



HALLET EGHAYAN
COMPAGNIE DE DANSE

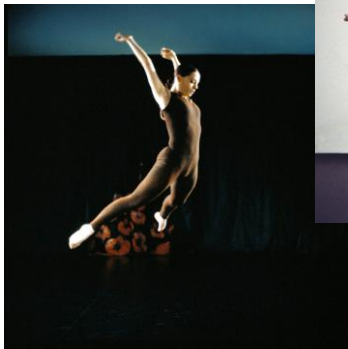
presents



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« ROOTS »

Hallet Eghayan Dance Company

« aux Echappées Belles » - 65/73, rue du Bourbonnais 69009 Lyon (France)

Tél. : +33 4 78 64 84 98 - Fax : +33 4 78 64 87 60 – email : contact@ciehalleteghayan.org – website : www.ciehalleteghayan.org



« ROOTS »

Programme

This programme draws a line between the origins of bipedia and the origins of contemporary dance. It proposes the public to make the link between the first steps of humanity and the first steps of dance towards a contemporary language moved by nowadays questions and ways of thinking the world.

“The future of tomorrow dances depends also on the roots it feeds on.”

Michel Hallet Eghayan

“The emotion squeezes the throat. The thoughts are as soles of wind, they come from clouds and go where goes to bed the sun.”

LE FIGARO - Isabelle BRISSON

1ST ACT : “WHICH SIDE STORY ?” (20 MIN.)

Man can forget his past, but he cannot forget his body. He stands on his feet and already the consciousness of his own gestures allows him to appropriate his environment.

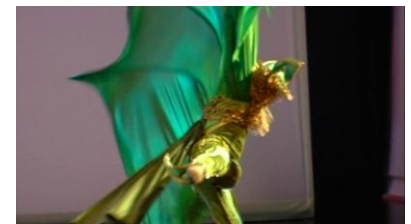
If he walks on two feet, is it to be able to look far and understand the world, or to look at the sky and understand himself ? Dance is here to reveal all these questions and make us open to the eye's poetry.



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2ND ACT : “SEUL L'ARBRE...” (20 MIN.)

This act describes these complex arborescences of men's history in their unity and diversity from the end of paleolithic till globalization. It ends with the improbable rebirth of a tree coming out of the head and body of a dancer ; because the multitude of cultures and dances springs out of one and only body.



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3RD ACT : “RETOUR EN AVANT” (20 MIN.)

Michel Hallet Eghayan's piece proves that French dance could be contemporary, beautiful and essential while drawing on its gestural and musical heritage. An exploration of memory, invention, and the bond between dance and music (by JS Bach), specially recreated for this 2008 Dance Biennale of Lyon (to which it lends its title), showing how dance can remain relevant over time - free, alive, and devoid of nostalgia.



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Michel Hallet Eghayan

Choreographer

« Dance is the art connecting mankind to earth and light. »

Thirty years of creation have never weakened the energy of this dancer and choreographer who was born in Lyons in 1946. Michel Hallet Eghayan induces respect both because of his impressive route as an author and because of his desire to diffuse Art (especially dance) within the « cité » as means to strengthen the social structure.

In 1973, in New York, he encountered two great representatives of dance : Margaret Craske who provided him with a perfect technique, and Merce Cunningham who taught him how important it was for a dancer to be freely and personally involved in the process of creation. He then started his career as a choreographer with "Premièrement" at the Dance Gallery of New York.

Back to his native town in 1977, he founded his dance company as well as the European Dance School. This achievement is a good example of his eternal relation with creation and training. At that time, he also founded the today internationally famous "Maison de la Danse" of Lyon.

Up to now, Michel Hallet Eghayan has created 50 pieces, some of which are considered as masterpieces of the French contemporary dance. After a period of composition on the theme of « variations », he has been studying for several years the link between our origins and modern thought : this is precisely what he has been developing in the Mediterranean cycle which has been built in partnership with Lebanese, Cypriot, Algerian and Moroccan artists.

Although his creations have been performed in the most prestigious theatres, and have been involved in national and international events, Michel and his professional dancers are eager to tap new and remote lands in order to open new spaces to Art.

In the mid eighties, Michel started negotiations with representatives of Lyons Universities the creation a professional training program leading to a graduate diploma associating dance and study : the "Dance and Study" Class is created in 1990.

