

Compagnie MehDia

choreographer: Mehdi DIOURI

Café-Floor

Création 2019

hip-hop dance
Choreographic play for 8 dancers
50 min
all public

Artistic Director : Mehdi DIOURI

Artistic Assistant : Céline TRINGALI

Music : Patrice PRIVAT / Stéphane LAVALÉE

Stage Manager/Lighting Creation: Fabrice SARCY

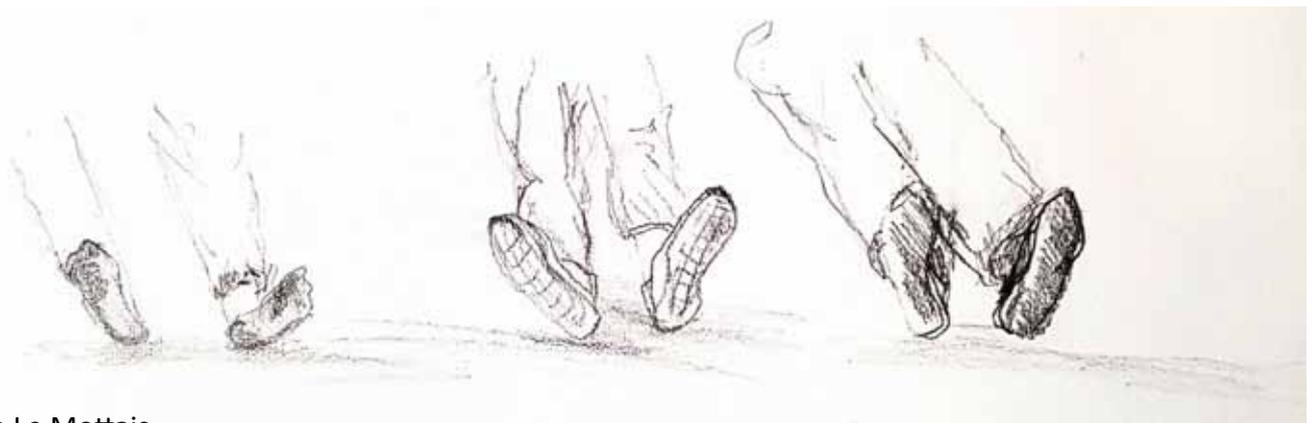
Dancers :

Mehdi DIOURI, Salim HALMI, Stéphane LAVALLÉE, Eva LOIZOU,
Fabien MORAIN, Fabien PERICHON, Tarik YOUNSI,

Distribution in progress

Staging & Scenery : Anne LE MOTTAIS

Costumes : Anaïs CAULAT



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Diffusion : Margareth CHOPARD - 06 74 46 15 92 - diffusion.mehdia@gmail.com

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LETTER OF INTENT

Bearing a rich past, le Café de Flore is well anchored in its present.

Throughout the 19th century, cafés, boulevards, shopping malls and train stations are already perceived as representing the modern era, where people like to gather, meet friends, or spend time with themselves to read, write, or be entertained by the crowd.

Soon as its beginnings in 1885, artists and writers hence meet and interact at le Café de Flore, on le Boulevard Saint-Germain-des-Prés in Paris, looking out for company, or seeking inspiration. True cultural and social hub, different minds meet there for small talk, philosophical debates, or art-oriented discussions.

This habit perdures today - cafés are an important part of urban life in general. More than just a place to wine and dine, cafés are places where people celebrate life.

After studying closely the domain of human encounters, interactions & relationships through my first creation « MEHDIA », I intend to dedicate my second creation to le Café de Flore, and other urban life sceneries. Throughout this new show, and its café-looking scenery, I intend to describe the life at play in the intimacy of these long-standing social institutions.

Danse will translate the inebriation and exhilaration a few drinks can cause, as much as the euphoria unexpected human interactions can trigger, the singular satisfaction of a stolen smile, or sharing a laugh with strangers at a counter, the joy of feeling loved and surrounded, but also the loneliness, anger or regrets one can be witnessed experiencing, taking a trip down memory lane...

Eventually, just as if we were sitting there, bystanders, onlookers will make their way from on table to another, as customers voices will take part to the noisy parisian life...

Cafe-Floor is to me, a show where one can show up with or without appointment, with or without friends, but with one expectation: let the urban magic happen...



CRÉATION *Café-Floor*

ABOUT THE CREATION

Café-Floor is « a la mode »: intellectuals, painters, dancers, writers meet there and acknowledge one another!

This HipHop dance creation is made of human interaction and friendship - an incredible laboratory where anyone can offer his own shape, color, personal taste or vision of freedom. Such as our previous creation « MEHDIA », « CAFE-FLOOR » questions the human ability to transform and shapeshift / be transformed when connecting with a foreign being.

Just like customers would on a classic day, our 6 dancers will transport us into this café's universe where HipHop is the main way of interaction. They will illustrate the joy, conviviality, and happiness of some as well as the anger, sadness or loneliness of others.

They will succeed each other around this invisible café counter, while the mirror-based scenery will send us back their own image. When on stage, my aim is for different body movements, mind sets, human natures & instincts to connect & interact with each other, predominantly through improvisation.

It's a discipline that I particularly value, for it grants each dancer the freedom of interpretation.

Around these Café-Floor regulars, the minimalist scenery & subtle light show will create a feeling of intimacy around the stage, itself reinforced by a dedicated musical composition - all seeking to transport the crowd deep into the dancers' emotions, & highlight the CaféFloor's surrealism through their creativity and expressions.



