

Short People



The project

“Short People” proposes a choreography specifically designed for performance in an outdoor setting; developed from an extract of “People what people?” a show created in 2016 for the conventional stage.

In the chosen extract, the dancers are connected by a common pulse, and must remain constantly attuned one to the other, to form a group displaying both solidity and solidarity; metaphor for a declining society in which members have no choice but to vibrate on the same wavelength in order to move forward together.

Transposing this micro-society into an urban setting seems to us the obvious outcome of the sentiments we experienced during the elaboration of “People what people?”.

Nevertheless, “Short People” has its own story to tell, independently of its origins.

Lasting around 30 minutes, it can take two distinct forms:

→ an autonomous version for 5 dancers entitled “Short People”

→ an interactive form involving from 10 to 30 male or female dancers, entitled “Short people big”
Working on this kind of participation reflects our desire to share our creative process with dancers other than those of the Company, be they amateurs or professionals.

“Short people big” will thus group together the 5 dancers from “Short people” with from 5 to 25 amateurs.

We plan to revisit in depth the chosen extract from “People what people?” to take account, on the one hand, of performance in a public space; but also, to introduce an interactive element, and to find a stylistic coherence for this new creation.

This will demand a new way of looking at using space; but also, of adapting the energy and rhythm of the performance.

We must also intensify certain choreographic and theatrical aspects, diminish others, and give birth to fresh ideas. Finally, we must realise that the performance must be able to change its format to incorporate a considerable number of new dancers, and this in a relatively short lapse of time.

Intentions regarding form and content

From “Short people” we retain the idea of a declining society, symbolised by a group of people whose members attempt, in their own way, to confront the brutality of the world around them.

How to remain ‘human’ in our current confusion ? How to stand up, and remain standing?

How to deal with others: my mates, enemies, friends, cousins, brothers, my ego, my shadow....

Others, as parts of myself.

Take hold of this other to affirm my existence, crush them in order to keep one's head above water, then rescue them before they sink, in order not to be alone.

Stick closely to people to reassure oneself, break with them to scream, stop everything to laugh, laugh, and laugh again.

And always the incarnation of the dance, bearing witness to continued life.



Dance, the driving force of this project...

A tribal dance at its roots, but contemporary in its form and in the music with which it combines.

A dance which relates the beauty of a fall, the violence of a moment of tension, the blindness of a running man, the collapse of a cadence, or the declaration of love between space and time.

A dance which bears witness to everything that can be expressed in a gesture, an image, in that searing intensity so difficult to put into words.

A dance which makes of “Short people” an eminently ‘physical’ performance, testing the mettle of a small community harassed by heady sonorities.

“Short people”: constructed like a musical score, more about resonance than reason.

“Short people”: made by people for other people.

Hinging on a choir-like movement structured around a pulse, a slow evolution brings about an imperceptible shifting from one situation to another.

In this drawn-out transformation, images follow on one another to evoke a small corner of the world, busy preserving a harmony essential to its survival.

A deliberate choice of society, or herd instinct?

Team

- Choreographer: Bruno PRADET
- Dancers: Christophe BROMBIN, Céline DEBYSER, Jules LEDUC, Thomas REGNIER, Loriane WAGNER
(*substitute dancers : Bi-Jia YANG, Pascal BEUGRE-TELLIER*)
- Composer and arranger : Yoann SANSON, Mr Spoon
- Costumes : Rozenn LAMAND

Technical aspects

- Duration: 30 minutes – possibility of two performances in one day
- Circular installation / diameter: 10 meters – *semi-frontal performance possible... open for discussion.*
- To be supplied by the organiser: 4 speakers + cabling
- Installation time: 1 hour – *not counting dance rehearsals*
- 6 people on tour (+1 if production manager involved)



Support

- Production: Association Vilcanota
The Vilcanota company is supported by DRAC (french ministry of culture), Région Occitanie, Hérault department and Montpellier city.
- Support: Office culturel Alenya, La Comédie – scène nationale Clermont-Ferrand, SPEDIDAM, Occitanie en scène

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