



SELK NORD Beautiful Alien Object

A project by Alessia Luna Wyss
Cie En archipel

Selk Nord / Beautiful Alien Object¹ Documentary dance show on the issue of «crossbreeding / Bastard».

In Brussels as in Chile, *Zinnekes* and *Huachos* are now the fragmented but dominant identities of contemporary cities.

Through the history of Cueca's traditional dance, we want to share the evolution of a crossbreeding between three very distant cultures; the Arabs, Gypsies and indigenous Chileans. This testifies to a possible *mondiality*.

At a time when local politics is a growing concern and cultural identities are trying to claim themselves after a period of emptiness, how can we avoid nationalism but also globalization?

What international relationship can be proposed without sinking into a minimal and summary popularization of majority (homogeneous) cultures?

This creation proposes to apply these concepts in a performative way. First, it will take up the history of Cueca. We will explore the dissonant superposition of its musical crossbreeding, composed of the rhythm of the Gypsies and the Moor peoples (during the first colonization) and the musical base of the Indigenous people. These gestures of each of these influences, will be linked to a quality of body specific to the choreographer (in reference to her method of motion-memory).

The main concern of this search for crossbreeding is to find a logic (coherence) in heterogeneity.

As part of her radio, aesthetic, museographic and anthropological research (Selk'Nord), Alessia Wyss began two years of investigation through research residencies, meetings of specialists and experimental dance laboratories.

Alessia Wyss put her interests in the concept of disappearance, oblivion and its residues; she is fascinated by the fragmentation of memory and the poetics of collage. She seeks, through the creation of a contemporary dance performance and a radiophonic documentary (made by Laure Gatelier), to link these three elements:

- Cueca Sola, which denounces people who disappeared during the Pinochet dictatorship
- The ambivalent disappearance of the Selk Nam
- The disappearance of oral and cultural transmission in Europe.

¹ «beautiful alien object» is an analytical idea observing the colonial relationship in the way objects are displayed in pre-Columbian museums.

The Choreographer

Distribution

With : Gabriela Jimenèz, Naomi Gross, Dor Frank
Dramatist : Sebastian Belmar
Choreographer assistant : Rosandra Nicoletti
Sound design : Laure Gatelier

Charleroi danse co-produced and accompanies Selk'Nord
during the 2019/2020 season.

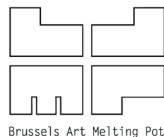
Delegated production : En Archipel ASBL

Selk'Nord is supported by Wallonie Brussels International,
Théâtre Marni , La Maison de l'Amérique Latine, ILES asbl,
L'L (social secretariat), Chez George studio, Atelier Ad hoc,
Knustfestival and the BAMP residency.



danse
Charleroi

MARNI



Alessia Luna Wyss is co-creator of the non-profit organisation En Archipel, which promotes young Belgian creation in a cooperative way.

She worked as an interpreter in Brussels for Doria Garcia in the play Two planets presented at the Hermès la Verrière Institute, closely related to the Chilean poet Neruda. She also dances for the Bixas collective, for Baptiste Conte in La plage ensoleillée with a notion of «extended dance» and with Céline Paniez in Decall on the relationship between sound/noise and their influences on the body. She transmits her experiments between sculptural volume and dance, giving workshops in higher school to the scenographers of St-Luc EPS and to the secondary school with Estelle Bibbo.

Influenced by her training in ISAC (experimental and original training...) and these numerous workshops with David Zambrano (Flying low) and Bruno Caverna (Play fight), she is located between conceptual art and popular physical practices (martial arts and traditional dances). She follows with interest the shows and laboratories organized by Ayelen Parolin.

Alessia Luna Wyss is a choreographer and visual artist. After having created mostly in situ pieces, she now stops at the stage and focuses on dance «strictly speaking». She is officially from Italy, Switzerland, France and has been living in Belgium for 11 years. Her parents are travelling artists. His father, sister and brother lived in Latin America for several years. Alessia is therefore not from a nation. Its uprooting is not only due to the multitude of its origins, but also and above all to the disappearance of traditional European customs. As Jean-François Lyotard, Walter Benjamin or Giorgio Agamben would say: in Europe, gestures have been forgotten, traditions have disappeared and oral transmission no longer exists (especially since the Second World War).

Alessia L. Wyss then tries to rediscover these gestures and traditions. While travelling, she discovers what a traditional dance is that is still alive and evolving. She realizes that folklore is not only a colorful and codified spectacle, but it can be a social practice. Especially in Chile, she discovers that a dance can carry knowledge, a narrative that rewrites history.

