



The Tempest

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What happens if you take one of literature's old treasures and mix it with environmental consciousness of modern times? What happens when an old established theater contacts an equally old weather service and asks them to provide climate information to be integrated in a play? These questions director Morten Cranner answered when he, on behalf of the National Theater in Norway contacted the Norwegian Meteorological Institute. Cranner had the idea of taking Shakespeare's last play, The Tempest, and recasting one of the characters into an environmental conscious, on the edge of environmental extremist, and let his enthusiasm on the environmental issues be a driving force in a romance. Not only did Cranner want this to drive the romance, but he also wanted to use the opportunity to inform especially the younger part of the audience about the core of the climate challenges seen from a physical side. To achieve this information on the physics, actual equations on energy transferee and explanations of this equation were integrated in the play. The result was an interesting combination of old Shakespearean Theater with magic and spirits combined with mother science and environmental consciousness. This gap, or conflicting world views, was highlighted with the older generation fighting the old spirits, while the younger were finding their answers in the new science.