



THE LABOUR OF LIFE

AN ISRAELI CLASSIC // HABIMA NATIONAL THEATRE

Photo: Radey Rubinstein



Written by **Hanoch Levin**

Directed by **Moshe Kepten**

One fine day – or one night – Yona Popukh decides that he's done with being married to Leviva. He sets out to find a different life, and perhaps a new love. Thus begins this witty play by one of Israel's best playwrights.

A funny and touching bedtime story about the possibility of realizing a dream we all have – starting a fresh life at a not-so-fresh age.

Hanoch Levin (1943-1999) wrote plays, sketches, songs, stories, and poetry, and directed most of his own plays. He developed a unique dramatic and theatrical language, created by combining poetic text with images designed with the actors, the set, costume and lighting designers, the composer, and the choreographer. His plays are characterized by his ability to combine the work of different artists, and have always been a celebration of words and visual images, based on a great love for the theatre and all who take part in the performance. Levin left a spiritual-artistic legacy: fifty-six plays, only thirty-three of them performed in his lifetime (his political satires have all been performed), two books of prose, two collections of sketches and songs, a book of poems, and two books for children.

Moshe Kepten is one of the most renowned directors in Israel, currently Artistic Director of Habima National Theatre. For three consecutive years, he was the artistic director of the Israel Festival in Jerusalem, an interdisciplinary celebration of art from around the world. He graduated with honors from Tel Aviv University's Master's in Theatre Program. Kepten has directed numerous plays and musicals for all Israeli theatre companies, including *Spring Awakening*, *Bent*, *Behind the Fence*, *Shakespeare in Love*, *Les Misérables*, *Love Love Love*, *Evita*, *Taken at Midnight*, *My Fair Lady*, *Fatal Attraction*, *Birthmark*, *Beaufort*, *The Dinner Game*, and many others.

Online Info [↗](#)

Running time: 90 minutes

Booking:

Ifat Tubi, Head of International Relations, Habima National Theatre
ifatt@habima.org.il

Dramaturgy: Shahar Pinkas

Set: Eran Atzmon

Costumes: Orna Smorgonsky

Lighting: Avi Yona Bueno (Bambi)

Music: Lior Ronen

Keyboard and sampler: Lior Ronen / Giora Linenberg

Video: Nimrod Zin

Movement: Tut Mullor

Assistant Director: Ido Hacothen

Cast: Igal Naor, Hana Laszlo / Miki Kam, Dov Reiser