





UNGEZIEFER

Theatrically staged audio piece, 18m47

The darkly comedic *Ungeziefer* focuses on a hapless voiceover artist in a recording studio attempting to make an abridged audiobook of Franz Kafka's 'Metamorphosis', directed by a bored producer. The narrative of Gregor Samsa's nightmarish transformation into a giant cockroach, and the inability of his horrified family to deal with it is taken as a loose metaphor for the onset of schizophrenia and its frequently alienating effects. The actor performs and re-performs truncated fragments of Kafka's text, following directions from the sound booth. To his mounting horror and confusion, the playback of his recorded voice increasingly morphs to narrate the story of his own monstrous transformation until he has effectively replaced Samsa as its subject. In a recording studio set comprised of theatrical flats, the viewer takes up the position of the actor in headphones, poised at the microphone, to listen to this densely layered audio work, completing a static tableau.