

:: Christian Ubl
CUBe association

Diptych

TONGUES OF FIRE/ TIDAL WAVE

(

Lucie Depauw & Christian UBL



**04 & 05 October 2016 - festival
ActOral.16 in Marseille (FR)**

:: contacts

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Administration : cubeasso@orange.fr / www.cubehaus.fr - N° Siret : 439 998 311 00047

Conception | **Christian UBL & Lucie Depauw**

Performance | **Christian UBL**

Text | **Lucie Depauw**

Sound | **Fabrice Cattalano**

Voice-over | **Anne Décis**

Artistic collaboration | **Fabienne Gras**

Pyrotechnic | **Bertrand Blayo**

Light design | **Jean-Bastien Nehr**

Costume design | **Pierre Canitrot**

Production: **CUBe association**

Coproduction: **Actoral / SACD**

Residency: **KLAP Maison pour la Danse, Marseille, CN D, Pantin**

Length: **33 minutes**

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Tongues of Fire

Statement of Intent

For this latest Actoral, Hubert Colas brings together author **Lucie Depauw** and Marseilles-based Austrian performer and choreographer **Christian UBL**, who also bridges such diverse worlds as theatre, dance, and plastic arts.

The aim and initial challenge of the ***Tongues of Fire*** project was to come together to find a common axis of work, and to create, within a very short space of time, a corporeal and textual form through which an on-stage performance piece could be written.

Fire—symbolizing strength, energy, and cruelty—was the departure point from which the thought and creative processes were launched. In ***Tongues of Fire*** we sought to create portraits, choreographed “poems” about protest by fire and fiery protests: I burn, therefore I am.

Tarek Mohamed Bouazizi sparks the Arab Spring; a jobless man expresses his anger outside an employment office; a pudgy, beleaguered teenager douses himself with the petrol from his scooter as his only proof of self-existence... Immolation, from personal protest to political uprising, creates a *danse macabre* clashing with the minds of those in the public square: denouncing that which is unacceptable and speaking that which cannot be spoken.

When words no longer suffice, could the “fire of dance” express this revolt, this protest, the ultimate sacrifice, the energy and the untamable and boundless movement of fire?

Tongues of Fire is a performance which translates protest through fire in order to transition between and revisit different bodily states: immolation – supreme act of sacrifice – purification – I burn, therefore I am – the firebird – fire as the symbol of eroticism – burning intimacy made public – I burn with passion and I burn my passions – I burn my saliva, I burn my tensions, my thoughts, my affects, my desires, my convictions, the system is burning and my body burns with it...

The first poem put to choreography was created within the framework of *Objets des mots* 2016. ***Tongues of Fire*** is a solo performed by Christian UBL himself, accompanied by a recorded text specially written by Lucie Depauw—read by an actress whose voice is set in friction against Igor Stravinsky’s *Rite of Spring*.

Created at the festival *ActOral.16* in Marseille on the **4th & 5th of October 2016**.

...When my face has melted
Beyond recognition
Charcoal
Those who will wonder
Who
Is this flame
You will tell them then
I am called Tarek
And I am waiting
For spring...

– Lucie Depauw, (*titre*)

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TIDAL WAVE (2018)

Following this successful and productive collaboration with the author, we will continue our joint research by creating a second portrait: a choreographed poem that, this time, considers the symbol of water.

Tidal Wave could be the title of this second choreographed portrait-poem arranged around the symbol of water: the flow, the storm, the flood and its untamable forces, its adaptive capabilities, its brutality... But also its softness, its purifying and regenerating qualities, its immensity, and its invasive capabilities: water merges into and filters through everything, like life itself. Water is the origin of life, of bodily and spiritual regeneration.

Biographies

Christian Ubl - Chorégraphe – Danseur

Christian UBL was born in Austria in Vienna. He approaches dance through a very eclectic background, including figure skating and mainly Latin sports dances – for which he won many prizes in international competitions.

From 1993, he became interested in contemporary dance, taking workshops in Vienna, Budapest, Nantes, Istres and New York. In 1997, he joined Coline in Istres for 2 years meeting Luke Trembley, Robert Seyfried, Serge Ricci, Mirjam Berns, Fabrice Ramalingom Hélène Cathala, Françoise Murcia. After this training, his career began with Robert Seyfried and Abu Lagraa. From 2000, he participated in Michel Kelemenis works. He was chosen by Les Carnets Bagouet to dance *Meublé sommairement* (summarily furnished) by Dominique Bagouet. In 2001, he also performed for Christiane Blaise, Daniel Dobbels and Delphine Gaud. From 2003, he danced with Thomas Lebrun *La Trêve* (2004) *What you want?* (2006), *Switch* (2007) and performed for the Compagnie Linga in Lausanne and Ireland Dance Theater in Dublin.

In 2005, Christian obtained a license in Humanities - Art at the University of Lyon II and became the artistic director of CUBe. Subsequently, he created : **May You Live In Interesting Times** (2005) **ErsatzTrip** (2006) **Klap! Klap!** (2008), **FEVER** (2009) **BlackSoul & WhiteSpace** (2010-2012) **I'm from Austria like Wolfi!** (2010) and **La Semeuse** (the sower) (2011). He co-wrote a duet **Sur les pas des demoiselles** (2010) with Christine Corday for the Festival Rayon Frais in Tours. That same year, Christian began a new artistic collaboration with David Wampach for *Cassette, Sacre et Tour* and rejoined Thomas Lebrun - Director of CCNT- for *La Jeune Fille et la Mort*. He also assisted Thomas Lebrun on **With Pop Songs** - a project for 16 amateurs in MPAA in Paris and created **And So We Dance**, for 20 amateurs for the opening of the festival of Tour d'Horizon at the CCNT, 2013.

