

## **'Bullets in Chocolate' is not for fools**

**Lev Novozhonov**

Mikhail Volokhov's play 'Bullets in Chocolate' has been staged in Moscow by director Vladimir Kimmelman, in the genre of tragicomic trash of the absurd.

'Bullets in Chocolate' is a play about fools fighting, while the smart people seek agreement and love... But the fools always impede them.

The director and actors present a stage performance in the form of live action with direct audience empathy. There is a wide range of feelings here: from protest and commonplace curiosity at the initial acquaintance to full and deep acceptance of the theatrical reading of the play. An extremely rare and recondite theatrical magic is performed in this production without fakirism. There is only genuine stage magic. The drama allowed the authors of the play to create a sublime, noble, all-responsive living theatre. This is the heart and soul of people of all generations. Volokhov's most distinctive quality as a playwright is the ability to create exquisite depth in a simple form. For the playwright this is not an author's simplification or primitivization. On the contrary, here lies the central idea of Volokhov's modernist style. The simpler the dramatic interpretation, the subtler and more elegant the director's and actors' tactics become, making this production of 'Bullets in Chocolate' truly theatrical and impressive. Actors Stanislav Pekhovsky, Nina Dronova and Andrey Klavdiev give a fine performance.

The enchanting 'Bullets in Chocolate' is currently playing at the Labyrinth of the Minotaur Gallery in Vetoshny Lane (almost on Red Square itself).