

Ruth Childs (Scarlett's)



Photo: Marie Magnin

fantasia

Artistic direction :
Ruth Childs
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Production, diffusion,
administration :
Tutu Production
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Production Scarlett's

ARTISTIC TEAM

Choreography/Performance : Ruth Childs
Technical direction and light design : Joana Oliveira
Sound design and research : Stéphane Vecchione
Choreographic eye : Maud Blandel
Outside eye : Nadia Lauro
Costumes : Cécile Delanoë

Delegated production, ad- ministration, diffusion

Tutu Production, Lise Leclerc and Cécilia Lubrano

Coproduction

Association pour la Danse Contemporaine – Ge-
nève, Arsenic, Lausanne, Atelier de Paris / CDCN

With support from

Pro Helvetia fondation Suisse pour la culture, la Loterie
Romande, Fondation Nestlé pour l'Art, SIS Fondation
suisse des artistes interprètes ou exécutants, Fonda-
tion Ernst Göhner, "une coproduction dans le cadre du
Fonds des programmeurs de Reso – Réseau Danse
Suisse. Soutenue par Pro Helvetia, Fondation suisse
pour la culture. », Tanzhaus Zürich, The Floor NYC.

Many thanks to

Théâtre Sévelin Lausanne, Servette Music

Creation 2019

Première 30.10.20-03.11.20 at the ADC – Geneva, Switzerland

12 / 13.11.20 – Atelier de Paris / CDCN, with the Centre culturel suisse. Paris, France

20 / 24.11.20 – Arsenic, Lausanne, Switzerland

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2020

01.11.20 – Solo Festival, Bonn, Germany

28 / 29.11.20 – Gessnerallee, Zürich, Switzerland

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2021

20/21.04.21 – ADN-Danse Neuchâtel & Centre culturel ABC, La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland

12, 14.08.21 – Impulstanz, Vienna, Austria

08.10.20 – FIT Festival, Lugano, Switzerland

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2022

05.02.22 – Swiss Dance Days, Basel, Switzerland

10-12.02.22 – Arsenic, Lausanne, Switzerland

10-16.07.22 – Sélection suisse en Avignon with the CDCN Les Hivernales, Avignon, France

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2023

12.06.2023 – Festival Tours d'Horizons, CCN de Tours, France



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"Lately, during my choreographic research, I started noticing how familiar tunes make me do spontaneous and surprising things: my body finds postures dynamics, and movements without making a conscious effort. Something about finding the unknown through the known has captivated me.

My first creation *The Goldfish and the Inner Tube*, in collaboration with Stéphane Vecchione, was an explosive exploration including sound, materials and bodies. For fantasia, my choreographic research focuses on the body and its musicality, delving into the intimate layers of my physical and emotional memories triggered by the classical music I listened to as a child.

Stepping into an empty space, a white room, I invoke, play, dialogue, embody and fight with these musical recollections, using color, to punctuate and organize them, in an abstract auto portrait. My body, shifting from projection screen, to human figure, to animal-like creature, to musical instrument, or to simple vibration, takes on, conducts, and questions the notion of what is intimate and what is collective."

Ruth Childs

* Fantasia is a musical composition with a free form and often improvisatory style, a musical composition based on several familiar tunes, something composed of a mixture of different forms or styles, a 1940s Disney Classic, an Arabian horse show... It's also the name I give to this dance.

** The music in my fantasia, my very own collection of familiar melodies, is sometimes treated as a ready-made, sometimes directed live by my voice and body, and sometimes transformed. It was important for Stéphane Vecchione (sound design) and I to reflect on how to use classical music in a contemporary context.

References

MUSIC

- Allegro ma non troppo (Awakening of happy feelings on arriving in the country) Symphony N. 6 in F Major, Op. 68, Ludwig van Beethoven (Berliner Staatskapelle & Daniel Barenboim)
- The Nutcracker, Op. 71 Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky - Marzipan (Dance of the Reed Flutes), Coffee (Arabian Dance), Russian Dance (Antal Doráti: London Symphony Orchestra)
- Allegro con brio, Symphony No. 7 in A Major Op. 92 (Daniel Barenboim & Staatskapelle Berlin)
- Slavonic Dance in E minor, Op. 72/2 Antonin Dvorak (Zdenek Košler & Slovak Philharmonic Orchestra)
- Molto Vivace, Symphony No.9, 'Choral,' Op. 125 Ludwig van Beethoven (Daniel Barenboim & Staatskapelle Berlin)

FILMS

- Fantasia, Walt Disney (1940)
- Gestures, Hannah Wilke (1974) / Art Make Up, Bruce Nauman (1974)

BOOKS

- L'Art de la joie, Goliarda Sapienza / A la recherche du temps perdu, Vol 1 Du côté de chez Swann, Marcel Proust



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Press

"With unusual poetry and spontaneous commitment, the performer is both conductor and music box."

