



le gymnase

CENTRE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT CHORÉGRAPHIQUE NATIONAL
ROUBAIX | HAUTS-DE-FRANCE

LOOOP

RÉSEAU POUR LA DANSE ET LA JEUNESSE

TWICE#2

ÉPAULETTE - Alexander Vantournhout
+ **D'EUX** - Aïcha M'Barek & Hafiz Dhaou



Dance creations for young audiences by
Alexander Vantournhout + Aïcha M'Barek & Hafiz Dhaou

THE TWICE#2 PROJECT

// Premiere: November 27th 2020

// From 6 years old upwards

// Duration: 50 minutes with intermission

STATEMENT OF INTENT :

Since 2015, Le Gymnase CDCN has been supporting choreographic creation for young audiences by producing, devising and disseminating inventive and innovative artistic commissions awarded to several choreographers and designed for young audiences.

Following on from *Au Pied de la Lettre*, the first dance programme for young audiences devised by Le Gymnase CDCN which ran from 2015 and 2017, the initiative is continuing with a new project of dance creations for young people, entitled TWICE. The first part, created in February 2019, invited the choreographers Emmanuel Eggermont and Robyn Orlin to combine their different approaches.

For *TWICE#2*, new artists have each been invited to create a piece lasting around twenty minutes, performed by the same pair of dancers and presented in the same programme, intended for audiences aged 6 and up. This time, it is the turn of the choreographic duo Aïcha M'Barek and Hafiz Dhaou and the Flemish artist Alexander Vantournhout.

These artists have been chosen for their aesthetic and artistic dissimilarities: two very personal ways of seeing dance and displaying it on stage. However they do have one thing in common: it will be their first time devising a creation intended for young audiences.

The idea behind *TWICE#2* is to bring two unusual styles of writing onto the stage to refresh and enrich dance for children and young people.



Production : Le Gymnase CDCN Roubaix – Hauts-de-France

Coproduction : Chaillot – Théâtre national de la Danse, La Manufacture CDCN Nouvelle-Aquitaine Bordeaux . La Rochelle,
POLE-SUD CDCN Strasbourg, Charleroi danse – Centre chorégraphique de Wallonie-Bruxelles, Le Rive Gauche –
scène conventionnée d'intérêt national art et création – danse, HET LAB, Les Hivernales – Centre de Développement
Chorégraphique National d'Avignon

A project led by LOOP – a network for dance and young people

ON TOUR

- **27.11.20**, 15h | Le Gymnase CDCN Roubaix (59)
>> *Premiere*
- **26 > 28.11.20** | Le Gymnase CDCN Roubaix (59), as part of the festivals Les Petits Pas & NEXT >> *cancelled*.
- **29.11.20** : Cultuurcentrum Het Perron, Ypres (BE), as part of the NEXT festival >> *cancelled*.
- **13.01.21**, 14h30
14.01.21, 10h + 14h30
15.01.21, 10h
16.01.21, 14h30 + 17h
Chaillot - Théâtre national de la Danse, Paris (75) >> *cancelled*.
- **26.01.21**, 10h + 14h | Le Galet, Pessac (33)
28.01.21, 10h + 14h | Le Galet, Pessac (33)
As part of the festival *POUCE !* of La Manufacture CDCN Nouvelle-Aquitaine Bordeaux • La Rochelle
- **03.02.21**, 10h + 15h | La Raffinerie, Bruxelles (BE)
05.02.21, 13h30 + 20h | Les Ecuries, Charleroi (BE)
With Charleroi danse - Centre chorégraphique de Wallonie-Bruxelles >> *cancelled*.
- **10.02.21**, 9h45 + 14h30 | Les Hivernales CDCN, Avignon (84)
As part of the festival HiverÔmomes >> *cancelled*.
- **10.03.21**, 19h
11.03.21, 10h + 14h
Théâtre de Vanves (92), as part of the festival Artdanthé >> *cancelled*.
- **15.03.21**, 10h + 14h30
16.03.21, 10h
POLE SUD CDCN, Strasbourg (67) >> *cancelled*.
- **23.03.21**, 10h + 14h30
24.03.21, 19h
Bonlieu Scène nationale, Annecy (74) >> *cancelled*.
- **31.05.21**, 10h + 14h30
01.06.21, 10h + 19h
Le Gymnase, Roubaix (59), as part of the festivals Les Petits Pas > Pocket and NEXT TIME
- **03.06.21**, 10h + 14h30
04.06.21, 10h + 14h30
05.06.21, 14h30 + 17h
Chaillot - Théâtre national de la Danse, Paris (75)