Interprets

Gabriela Jiménez is a dancer based in Brussels whose corporality has been influenced by circus and physical theatre. She collaborated extensively with the rest of the team, particularly during her studies at ISAC (Institut Supérieur des Arts et des Chorégraphie) ARBA-ESA. She has a particular relationship to the issue between the West and Latin America as she has Puerto Rican origin (US protectorate). Gabriela and Alessia have been deepening their search for movement since 2015, the year in which they were in residence in San Juan, they have given workshops and performed together at the Museo de las Americas.



Naomi Gross is a contemporary dancer close to somatic techniques, her body anchored to the ground allows her to enhance her acute sensitivity for micromovements. She comes from Hip Hop, urban dance and has worked with Marielle Morallès. She lives and works between Brussels and Bordeaux.

She is co-creator of the collective of dancers called Ussé-Inné (in the asbl, Adieu Panurge).

Naomi met Alessia during training at the Refinery and they continued to collaborate, especially in Rouen for the Matri-moine Days.



Dor Frank, currently lives and works in Brussels, after having worked intensively for Yasmeen Godder's contemporary dance company. She teaches contact dance and yoga, which gives her a very good foundation of flexibility and strength. It is isrealian of Moroccan origin, therefore resulting from a very marked and sometimes conflicting culture. She met Alessia during training sessions given by David Zambrano at the TicTac Art Centre in Brussels. Together they explore the techniques of Fying Low, Couple dancing and Passing through. It is with this last technique that they begin to imagine together a new social dance.



Team

Sound designer

Laure Gatelier is an artist from Liège, sound documentary maker and visual artist. She sculpts voices, gestures and environments through encounters. Her latest documentary, *Derrière les yeux*, was broadcast on Radio Panik, France Culture and CC Jacques Franck. She is now working on her own radio fiction. She lives and works in Brussels, where she met Alessia, notably working for the Zinneke Parade. They have already begun to produce the radio documentary that will inspire *Selk Nord / Beautiful Alien Object*. Their collaboration dates back about ten years.



Choreographer assistant

Rosandra Nicoletti, the assistant choreographer, lives and works in Brussels. She has been following the project since the beginning of the very first research and was an intern at the showcase laboratory, *Naturalizacao*. She is therefore familiar with the protocols put in place by the choreographer to link memory and gesture. Rosandra and Alessia met in ISAC, and then took turns interpreting each other, depending on the project. Rosandra is also part of the choreographers' cooperative, *En Archipel asbl*.



Light designer

Joseph Iavicoli is general manager and lighting designer in Brussels. Beyond his technical and aesthetic savoir-faire, he studied sociology and anthropology. His interest in the social sciences allows us to include the whole team in the post-colonial reflection of the gaze.

He is therefore an integral part of the team and its research.

Costume designer:

Héloïse Mathieu, lives and works in Brussels. After her studies at the ESAVL in Liege, she co-created the workshop of scenographers and costume designers *Ad Hoc*, a predominantly female space in which she has been working for more than five years. Heloise has already started testing and researching materials for the costumes, together with Alessia.

Timeline of the project

During 2018 and 2019

January 2018

Start of the investigation, In Situ in Chile

Residency at Studio Chez Georges for a 20-minute version in Solo, Brussels

Presentation of a work step at the Moment Festival at the Cité Culture Brussels

Presentation of a short form at the Pic Festival, Saint-Giron, France

Residency at Studio Chez Georges with four performers and the sound designer, Brussels

Residence at the BAMP (Brussels Art Melting Pot), Brussels

Residency at the Knust Festival, Brussels

Research residency and sound recordings in Chile (Supported by the Universidad de Chile

DETUCH and WBI), Chile

Residency, Garage 29, Brussels

Septembre 2019

Residency and presentation at the Marni Theatre in partnership with La Maison de l'Amérique Latine, Brussels

October 2019

Presentation of a work in progress within the framework of Objectifs Danse at Charleroi Danse

November 2019 and January 2020

3 weeks of creative residency at La Raffinerie, Charleroi Danses, Brussels

PREMIERE OF THE SHOW PLANNED IN SPRING 2020

Dates planned or in negotiation for 2020 / 2021

LEG festival in Charleroi Danse, Belgium (still under negotiation)

Maison de l'Amérique Latine, Brussels, Belgium

Pic Festival, Saint-Giron, France

ZOA festival, Paris, France (still under negotiation)

ZOA festival, Brussels, Belgium (still under negotiation)

Zinneke Parade events (excluding parade), Belgium

What we are still looking for

As the project is still in construction, we are still looking for co-production (residency/financial help) and dates for the season 2020 / 2021

The show will be ready for spring 2020, so we are up to participate at festivals during summer 2020.



Alessia Luna Wyss

GSM: +32.498.230.229

Mail: alessia.luna.wyss@gmail.com

Louise Mestrallet - Chargée de diffusion

GSM: + 32 488 02 49 10

Mail: louise.mestrallet@gmail.com

website : <http://enarchipel.org/fr/selk-nord/>