A photograph of a musical performance. Four people are seated around a dark wooden table in a dimly lit room. A single candle in a small holder provides the primary light source, casting a warm glow. A microphone on a stand is positioned over the table. The performers are dressed in dark clothing. The overall atmosphere is intimate and artistic.

## Karbido's „The Table“

a unique musical spectacle for a quartet and an amplified wooden table

**Karbido's „The Table“ is a world-class musical project, an out-and-out instrumental avant-garde that proves, that an unlimited imagination poses no limits to music.**

A piece of furniture – a table – is transformed into a potent musical instrument capable of playing everything from ethereal percussion and jazz to heavy metal. Using strings, bows, coins and wine glasses as well as fists, Karbido produces an exciting, original and innovative performance.

The composition key elements of the performance stand for the four directions compass presented in the order: EAST | SOUTH | WEST | NORTH

Each part has different sound characteristics, it has also different range of musical reference. Exotic, windy-steppe ethno and maximal sound reduction, that refers to the Zen culture, meet in the “East” with Polesye folk song and traditional melodies from the central Poland.

Dynamic rhythms of the “South” invokes the culture of the Dark Continent, South America and Antipodes. The “West” is an energetic collage of industrial motorics, film themes and songs of modern entertainment. The “North” dissolves all the acoustics in transparent, sea ambience, drops repetition, grating sound of the wood and breathing occurrences.

Audio-spectacle invented and powered by Karbido is an 1hour long amazing concert for electro-acoustic wooden table (and quartet), with audience around the stage and music around the audience. Quadrophonic or double-stereo world just on touch.

„The Table“ is no age restrictions show, for minimum 100 p. audience, played in totally different places and spaces: theater, studio, church, ruined post industrial rooms, museums and art galleries as well as for 100 000 audience on Woodstock Festival 2008; presented more or less 350 times, all around the World – from Melbourne, Teheran, Jerusalem and London to Sao Paulo, from Hong Kong, Prague and Berlin to New York and Shanghai – still with great acclaim.

Karbido was founded in 2004, as an interdisciplinary artistic group, in Wroclaw (Poland). „The Table“ authors, composers and performers are: Paweł Czepułkowski, Igor Gawlikowski, Michał Litwiniec, Marek Otwinowski; sound: Jacek Fedorowicz lights and stage production: Tomasz Sikora



*Awesome, manic or witty.  
If it's difficult to imagine, that's because you'll  
never have seen or heard anything quite like it.*

**SCOTSMAN**

*The Table (Stolik) – created by the Polish group,  
Karbido – takes us on an electrifying acoustic journey  
round the globe. This "piece for four men and  
a table" is really an inspired DIY concert. Superb.*

**THE INDEPENDENT**

*Everyone is looking for the big hit on the Fringe, but  
some performers hit harder than others - polish  
jazz-rock band Karbido are putting their percussive  
skills to less destructive ends - on a table.*

**THE GUARDIAN**

*An extraordinary musical spectacle.*

**THE TIMES**

*I'm not even sure how to describe The Table.  
From the opening moment - it surprises.*

