

Echo Room

Contemporary dance performance
with interactive installation



photos Raphaël Kann

A duo to be experienced in three separate visual and sonic spaces. Embodied in a conflictual bond, the use of physiological sensors lay bare the hidden side of the search for identity questioning the relationship between movement, physiology and psychology.

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Echo Room

1. Summary

Contemporary dance performance with interactive installation

Three different simultaneous perceptions of a dance duet

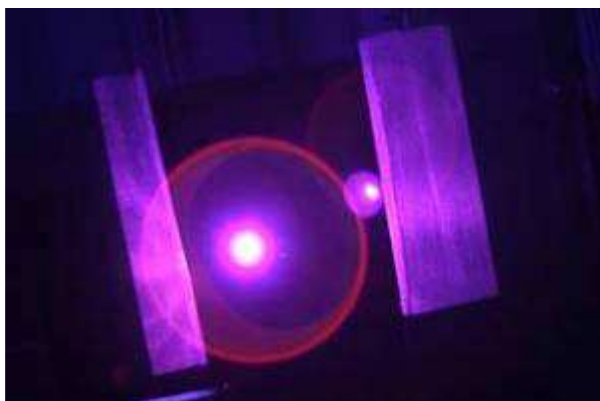
Two dancers equipped with physiological sensors measuring muscular tension, breathing, heartbeat

Three separate visual and musical spaces in one location:

A space for the live dance

A space for the physiological states of the dancers translated into sound and video light
A space where the real-symbolic-past-future space/time dimension of the dancers' psychology are displayed via sound and images

Duration: 50 mn



2. *Echo Room*: Description

The performance can be adapted to fit different spaces like an art gallery, an exhibition hall, a traditional theatrical stage or a stage divided in various spaces...

Synopsis

Echo Room questions the construction of masculine identity in the hetero-sexual male through the positioning of his *self* in a self/other binary, where *he* requires the subjugation of the Other to define himself. The choreography draws on the dialectics of the inherited and socially constructed body, and the individual as a lived person free to make choices. The uncontrollable is juxtaposed with the controlled and imposes itself like an echo of the past.

Echo Room offers the audience a simultaneous perception of various points of view of one given reality. Embodied in a conflictual bond, the use of physiological sensors lay bare the hidden side of the search for identity questioning the relationship between movement, physiology and psychology.

The sensors

Physiological reactions of the dancers (muscular tension, breathing, and heartbeat) are measured with wireless sensors. The body states of the dancers determine these reactions and their minute variations. In turn the captured data is translated into images and music. In the first adjacent space, i.e. the “physiological” one, a certain level of abstraction and minimalism of both the music and the images (pulsation, vibration, etc. of colours) create a reactive and immersive environment for the perception of the body states of the distant dancers. In the second space, the “imaginary” one, a cinematographic approach is set to enhance the perception of the real and symbolic elements at work within the relationship. These simultaneous images and sounds give the audience a different perception of the danced movements and the relationship which unfolds in front of their eyes.



3. *Echo Room*: Artistic team

Dancers

Benjamin-Aliot Pagès, Yuko Yamada

Music composer

David Fieffé

Video artist

Guillaume Bautista

Sensors engineering

Julien Marro-Dauzat

Computer programming

Théo de Lahogue

Concept

Anne Holst

Artistic and choreographic directorship

Anne Holst, Jean-Marc Matos





Version Galerie d'Art

4. K. Danse Bio / Anne Holst, Jean-Marc Matos

The choreographers:



Anne HOLST,

Dancer, choreographer and artistic director. Anne Holst studied ballet in Copenhagen and contemporary dance in England (BA Dance (first class) University of Surrey), choreography with Rosemary Butcher and other established British choreographers in England (MA Choreography from University of Surrey). Additionally she studied physical theatre, and received a distinction in "The Body as a Medium of Expression" from Royal Holloway, London (MA Theatre and Media Arts). Performed with Susan Kozel, Litza Bixler, Rita Marcalo, Marie-Gabrielle Rotie... As a choreographer her research always takes a starting point in the positioning of the human being in a world of inherited structures such as the construction of identity, and the problematic of relational structures. Her movement development focuses on the individual expressive qualities and personality of the dancer, searching for a truthful and original expression of individual experience rather than following current trends in contemporary dance. She has choreographed more than 30 pieces which have been shown in France and abroad: Central America, Morocco, England, Venezuela, Mexico, India ...



Jean-Marc MATOS,

Dancer, choreographer and artistic director. Jean-Marc Matos studied with Merce Cunningham and several of the founders of the American post-modern dance movement (Douglas Dunn, David Gordon, Lucinda Childs etc.) in New York. Performed with David Gordon (Judson Church). He is interested in the impact of digital technology on society, in order to develop a meaningful relationship between dance and new media. His choreographic research is centered on the meeting of the language of choreography and the language of media. Has choreographed and danced for company K. Danse since 1983, which he created on his return to France. Award winner in the international choreographic contest of Bagnolet. He has choreographed around forty pieces which have been presented extensively in France (Avignon Festival, Festival of La Rochelle, Maison de la Danse of Lyon, George Pompidou Center, Monaco Dance Forum, etc.) and in many countries (Europe, North and South America, Canada, North Africa, Indian continent). He also teaches numerous workshops involving dance, video and interactive media, addressing all ages, levels and fields of study.

The choreographic approach of the **Compagnie K. Danse** develops a contemporary movement language by the dialectic confrontation between the physical body (lived, experienced) and the visual body (seen, virtual).