THE CREATIONS ^{1/2}

ÉPAULETTE



With *Épaulette (Shoulder pads)*, Alexander Vantournhout pursues his research on movement within physical limitation and the relationship between performer and clothing. On stage, dancer Astrid Sweeney enters the dance, constrained by hidden or visible pieces of costumes (tight skirts, shoulder pads, high heels shoes...) which transforms and restricts the movement, but also disproportionates the body's appearance.

Here, Alexander Vantournhout seeks to show how, without being conscious of it, each one of us reduces its own physical and expressive potential with what he/she's wearing. How does one in his/her daily life plays with her/his own appearance? How does a too tight simple piece of clothing modifies our physical state or limits our capacities?

Duration: 20 minutes

Choreography : Alexander Vantournhout

Choreographic assistant: Emmi Väisänen

Performance: Astrid Sweeney

Lighting design: Xavier Lazarini

Choreographical eye: Anneleen Keppens

Special thanks to: Inês Carijó, Sébastien Hendrickx & Mariana Miranda



THE CREATIONS 2/2

D'EUX



Aïcha M'Barek & Hafiz Dhaou were inspired by the very essence of the project *TWICE* : its duality. Two pieces, two way of choreographing, two performers... With *D'eux (From them)*, it is this same idea which is developed. Hafiz et Aïcha choreograph duet pieces since many years, and here they collaborate with two female dancers, Johanna Mandonnet, with whom they regularly work, and Astrid Sweeney whom they have just met.

D'eux also holds the notion of otherness: who am I « me » in relation to « them »? How to interact? *D'eux* is about this quest of equilibrium within the encounter of two bodies, two origins (Johanna is Malagasy, Astrid is Danish), two bodily gestures, putting into light the desire to create a shared object, complementing one another.

Duration: 20 minutes

Choreography: Aïcha M'Barek & Hafiz Dhaou

Performance: Johanna Mandonnet & Astrid Sweeney

Lighting design: Xavier Lazarini

Sound design: Hafiz Dhaou

Costumes: Aïcha M'Barek



THE CHOREOGRAPHERS

ALEXANDER
VANTOURNHOUT



ALEXANDER VANTOURNHOUT

Alexander Vantournhout (Belgium, 1989) studied contemporary dance at P.A.R.T.S. (Performing Arts Research and Training Studios, Brussels), and the Cyr wheel at ESAC (Ecole Supérieure des Arts du Cirque, Brussels). The combination of both studies, the former focused on artistic reflection, the latter on physical excellence, means that Alexander serves as a link between circus and dance.

After completing his studies, Alexander created *Caprices* (2014), a choreographic solo dedicated to the music of Salvatore Sciarrino. His next solo *ANECKXANDER* (2015) was co-created with partnerin-crime Bauke Lievens. *ANECKXANDER* won several prizes: Circus Next 2014, Theater Aan Zee 2015, selected for Theaterfestival 2016, selected for the Aerowaves Network Twenty16. Alexander regularly teaches at the Danscentrum Jette, ESAC and ACAPA (Academy for Circus and Performance Arts, Tilburg, NL) and has been a guest lecturer at DOCH-Stockholm (SE), Codarts (NE), Verigo (IT), Plesni Center, Marbior (SL) and P.A.R.T.S. Alexander is the cultural ambassador of the city of Roeselare (BE), house artist at PRPLX (BE) and resident artist at Vooruit (BE) from 2017 to 2021.

<https://notstanding.com/>

AÏCHA
M'BAREK
&
HAFIZ
DHAOU



AÏCHA M'BAREK

Aïcha M'Barek studied at the conservatoire of music and dance in Tunis and joined Syhem Belkhodja's company Sybel Ballet Théâtre. She began studying cinematography at the IMC in Tunis in 1999 and then in 2000 was awarded a grant to study at the National Contemporary Dance Centre in Angers. In 2001, she created the quartet *Essanai* (the creator) at the CNDC in Angers, then in 2002 the solo *Le Télégramme*, drawing inspiration from the Marguerite Duras novel *The Lover*. In 2005, she danced in *Temps de feu* by the Anouskan dance company.