In 2014, at the Pavillon Noir, he created **Shake it Out** for five dancers and two musicians around the place of folklore and tradition in the European cultural sphere. Christian began a new collaboration as a performer with Toméo Verges for 2014/15 season and created **HOW MUCH ?** in Cairo and Alexandrie in April 2015, the out door performance **WAOU-HHHHH!** and with **A U**, the third piece to the triptych **A World Without Flags** in October 2015. IN 2016 he worked on his new group project S T I L which will be presented in march 2017 at the Pavillon Noir. Christian is artist on residency at the CDC la Briqueterie (Paris/Vitry) from 2017-2019.

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Lucie Depauw has been pursuing cinematography and audio-visual studies and working as an assistant director in the field for some ten years.

For her screenplays and plays, Ms. Depauw has received writing grants from the Beaumarchais SACD Foundation (*Dancefloor Memories*, 2009 and *Carcasses exquis*, 2005); grants from the Centre National du Théâtre (*hymen*, 2011; *Lilli/HEINER*, 2012; and *Sas, Théâtre d'opérations et suites cinq étoiles*, 2014 (also supported by a writing grant from the Centre National du Livre).

She won the Lyon Authors' Festival Prize in 2011 (*Dancefloor Memories*) and was a finalist for the Grand prix de Littérature Dramatique in 2015 for *Lilli/HEINER*.

Some of her texts have been published (by Editions Solitaires intempestifs and Editions Koinè) and translated into several languages.

The play *Dancefloor Memories* was staged at the Studio Théâtre de la Comédie Française in spring 2015 by Hervé Van Der Meulen, and in autumn 2016 by Didier Lastère and the Compagnie du Théâtre de l'Ephémère.

The play *Lilli/HEINER* was staged in autumn 2014 at the Mainz Staatstheater by Brit Bartkoviak. It was also adapted for radio by Cédric Aussir for France Culture. François Rancillac staged *Garden Scene* for the Festival de Caves in 2016.

PRESENTATION OF THE COMPANIE - CUBe

CUBe is a contemporary dance company based in Marseille and directed by the choreographer and dancer Austrian Christian UBL. Since 2005, Cube grows with the willing to present research spaces in movement, images, music, architecture, art and text. The goal is to partner with artists from different backgrounds to reach a multifaceted stage production which imposes a questioning on the meaning of the power of dance, as well as the artistic act itself, its necessity and its visibility. For each creation, the goal is to create a language or a specific world, articulated around the body - to provide the means of poetic and transverse responses on contemporary issues; to cause an artistic effervescence like an imaginary ornament speaking to the audience of today.

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:: CUBe's productions:

2005 - What is time?

May You Live In Interesting TimeS (2005) Festival Printemps de la Danse Théâtre Sévelin 36 (CH)

2006 - How can one tell the copy from the original?

ersatzTrip (2006) Pavillon Noir / CCN Ballet Preljocaj (FR)

2008 - What is the role of the public in performance today?

KLAP ! KLAP ! at 3bisf, lieu d'arts contemporains (FR)

2012 - How does one reconcile body and soul?

diptych B&W's – **BlackSoul & WhiteSpace** at Tippperary Dance Platform (IR)

2014 - What is the role of folklore, and of European culture?

Shake it out (2014) at the Pavillon Noir / CCN Ballet Preljocaj (FR)

2015 - Why "difference" is a crucial component of "identity"?

A U (2015) at the KLAP-Maison pour la danse, Marseille (FR)

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:: artistic collaborations & co-writing

2009 **FEVER** Création of 5 choreographers at the Laban Center in London (E)

2010 **Sur les pas des demoiselles** Co-writing with Christine Corday (FR)

2011 **La Semeuse** Texte from Fabrice Melquiot with Céline Romand & Christian UBL, 3bisF lieu d'arts contemporains (FR)

2012 **Switch** Reconstruction & recreation at the MPAA — Paris (FR)

2013 **With Pop Songs** collaboration with Thomas Lebrun at the MPAA à Paris (FR)

:: commands

2010 **I'm from Austria, like Wolfi !** festival Goûter ma danse (FR)

2012 **Danse Apache** Centre d'Art Bastille – Grenoble (FR)

2013 **And So We Dance** Festival Tours d'Horizons, CCN of Tour (FR)

2013 **Tango** « Meublé sommairement » Dominique Bagouet au CDC Les Hivernales Avignon (FR)

2015 **HOW MUCH ?** creation for CCDC festivals D-CAF in Cairo, Nassim el raqs in Alexandrie (E)

2015 **WAOUHHHHH !** out door in situ walk about performance at the col du coq – collaboration with l'Hexagone, scène nationale Arts Sciences de Meylan and the CG Isère

:: supports

- **DRAC PACA** | 2006-2008, 2010 - 2013 – support for production
- **DRAC PACA** | 2014 -2016 - two years support for company productions
- **RÉGION PACA** | 2005-2016 help for research, productions and touring
- **CG 13** | 2005-2016 – help for production and touring
- **CG 93** | 2008 support for residency in Bagnolet
- **ARCADI** | 2008 support for production
- **VILLE D'ISTRES** | 2005-2013 support for the company
- **VILLE DE MARSEILLE** | 2014- 2015 support for productions
- **ADAMI** | 2006, 2013/14, 2016/17support for productions & touring
- **SACD- FONDS SCENE DE MUSIQUE** | 2009, 2014,2016 financial support
- **AMBASSADE FRANCE et AUTRICHE À DUBLIN** | 2012 touring support
- **FORUM CULTUREL AUTRICHIEN PARIS** | 2005-2015 touring support
- **AMBASSADE AUTRICHE À LUXEMBOURG** | 2014

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