

Tashmad

By Shmuel Hasfari

Play: 582

Opening: 10/02/2005

Directed by Shmuel Hasfari

Set and Costume Design: Dror Hernson and Orna Smorgonsky

Lighting: Meir Alon

CAST

Alma: Riki Blich

Leibo: Dalik Wolinitz

Nachman: Tal Mosseri

Yaacov: Igal Naor

The day is the eve of Tisha Be'av (the 9th of Av) the day of mourning for the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem, and the resultant exile. The year is the Jewish year of Tashman. Following the super powers ultimatum to evacuate the West Bank occupied territories, four people have locked themselves in a basement, and threaten to commit suicide unless the Israeli government immediately gives an order to stop the evacuation process. The ninth of Av is a day of destruction, but it is also the day when a new messiah is born, and in Tashman (1984) there is no end to apocalyptic revelations. As time goes on the motives and background of the four characters are gradually revealed. Nachman, the yeshiva boy, is desperately trying to make the messiah appear. Leybo, the 'moshavnik' has a passionate desire to explode the shelter without delay. Alma, a member of the extreme right movement Gush Emunim, is torn between supporting Leybo's determination and Nachman's dreams of redemption. Yaakov starts to remember things, and as midnight approaches, the tension becomes unbeatable. History is made live on TV and the messiah does indeed appear. A very different and mesmerising stranger, with a weird and totally unpredictable message of pure evil.