HAFIZ DHAOU

As a hip-hop dancer, Hafiz Dhaou was originally introduced to contemporary dance (Sybel Ballet Théâtre) by the Tunisian choreographer Syhem Belkhodja in 1989 and he began studying it. Several projects followed, including ones by the director Fadhel Jaziri. In 1999, he began studying cinematography at the IMC in Tunis and in 2000 received a grant to study at the National Contemporary Dance Centre in Angers. While there he embarked on a close collaboration with the Tunisian dancer Aïcha M'Barek. In 2001, at the CNDC in Angers he created the quartet *Inta Omri* (you are my life), a hymn to the diva Oum Kalhtoum, and in 2002 the solo *Zenzena* (the dungeon). In 2003-2004, he joined the EX.E.R.CE course at the National Choreographic Centre in Montpellier. He danced for Abou Lagraa (La Baraka dance company) in *Cutting flat* in 2004 and *Où transe* in 2005.

In 2005 Aïcha M'Barek and Hafiz Dhaou set up their dance company Chatha. Combining their artistic aspirations, they have since created various shows together: *Kawa* in 2010, *Un des sens* and *Kharbga* in 2011, *Transit* in 2012, *Toi et Moi* in 2013 and *Narcose* in 2017.

<https://www.facebook.com/compagniechatha/>



THE PERFORMERS

ASTRID
SWEENEY



ASTRID SWEENEY

Born in Copenhagen, Denmark, Astrid Sweeney trained and competed as an Irish dancer from the age of 11. In 2012 she was accepted into the Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance in London. Upon graduation she joined Scottish Dance Theatre and throughout her time there Astrid had the privilege to perform works by choreographers; Sharon Eyal, Damien Jalet, Anton Lachky, Botis Seva, Colette Sadler and Fleur Darkin.

She has since then engaged in various projects as a freelancer, having worked with Iván Pérez (ES), La Verita Dance Company (BE), Luke Murphy (IE) and Damien Jalet (BE).

JOHANNA
MANDONNET



JOHANNA MANDONNET

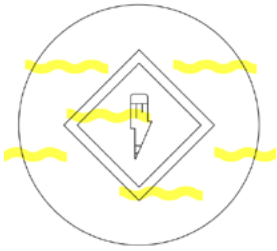
Born in Antananarivo (Madagascar), Johanna Mandonnet began her dance course in Clermont-Ferrand. In 2001-2003, she trained at the National Center of Contemporary Dance in Angers. Along with the techniques of Matthiew Hawkins, Norio Yoshida, Marie-France De Lieuvain among others, she discovered the worlds of Dominique Dupuy, Carlotta Ikeda, then performed pieces by Cyril Davy, Claude Brumachon and Abou Lagraa.

In 2005, she joined the TOUFIK O.I Company for the projects *#IM3*, *Zoon*, *Ta Peau...*

In 2006, she joined the CHATHA company of Aïcha M'Barek and Hafiz Dhaou for the pieces *Khaddem Hazzem* (2006), *Vu* (2008), *Kharbga, jeu de pouvoir* (2011), *Sacré Printemps !* (2014) and *Narcose* (2016).

In 2014, she is also the interpreter of Hëla Fattoumi & Eric Lamoureux for the pieces *Masculines*, *Waves* et *Oscyl*.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES CENTRED ON THE TWICE#2 PROJECT



To support the diffusion of the *TWICE#2* programme and heighten the awareness of young audiences, pedagogical teams and families, outreach activities and pedagogical resources will be provided that are based on the programme. These propositions will allow wider audiences to be made aware of the world of dance and of the choreographers' artistic universe.

// A SOUND TOOL

TWICE#2 comes with an educational package conceived and created in resonance with the two programmed pieces. It takes the form of a sound message heard during intermission, right after the first piece of the program, while the change of set is taking place in front of the audience. The intermission gives the audience members the opportunity to observe and to emphasise the technical dimension of each work, but also to fully embrace one's position as a « spectator » .

// OUTREACH ACTIVITIES IN THE PROGRAMME

Teaching activities can be foreseen before or after the programme to support audiences in their interpretation of the work. The activities can be led by someone from the artistic team, subject to availability. Here are some examples:

- a course on amateur practice
- parent/child workshops
- an artistic practice workshop in a school setting
- training for teaching teams.