**THE SUNDAY TIMES**



*A virtuosic and deeply moving hour.*

**THE AUSTRALIAN**

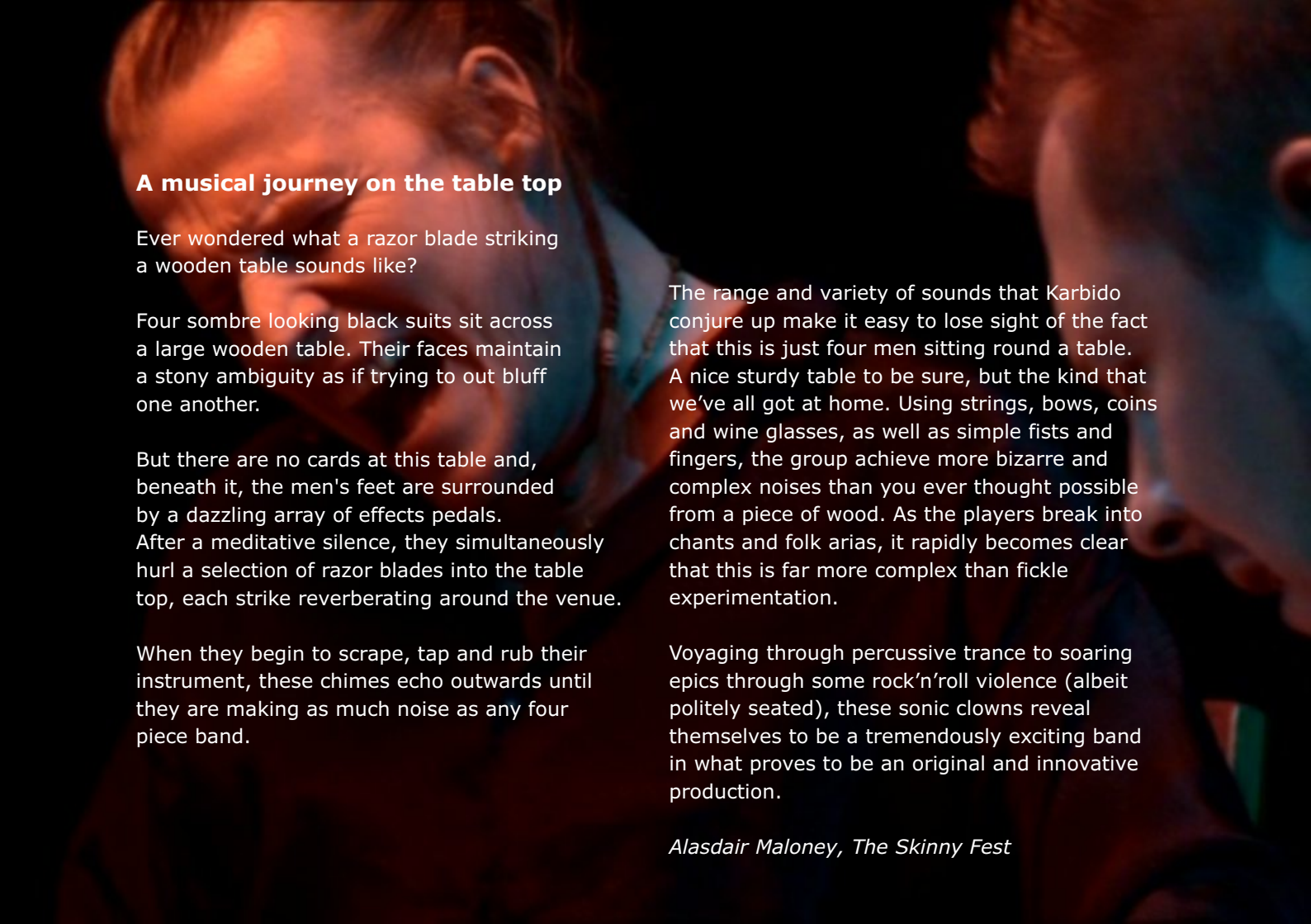
*The range and variety of sounds that Karbido  
conjure up make it easy to lose sight of the  
fact that this is just four men sitting round a table.*

**THE SKINNY FEST**

*The result is a mesmerising performance, equal parts  
novelty value, imagination and skill. In other words,  
the perfect Edinburgh Fringe show.*

**THE LIST**





## A musical journey on the table top

Ever wondered what a razor blade striking a wooden table sounds like?

Four sombre looking black suits sit across a large wooden table. Their faces maintain a stony ambiguity as if trying to out bluff one another.

But there are no cards at this table and, beneath it, the men's feet are surrounded by a dazzling array of effects pedals. After a meditative silence, they simultaneously hurl a selection of razor blades into the table top, each strike reverberating around the venue.

When they begin to scrape, tap and rub their instrument, these chimes echo outwards until they are making as much noise as any four piece band.

