

fringe reviews

THEATRE
I MISS
COMMUNISM ★★★
PLEASANCE DOME
(VENUE 23)

BEFORE it was rent asunder by civil war, the various countries of the former Yugoslavia were held together by the thin red thread of General Tito's communist government. Performer Ines Wurth spent her childhood years living under the shadow of this dissident Marxist regime. Though Tito's brand of totalitarianism was arguably much less brutal than Stalin's, she nonetheless packed her bags as soon as she was able and left home to seek her fortune in America – the land of the free.

This show tells the story of her journey, and her eventual realisation that despite the opportunities now available to her, she would never stop pining for the world she had left behind.

Wurth is exploring what it means to call a place home. For her, the word "communism" had never primarily meant something ideological; rather, it conjured memories of all the more tangible and idiosyncratic things she had known in her youth – things that were lost for ever when her country collapsed. Her show provides a delicate and compelling examination of the life of a migrant, and the sense of dislocation that they inevitably feel.

CHRIS WILKINSON

Until 29 August. Today 4.15pm