// TEACHING RESOURCES

A set of teaching tools and resources are dedicated to the discovery, deepening and implementation of cross-cutting approaches to dance.

Some of the tools can be accessed online: [Outils pédagogiques en danse](#).

// AN EDUCATIONAL DOCUMENT

An [educational document](#) for the teachers is also available, suggesting ways of « reading » the program's choreographic work, which the teaching staff can outline with their students before and/or after the performance.

// More information: Célia Bernard - rp.prog@gymnase-cdcn.com

THE LOOP NETWORK: INITIATOR OF THE TWICE #2 PROJECT

THE ORIGIN OF THE LOOP NETWORK

In 2014, at the invitation of the dance section of the Ministry of Culture and as part of La Belle Saison, Le Gymnase CDCN Roubaix Hauts-de-France and La Manufacture CDCN Bordeaux - Nouvelle Aquitaine implemented an artistic and choreographic production intended for young audiences for the first time. It was called *Au Pied de la Lettre*. The project commissioned choreographers who had little experience of young audiences, from different generations and aesthetics, to produce two short 20-minute pieces to be performed in one and the same programme. These two pieces, created for the same cast, could take their inspiration from writing of any kind.

There were two parts to it:

- *Au Pied de la Lettre #1* (February 2015): Anne Nguyen and Michel Schweizer
- *Au Pied de la Lettre #2* (January 2016): Ambra Senatore and Loïc Touzé

Closely involved in this commission, Le Gymnase CDCN and La Manufacture CDCN produced a digital teaching tool: an e-kit to accompany the diffusion of the two parts. An initial network was formed, centred on this project and made up of partners, coproducers and distributors involved and interested in co-constructing a project of creation and mediation around the question of dance for young audiences.

Following on from this project, Le Gymnase CDCN is pursuing the reflection and implementation of a professional network for dance and young people entitled LOOP, open to all programmers and venues interested in this specific field.

OBJECTIVES OF THE LOOP NETWORK

The main objective of the network is to offer a place for exchanging and sharing ideas about dance for young audiences, designed for programmers and directors of organisations in the country. In the current context, professional encounters dealing with young audiences tend to focus on drama or puppetry and hardly on dance.

LOOP is therefore offering a space to talk very freely about dance and young people and all the initiatives involved in this area, with the aim of sharing projects, views and ideas.

Following the Belle Saison, the Ministry of Culture has established the Génération Belle Saison, an action plan on the performing arts for young people. As part of this, the LOOP network received a subsidy to support a creative project: *TWICE*, a commission awarded to the choreographers Emmanuel Eggermont and Robyn Orlin. The *TWICE* adventure is now continuing with its second phase and an invitation to the duet Aïcha M'Barek & Hafiz Dhaou and the flemish artist Alexander Vantournhout.

// More information: reseau-loop.fr



- **Le Gymnase CDCN** Roubaix - Hauts-de-France (59) (network header)
- **Le Grand Bleu** – Scène conventionnée d'intérêt national Art, Enfance et Jeunesse, Lille (59)
- **La rose des vents** – Scène nationale Lille Métropole, Villeneuve d'Ascq (59)
- **Le Rive Gauche** – Scène conventionnée d'intérêt national Art et Création Danse, Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray (76)
- **Chorège CDCN** Falaise Normandie (14)
- **L'échangeur** – CDCN Hauts-de-France (02)
- **Echelles Danse** – Réseau conventionné danse et territoire (95)
- **Centre national de la danse**, Pantin (93)
- **Chaillot** – Théâtre national de la Danse, Paris (75)
- **L'étoile du Nord** – Scène conventionnée danse, Paris (75)
- **Ville de Nanterre** (92)
- **Théâtre de Vanves** – Scène conventionnée d'intérêt national Art et Création pour la danse et les écritures contemporaines à travers les arts (92)
- **Danse à tous les étages** – Scène de territoire danse, Brest (29) et Rennes (35)
- **Onyx** – Scène conventionnée danse et arts du cirque, Saint-Herblain (44)
- **Danse!** – Association jurassienne pour la danse contemporaine, Suisse (CH)
- **Maison de la Danse** – Pôle européen de création, Lyon (69)
- **Agence culturelle départementale Dordogne-Périgord** (24)
- **La Manufacture CDCN** Nouvelle-Aquitaine Bordeaux · La Rochelle (33, 17)
- **Carré-Colonnes** – Scène nationale, Saint-Médard-en-Jalles / Blanquefort (33)
- **Théâtre Massalia** – Scène conventionnée d'intérêt national Art, Enfance et Jeunesse, Marseille (13)
- **Klap** – Maison pour la danse, Marseille (13)
- **Espaces Pluriels** – Scène conventionnée danse, Pau (64)
- **Biarritz Culture** (64)

LE GYMNASSE CDCN: PRODUCER OF THE TWICE##2 PROJECT

Le Gymnase CDCN, as leader of the LOOP network, is producer of the *TWICE#2* project.