At the same time Michel also set up the Children Festival which takes place every year in one of Lyon's "delicate" suburbs : La Duchère. In 1997, the Children Festival opened its doors to other artistic disciplines (apart from dance) : storytelling, music, plastic arts...The success of this festival led to the creations of other festivals, on the same pattern, in various areas of the Rhône-Alpes region and in foreign countries (Lebanon).

In 2000, Michel and the Company created a festival of a new kind linking Arts and Sciences, which urged him to intensify his research in close collaboration with scientists. His meeting with the famous paleoanthropologist Pascal Picq from the Collège de France gave him the opportunity to deepen the issues of roots and origins to motivate a reflexion around Humanity's future, exploring fears, dangers and hopes induces by mankind long-term evolution.

Michel Hallet Eghayan is also currently working on the writing of his book entitled : "Lettres à Isadora".



Hallet Eghayan Dance Company

CREATIONS

More than 53 creations some of which are considered as essential and founding pieces of the French contemporary dance.

TOURING

More than 1000 performances across the world (USA, Germany, Morocco, Lebanon...) and an average number of stage performances that makes the Hallet Eghayan Company one of the most dynamic nowadays French dance companies.

EVENTS

« Aux Echappées Belles » : a unique place in Lyon where the Company welcome many artists, mainly during thematic festivals (choreographers' soli, Mediterranean artists...). Dance is the very art of this place but the Company tries also to present to the widest public possible how choreography can dialogue with other fields of artistic expression (music, photo, storytelling, poetry...).

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

A special program, unique in Europe : the *dance pro_sess*, mixing technical and artistic improvement to specific savoir-faire in art/science research, public sensitization and cultural project development. The Hallet Eghayan Dance Company has also trained and counted some of the great personalities of the French dance scene. Daily professional courses and master classes are proposed there by teachers and choreographers who are sometimes external teachers invited by the company.

A SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONALS AND AMATEURS

Contemporary dance lessons and classical dance lessons meant for professionals as well as for amateurs. Various events and training sessions (contemporary, classical and traditional).

EDUCATION AND SOCIAL LINK

The Children Festival : an educational and social artistic event considered as a model in France and abroad. Educational courses followed every year by several primary and secondary schools. Pupils get involved in dance, musical and poetical works, offering them an opportunity to approach the artistic world. In order to sensitize and educate children to Art, the Company works hand in hand with primary and secondary schools' teachers. They help them to find educational methods concerning artistic disciplines and especially dance. A programmation of artistic and scientific events open to all types of audience.

NEW AUDIENCES

The Company is eager to diffuse Art and to sensitize people with it. To Different events are initiated by Michel and the Company to find new ways to approach dance and finally reach a larger audience, new publics.

PARTNERSHIPS

Several partnerships with French and international firms : Philip Morris, JC. Decaux, Imhotep Creation, Hold JLA, Bernard Matériaux, Architecture Lumière, JMZ Organisation, Union Plastic...

INTERNATIONAL SCENE

Various exchanges with European countries and an artistic cooperation with several Mediterranean countries (Italy, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Palestine and Cyprus).

RESEARCH

Creation of innovative research programs in medicine (physiology, biomechanics) and social sciences (sociology, ethnology, musicology. Since 2004, this dynamic takes shape through a trilogy entitled "Arborescence" about mankind origins and evolution ("danced conferences", choreographic pieces, publications, DVD...).



HE Dance Co Team

CHOREOGRAPHY AND ARTISTIC CONCEPTION

Michel Hallet Eghayan

COMPOSER, MUSIC COUNSELOR AND SOUND TECHNICIAN

Jean-Christophe Désert

COSTUMES AND PROPS

Carole Boissonnet

LIGHT DESIGNER

Guy Simard

LIGHT AND CHIEF TECHNICIAN

Stéphane Rimasauskas

DANCERS

Guillaume Barre

Jacinthe Janowskyj

Ivan Julliard

Bruno Miachon-Midenet

Marina Morel

Marc Ribault

Maude Rieder

PRODUCTION & DEVELOPMENT

Thierry Rollet

ADMINISTRATION

Delphine Bagne

PUBLIC SENSITIZATION

Mathilde Jouve

CORPORATE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM COORDINATION

Anna Alexandre

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Technical and financial terms available at the following contact



Hallet Eghayan Dance Company

**« aux Echappées Belles »
65 / 73 rue du Bourbonnais 69009 Lyon - France**

Tel : +33 (0)4.78.64.84.98 - Fax : + 33 (0)4.78.64.87.60

Email : anna.alexandre@ciehalleteghayan.org

Website : www.ciehalleteghayan.org