Sceneweb, Christophe Candoni

"Ruth Childs' performance of her fantasia, a new creation, gave me a "Behold" moment, a chance to feel the emotion of witnessing something unique"

Best American Poetry, Paul Tracy Danison

"By using these melodies that everyone recognizes even if they can't name them, she provokes a very organic reaction. Even when the dance is minimal, the music steps up. And vice versa. Brilliant."

toutelaculture, Amelie Blaustein Niddam

"An overwhelming dance with joyful and generous physical energy, the perfection of the movement and the rhythm establishes a complicit relationship with the music."

L'Osservatore, Manuela Camponovo



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Ruth Childs

British-American dancer and performer Ruth Childs was born in 1984 in London. She grew up in the United States where she studied dance (classical and contemporary) and music. In 2003 she moved to Geneva to finish her dance training with the Ballet Junior de Genève. Following this, she started working with many internationally known choreographers and directors including Foofwa d'Imobilité, La Ribot, Gilles Jobin, Massimo Furlan, Marco Berrettini and Yasmine Hugonnet.

Since 2015, she is also working on a re-creation and revival project of the early works of her the aunt, the American choreographer Lucinda Childs.

In 2014 she founded her company Scarlett's in order to develop her own work through dance, performance, film and music and collaborates with Stéphane Vecchione on the musical project Scarlett's Fall. In 2016 the state of Geneva awarded her a scholarship and research residency in Berlin of 6 months to develop her own work. Her first stage piece in collaboration with Stéphane Vecchione, The Goldfish and the Inner Tube, premiered in April 2018.

She premiered fantasia, her first solo at the ADC, Geneva in October 2019 and then Blast! in 2022 at the Festival de la Bâtie in Geneva.

Ruth is currently one of the associated artists at Arsenic in Lausanne.

Joana Oliveira

Joana Oliveira was born in Porto in Portugal. Early on, she developed passion for performing arts and in particular light design. In 2006 she entered the Academy of Contemporary Performance in Porto to study light design.

Following her graduation, she created lighting for diverse performances including dance and theatre and in situ projects. In 2014 she received a study scholarship and moved to Lausanne, Switzerland to work as an apprentice in the Arsenic theatre. She then started to work with many different Swiss companies, and now designs lighting for the following choreographers and theater directors: Audrey Cavalius, Ludovic Chazaud, Orélie Fuchs Chen, Le Collectif sur un Malentendu, Claire Deutsch and Christophe Jaquet. Since 2015 she worked closely with YoungSoon Cho Jaquet (compagnie Nuna) as light designer and technical director.

In 2018 she collaborated with Ruth Childs and Stéphane Vecchione on their stage piece The Goldfish and the Inner Tube, and then fantasia in 2019, and Blast! in 2022.

Stéphane Vecchione

Sound designer, performer and self-taught drummer, Stéphane Vecchione, born in 1971 in Yverdon-les Bains, trained as an actor, at the Conservatoire de Lausanne, in the Dramatic Arts section, from 1995 to 1999.

He then worked as a performer and or musician for many artists and companies including Stefan Kaegi, Denis Maillefer, Massimo Furlan, Nicole Seiler, Philippe Saire, Yasmine Hugonnet, Clédat & Petitpierre. He is also a member of the group Velma (important band and performance collective based in Lausanne) and Deviation (sound installation collective based in Lausanne.)

In 2002, he received a prize for "young music creators" from the Vaud Foundation for the promotion of artistic creations. In 2010 he founded his company SORI, to develop his own work through performance and sound.

In 2014 he started his collaboration with Ruth Childs first with their musical duo SCARLETT'S FALL and then their stage piece The Goldfish and the Inner Tube in 2018 and her solos fantasia (2019) and Blast! (2022.)