SCENERY

Anne LE MOTTAIS
Current research

Some chairs and bar tables will be present.
The light creation will offer a game of reflections and mirroring.



© Anne Le Mottais



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CALENDAR

PARIS, FRANCE

January

Writing, Choreographic Research - Step By Step Studio
Cachan 94 / 1 week

February

Writing, Choreographic Research - Centre Paul Valeyre
Paris 75 / 1 week

LYON, FRANCE

February

Writing, Choreographic Research - La Maison Verte, Centre du
Plateau St Jean
Chalon-sur-Saône 71 / 1 week

March

Choreographic Research, Studio Residency - Centre Chorégraphik
Pôle Pik
BRON 69 / 1 semaine

April

Choreographic Research, Studio Residency - Studios Dyptik
Saint Etienne 42 / 1 week

october

Abbaye de Corbigny (58)

March 2019

CCN de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne / Compagnie Käfig



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PARTNERS

With the support of :

Step By Step Studio, Centre Chorégraphique à Cachan (94)
Centre Paul Valeyre, Paris XX

La Maison Verte, Centre du Plateau St Jean à Chalon-sur-Saône (71)

Espace Albert Camus / Pôle Pik –Pôle en Scènes, Centre chorégraphique de Bron (69)

Maison de la Danse, Dyptik Saint-Etienne (42)

CCN de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne / Compagnie Käfig (94)

Abbaye de Corbigny (58)

**Ongoing research for residences first semester 2019
co-productions and pre-purchases season 2019-2020**



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ABOUT THE COMPANY

As he comes back from Chicago in 2010, Mehdi decides to dedicate to developing his own universe. The connexion of different dancers sharing a common vision gives birth to the Mehdia company in 2014, like it was meant to be, an act of fate. Throughout fall the same year, Mehdi engages in launching his very first creation, to which he symbolically assigns the company name, « MEHDIA ». Artistic Individuality & diversity are at the very essence of what Mehdia's philosophy is made of. The company draws its energy from choreographic creations and hip-hop dance training & initiations, with improvisation as a central piece: each dancer can express freely his relationship to hip-hop culture. While the company's roots are in Break Dance, Mehdia inspires from a wide range of different styles, delivering an artistic melting-pot on stage - highlighting the company's stand-point, for perpetual hip-hop dance reinvention. The Mehdia Company also develops cultural action initiatives around its creations, to raise awareness around Hip Hop culture, and foster its practice among young kids. Through creation and awareness raising, Mehdia aspires to carrying a message and its emotions around HipHop culture across genders, origins and generations.

© Tony Noel



MEHDI DIOURI

Born in 1984 in Chalon sur Saône, where the oldest surviving photograph of a real-world scene was captured by french engineer Nisephore Niepce, credited as the inventor of photography - Mehdi Diouri develops a real passion for hiphop and begins his dance journey with breakdance training at the age of 17, in the streets of Chalon.

Immersed into the culture, he is soon led to meet the local actors of the movement, such as « Tout Simplement Nous » company's choreograph Rachid Kassie in 2001, influencing his practice, shaping his hip hop culture and philosophy, while growing his experience as an artist.

While frequently featured as a key element in Kassie's creations between 2005 and 2014, Mehdi soon expands his horizons to the Taka Move Choerography Centre in Lyon, where he learns the fundamentals of Funk Style, Poppin & Locking with world-famous, LA-based street dance crew, Electric Boogaloo.

As his practice and techniques grow, Mehdi soon addresses national events such as « Battle of the Year France », or « Les Rencontres de la Villette », where he meets dancers like Storm...

His taste for stage performance naturally conducts him to expanding his network, collaborating with modern choreographs like Laure Bonicel (« Le Bleu est à la mode »), stage directors like Lambert Wilson (« Lettre à ma ville ») or Lies Pauwels (« Riz d'Or »), and urban culture experts like sociologist Hugues Bazin.

In his quest for artistic knowledge & experience, Mehdi's soon led to explore the International Scene and in 2006, he is appointed in a Cultural Exchange Program around Performing Arts & Culture, sponsored by French Government's Department of Foreign Affairs - which will have him traveling from Pekin to Shangai.

His next steps will then inevitably take him to what is considered today one of the the cradles of HipHop Culture, the Rumboldt Art Centre in Chicago, where he gets to evangelize French HipHop Culture among local kids, as an instructor.

Throughout his experiences, Mehdi finds the right balance between HipHop technicality and emotions, that a dancer is required to combine and exhibit.

Mehdi eventually turns his knowledge & experience from a life-style, to philosophy, and soon enough, to a pedagogy. In a logic flow of events, Mehdi then launches his own Dance Company in 2012: MEHDIA - which first show will bear the same name.

Today, Mehdi perpetuates the virtuous circle that led him there, teaching HipHop classes to his Dance Conservatory students in Paris, as he works on a new creation projet called « Panenka » - in reference to Zidane's famous kick during the 2006 FIFA World Cup - in collaboration with French Music Troup « Quattour Leonis ».

Since 2013, Mehdi creates and performs in direct collaboration with National Choreographic Center & Compagnie KAFIG's Director Mourad Merzouki, as part of Paris's biggest National Choroegrphic Center - CCN Créteil & Val de Marne. »

Technique

Presence desired of the general manager of the place in addition to that of the company.

For any technical information, contact our manager:

FABRICE SARCY

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Renseignements utiles

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