The performances question the borders between fiction and reality, the social construction of the body, and the psychological structures in human relationships. They investigate the latest digital technologies:

- _ physiological sensors ([Echo Room 2009](#))
- _ neuronal networks ([Para_site 2007](#)) with composer Roland Cahen
- _ programmed art ([Gameplay 2005](#)) with visual artist Antoine Schmitt
- _ interactive real time image and sound environments ([Nuit Ecran 2006](#), [Lovely user 2005](#))
- _ body sensors, interactive 3D and motion capture ([Icare Ecart 2003](#))
- _ internet ([Danse e-Toile 2009](#) with India, [Fronter@ 2004](#) with Mexico, [Danse et Toile 2002](#)) ...



Echo Room



Danse e-toile



Gameplay



Para_site



Délices



Rebus



Fronter@



Nuit Ecran



Lovely User



Icare Ecart



Icare Ecart



Danse et Toile

Art-Science-Dance / CorpusMedia www.corpusmedia.eu

The company develops its four main areas of activity (**performance making, mediation, research, organization of events**) within the framework of CorpusMedia: *Digital Performance*, connecting the French and Spanish regions of Midi-Pyrénées, Languedoc-Roussillon, Catalonia, Balearic Islands and Aragon.

Performance making: K. Danse produces performances (full evening long pieces and short pieces), informal performances, site specific choreographies and telematic pieces connecting via internet distant cities and countries.

Mediation: K. Danse directs numerous workshops on contemporary dance and digital arts, for children and adults. Other proposals contain: lecture Demonstrations, conferences, open rehearsals, theoretical courses: dance analysis.

Research: artistic research linked with technological development (partnership with the IRIT, Research Institute in Computer Science, University Paul Sabatier of Toulouse).

Organization of events: CorpusMedia festival in Midi-Pyrénées / artistic advice / curatorship.

K. Danse is a member of **Digital Art Network (RAN)**

Associated artists:

Dancers (Benjamin- Aliot Pagès, Yuko Yamada, Aude Miyagi, Dhami Panjwani, etc.), actors/actress (Julie Pichavant), video artists ([Guillaume Bautista](#)), composers ([David Fieffé](#)), visual artists ([Antoine Schmitt](#)), Sharada Srinivasan, Indian choreographer and scientist.

Some chronological milestones

Presence, since 1983, in the major festivals and cultural events in France and abroad: more than 40 works up to today,

Festivals of Aix en Provence, Avignon, la Rochelle, Châteauvallon, Métafort d'Aubervilliers, Centre Américain de Paris, Centre Georges Pompidou, Grande Halle de la Villette, Maison des Arts de Créteil, Maison de la Danse de Lyon, Centre National Art et Technologie de Reims, Centre National de la Danse, ISEA 2000 à Paris, Monaco Dance Forum, Espace Odyssud à Blagnac, Le Cube, Centre des Arts d'Enghien les Bains, ...

Touring in India, Central America, Morocco, Spain, Mexico, Venezuela, United Kingdom, Germany, Pakistan, Belgium, Hungary, Canada, U.S.A.,

Soros Center of Budapest, Video Fest and Podewill Center in Berlin, International Festival of Hambourg, Fondation Polar in Caracas, Festival Medi@rte of Monterrey, Festival VAD of Girona and IDN of Barcelona (Catalonia), International Festival of Video Art of Casablanca, NIAS of Bangalore (India), ...

The company is funded by the City of Toulouse, the French Ministry of Culture (Drac Midi-Pyrénées, Dicream, CNC), the Midi-Pyrénées Regional Council, the Haute-Garonne General Council, the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (CulturesFrance for touring abroad), the Urban Community of the Great Toulouse. Established again in Toulouse, it has been developing an artistic project, linking various institutions and partners (Espace Odyssud, various cultural centers, University Paul Sabatier, University of Mirail, IRIT Research Institute on Computer Science, Théâtre Garonne, ...) with the presentation of performances, creative workshops, conferences and consulting for the making of cultural events. It has created the euro regional platform *CorpusMedia* "Digital performance" linking France with Catalonia and two other regions of Spain. It's a founding member of the Digital Art Network RAN.

5. Touring

Art Gallery Maison Salvan, Art-Science, Labège, 13 December 2008

Galerie d'Art, Festival Empreintes Numériques, Centre Culturel Bellegarde, Toulouse, 29 April 2009

Théâtre Marcel Pagnol, Villeneuve-Tolosane, 16 May 2009

Centre de Création Numérique, Le Cube, Issy Les Moulineaux, 15 November 2009

Residency at the Centre National des Ecritures du Spectacle, La Chartreuse, Villeneuve Lès Avignon, 17-23 avril 2010

New version, Art Gallery Maison Salvan, Art-Science, Labège, 17 September 2010

Festival Art-Science « La Novela », Toulouse, October 2010

6. Production partners, financial support

Partners and coproducers

Centre National des Ecritures du Spectacle, La Chartreuse de Villeneuve-lès-Avignon

Festival Art-Science « la Novela », Ville de Toulouse

Centre de Création Numérique Le Cube, Issy Les Moulineaux

Centre Culturel Multimédia Bellegarde, Toulouse

Maison Salvan « Art-Science », Labège

Théâtre Marcel Pagnol, Villeneuve-Tolosane

Other partners (on going request)

Théâtre Garonne, Toulouse

Centre de Développement Chorégraphique, Toulouse-MP

Centro Cultural El Laboral, Gijón, Asturias (Spain)

Centre des Arts, Enghien les Bains

Scène Nationale Lux, Valence

Musée d'Art Contemporain esBaluard, Palma de Majorque, Balearic Islands (Spain)

Festival Periferias, Centro Cultural El Matadero, Huesca (Spain)

Public grants

Drac MP-Ministry of Culture and Communication

DICRéAM, CNC (National Center for Cinematography)

City of Toulouse

Regional Council of Midi-Pyrénées

General council of Haute-Garonne

