



Friday 6 October 8.30 p.m.

DANCE

The Poetic Universe of Carolyn Carlson



Narration: H el ene de Talhou et

Performance: Sara Orselli, danzatrice della Carolyn Carlson Company e coreografa

This lecture features words and gestures aimed at discovering the poetic universe of Carolyn Carlson, and defining her art. By combining biographical elements, sources of inspiration, fragments of important works from her career, inks and poems, the performance provides an approach to the creative process of Carolyn Carlson and an understanding of Carlson's gesture. It is like a visit to her workshop or a behind-the-scenes of her work process. While the working method of the artist is based on the essential principle of improvisation, this dance lecture allows us to understand the unique character, the approach and the mastery of such improvisation: we comprehend why the work of the choreographer is so deeply interesting to us.

Carolyn Carlson

Carolyn Carlson is a pivotal figure in the development of contemporary dance at the global level. Many of her works have written the history of dance, from *Density 21.5* (1973) to *Blue Lady* (1983), from *Signes* (1997) to her most recent creation, *The Tree* (2021). Heir to the concepts of movement, composition and pedagogy of Alwin Nikolais, she arrived in France in 1971. The following year, with *Rituel pour un rêve mort* (Ritual for a Dead Dream), she shaped a poetic manifesto, defining an approach to her work she has not given up since: a dance resolutely aimed at philosophy and spirituality. Carolyn Carlson prefers the term 'visual poetry' rather than 'choreography' to describe her work.

Hélène de Talhouët

PhD in History of Contemporary Art, Hélène de Talhouët has been working with Carolyn Carlson since 2009. She actively took part in the recognition of the physical creations of the dancer-choreographer by curating several exhibitions, including *Writings on water* at the La Piscine museum in Roubaix, of which she co-signed the catalogue (*Actes Sud*, 2017) and *Brush mind no merit* at agnès b. in Paris in 2018. Moreover, she organised *La malle-expo Le Geste peint*, a travelling exhibition of Carolyn Carlson's graphic work.

Sara Orselli

Dancer with Carolyn Carlson since 1999, Sara Orselli has performed in most of the choreographer's creations and has worked as a choreographic assistant in important pieces such as *Woman in a room*, a solo for the first dancer Diana Vishneva (CCN Roubaix, 2013), *Pneuma* (Opéra de Bordeaux, 2014) and the reprise of *Signes* at the Paris Opéra in June 2023. Boasting extensive teaching experience, Sara Orselli regularly teaches Carolyn Carlson's repertoire pieces at prestigious ballet companies and dance schools, as well as assisting the choreographer in all her masterclasses.

INFORMATIONS

Reservation +41 (0)79 646 16 14

Online: www.teatrosanmaterno.ch

Tickets

Fr. 25.– (Fr. 20.– students, AVS, member of Associazione e-venti culturali, Club Rete Due and participants to the Circolo Teatri del Locarnese Girino; free entry young people until 16 years old and journalists Teatro San Materno is accessible to wheelchairs (non-electric) and people with disabilities.