **Venue:** Sydhavn Teater.

September – Week 3: Opening Run (Shows 1–4)

Grand Opening Night / Premiere at Sydhavn Teater.

Execution of the first block of four official performances.

October – Week 1: Closing Run & Wrap-up (Shows 5–8)

Final block of four performances.

Closing night, strike of the set, and post-production evaluation for future tour logistics.