Le Gymnase CDCN has been working for more than thirty-five years on supporting and embedding the choreographic sector in the Lille area as well as in the surrounding region.

It places support for artists at the heart of its activity (during their stages of creation, research, diffusion, structuring and training) and that of audiences (through the prism of mediation, awareness raising, teaching and encounters with artists, works and artistic practice).

To do this, Le Gymnase CDCN is part of a network of extensive partnerships locally, nationally, regionally and internationally, within Europe and beyond.

For Le Gymnase CDCN, the creator in 2006 of the Les Petits Pas festival, first dance festival dedicated to young audiences in France, the issue of young audiences is crucial.

Le Gymnase CDCN has already been producer of the two phases of the *Au Pied de la Lettre* project from 2015 to 2017, the first opus of the *TWICE* programme in 2019 and the second opus in 2020.

BACK TO PREVIOUS CREATIONS

Since 2015 Le Gymnase CDCN has led three commissions for young audiences:



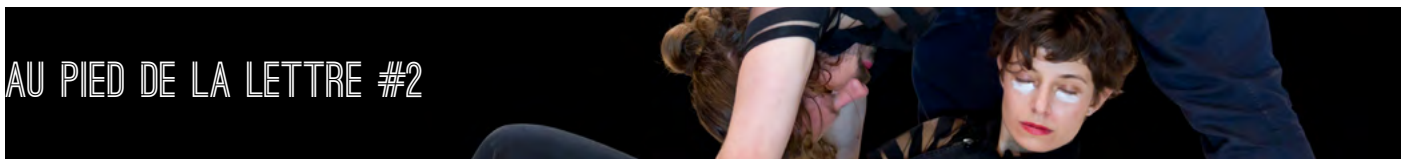
***Lettres à Zerty* - Anne N'Guyen + *Rotha et Gassama* - Michel Schweizer**

In *Lettres à Zerty*, two virtuoso breakdancers are caught on the spot in danced impulsions, breakaways, furtive contact and games of movements in pairs... The events are dealt with in a non-hierarchical and undifferentiated way for a different reading of humans, a different vision of the world.

In *Rotha et Gassama*, the same two dancers, whose first names make up the title, are invited to reflect on what the world takes from them and how their origins have given them valuable capital.

See the teasers : [Lettres à Zerty](#) - [Rotha et Gassama](#)

The companies are now responsible for diffusion: [Compagnie par Terre](#) - Anne Nguyen & [La Coma](#) - Michel Schweizer.



***Voici Ulysse sur son bateau* – Loïc Touzé + *Quante storie* – Ambra Senatore**

Loïc Touzé takes his inspiration from a children's book by Murielle Szac entitled *Le feuilleton d'Ulysse, la mythologie grecque en cent épisodes* to offer an odyssey between dance, words and a universe of sounds. Ambra Senatore meanwhile draws inspiration from the writing and imagination of an author who is very popular among young readers in Italy, Gianni Rodari, and constructs a piece in which stories are told and danced.

[See the teaser](#)

The company is now responsible for diffusion: [Centre Chorégraphique National de Nantes](#).



***La Méthode des Phosphènes* – Emmanuel Eggermont + *In order to be them we must be us...* - Robyn Orlin**

In *La Méthode des Phosphènes*, Emmanuel Eggermont is interested in this optical phenomenon that gives us the feeling, after staring at a light source, of seeing blotches of colour. By questioning the perception of reality, in parallel he asks the question about what other people see.

Robyn Orlin highlights discrimination and social exclusion in order to encourage young audiences to fight the phenomena that can take root in childhood.

[See the teaser](#)

Still available on tour. [More information](#)

CONTACTS

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p6 : Laurent Paillier

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