The range and variety of sounds that Karbido conjure up make it easy to lose sight of the fact that this is just four men sitting round a table. A nice sturdy table to be sure, but the kind that we've all got at home. Using strings, bows, coins and wine glasses, as well as simple fists and fingers, the group achieve more bizarre and complex noises than you ever thought possible from a piece of wood. As the players break into chants and folk arias, it rapidly becomes clear that this is far more complex than fickle experimentation.

Voyaging through percussive trance to soaring epics through some rock'n'roll violence (albeit politely seated), these sonic clowns reveal themselves to be a tremendously exciting band in what proves to be an original and innovative production.

*Alasdair Maloney, The Skinny Fest*

## The Table by Karbido

This unique show must surely be the result of some drunken student bet that the boys knew they would regret in the morning. "Yeah, of course we can play a table" when delivered with the appropriate amount of bravado must have sounded convincing. Unbelievably, they are now doing so professionally.

This Polish company had a hit at Aurora Nova in Edinburgh with *The Table* and now it has made the trip south for a short sojourn in London. There is no doubt that you will not have seen anything like this before. Even better, if you are lucky you will get a chance to observe the fun from seating on the stage and it does look impressive in close-up.

Four men sit around a square table at which one might expect to play a few rubbers of bridge were it covered with baize. For an hour, they turn this Rolls-Royce of wooden tables into a multifaceted musical instrument with which to play everything from heavy metal to ethereal percussion.

The company's musical strength is probably best enjoyed when they play music with an Eastern, spiritual influence. It is however the diversity of musical styles that is the greatest pleasure, especially when combined with the novelty of the production.

The result is like nothing you have ever seen or heard before, which makes this the kind of novelty experience that one really ought to try at least once.

*Philip Fisher, The British Theatre Guide*







## Glory to the Hand-Made!

Hardly did I make it for another off-stream show, THE TABLE, created and performed by a Wrocław-based jazzrock group KARBIDO, but I thank God Almighty I did. What I witnessed was an artistic sensation of the highest sort. An ensemble of truly talented and creative artists was revealed *urbi and orbi*.

In the centre of a medium-size first-floor room of a jazz club stood a square, wooden table surrounded by the audience.

Then four men in black suits came in, sit round it like four Russian-roulette players and began

to play on it, with their hands, lips and simple objects of everyday life producing sounds of all sorts, which swelled and built up to a rhythmically and instrumentally complex symphony.

Not a single beat, not a single brush was accidental or chaotic; each sound produced became a vital particle of one of the six mind-blowing pieces composed by the performers.

Karbido's audio show was by far the most spectacular and important event of the Festival.

Laurie Anderson, move over!

*M. Włodarski, Lampa*



**PULA FESTIVAL 2017 (CROATIA)**

\*\*\*BEST PERFORMANCE\*\*\*

**FRINGE WORLD FESTIVAL PERTH 2012 (AUSTRALIA)**

\*\*\*BEST WORLD PERFORMANCE\*\*\*

**FADJR INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL, TEHERAN 2010 (IRAN)**

\*\*\*AUDIENCE AWARD\*\*\*

MIDEM 2009 SPECIAL PROJECTION (FRANCE)

„The Table-The Movie“

Premiere In Palaices des Festivals Cannes

**27th STAGE SONGS REVIEW 2006, WROCLAW (POLAND)**

GRAND PRIX for the best off-stream performance.

**EDINBURGH FRINGE FESTIVAL 2007 (UK)**

\*\*\*\*\* (Hot Show) The Scotsman

\*\*\*\*\* Three Weeks

\*\*\*\*\* Skinny Fest



*„A sound has no legs to stand on.”*

John Milton Cage Jr.







Karbido mangement / booking office:

**[info@karbido.com](mailto:info@karbido.com)**

**Hermetic Garage Foundation**

Tomasz Sikora: [tomak@post.pl](mailto:tomak@post.pl)

Marek Otwinowski: [maot@wp.pl](mailto:maot@wp.pl)

**[karbido.com](http://karbido.com)**

**[facebook.com/karbido](https://facebook.com/karbido)**

**[facebook.com/hermeticgarage](https://facebook.com/hermeticgarage)**

