Associazione
e-venti culturali

TEATRO SAN MATERNO ASCONA

Saturday 17 October at 20.30
Sunday 18 October at 17.00
MUSIC AND DANCE
CHF 25/20*

Whirling Stillness

Compagnia Tiziana Arnaboldi with pianist Marco Dalpane

Duration: 60 min

With Fantasy on Persian Surgery Dervishes, Marco Dalpane reinvents at the piano one of the most significant works by the American composer Terry Riley, recognised as one of the founding fathers of minimalism. The musical fabric is built from the regularity of the pulse, which dissolves into random, ineffable rhythmic overlays, evoking the vertigo of the whirling dervishes. Three dancers take part to the ritual that moves from stillness to ecstasy, in successive waves that carry the audience from relaxation to hypnotic vertigo, in an unbroken

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play of repetitions - a vital process of transformation. Form dissolves into improvisation as an act of openness, expanding its own boundaries to embrace what is possible.

Notes and background:

In 1967 Riley gave his first nocturnal concerts. Akin to Sufi ceremonies, they aimed to lead the audience into a meditative state of consciousness. Playing the organ alone, Riley performed for hours, often through the entire night. Sound became a means of inhabiting time rather than passing through it, and repetition a vital process of transformation.

Terry Riley's reference to Sufi dance is evident from the very title of the composition that inspired Dalpane. Sufi whirling is a form of physically active meditation that originated among certain Sufi groups and is still practised by the Dervishes of the Mevlevi order and others, such as the Rifa'i-Ma'rufi. It is a meditative practice performed during the sema, through which the dervishes seek a deeper connection with God. This is achieved by abandoning one's nafs - the ego, or personal desires - through the repeated whirling of the body in circles, seen as a symbolic imitation of the planets of the Solar System orbiting the Sun. Tiziana Arnaboldi draws freely on this meditative practice, weaving a minimalist, contemporary and hypnotic dance.

Direction and choreography: Tiziana Arnaboldi
Music by: Marco Dalpane, composer and pianist
Dancers: Lisa Ferretti, Nuria Prazak, Justine Tourillon
Photography: Michela Di Savino

Marco Dalpane

Composer and pianist, his repertoire spans European and North American contemporary music, with forays into pop and rock through personal reworkings (Frank Zappa and Radiohead among others). Since 1991 he has worked as an accompanying pianist and composer of scores for silent film. From 1991 to 2013 he collaborated with the Cineteca di Bologna. This work has taken him to some of the most important music and film festivals in Italy and abroad. He has produced commissioned works for European television networks such as ZDF and Arte, and has performed live musical accompaniment for over 800 screenings.

Tiziana Arnaboldi, choreographer

Tiziana Arnaboldi's creations have been acclaimed in Switzerland, Italy, France, Germany, Portugal, Spain and Africa. Since October 2009, the Company has been in residence at the Teatro San Materno in Ascona. She creates international project platforms and artistic events inspired by this unique Bauhaus-style venue, the only one of its kind in Europe. She has received numerous awards, including the 2018 Swiss Dance Heritage Prize from the Federal Office of Culture, for the performance "Danza e Mistero", a homage to the sacred dancer Charlotte Bara.

Lisa Ferretti, dancer

After completing a bachelor's and master's degree in philosophy and art criticism in Paris, Lisa Ferretti

has worked in the cultural field as a curator, editor and programmer. Her artistic training spans contemporary dance, Gaga movement, Butoh and the Meisner acting technique, studied in Germany and the United States. She has danced in productions by Tiziana Arnaboldi, Riccardo Blumer, Sasha Waltz, Cora Mosel and Johanna Rall, performing at the ADI Design Museum in Milan during the Salone del Mobile, at Radialsystem (Berlin), at the Technische Universität Berlin's Institute of Architecture, and at the Teatro San Materno in Ascona. Alongside her dance practice, her artistic work extends to poetry and photography. She is also a certified teacher of somatic practices (Katonah Yoga, TRE Method).

Nuria Prazak, dancer

She studied at the Accademia Teatro Dimitri in Verscio (Ticino), and trained in contemporary dance with Tiziana Arnaboldi, as well as in Copenhagen and Florence with choreographer Simona Bucci (Nikolais/Louis technique). Since 2010, she has been a member of Tiziana Arnaboldi's company, taking part in various projects as a dancer and/or choreographer. Alongside her work as a performer, Nuria has worked for several years as a theatre and dance teacher. She currently leads a project integrating dance into schools in collaboration with the Juilliard School in New York, and teaches young pre-professionals for the Dance Section and Studies programme of the Canton de Vaud.

Justine Tourillon, dancer

She trained at the Académie Internationale de Danse in Paris and at Ballet Junior in Geneva, dancing in works by Barak Marshall, Hofesh Shechter, Sharon Eyal, Roy Assaf, Cindy Van Acker, Jozsef Trefeli, Alexander Ekman and Kaori Ito. She currently works with Olivier Dubois on Auguri and Descente Sauvage, and with the Hallet Eghayan company on Hourra! and Un Rameau Sortira. In 2020 she founded the Compagnie du Tourillon and created her first show, One Woman Show. In 2021 she obtained her state diploma as a contemporary dance teacher at the CND in Lyon. Since 2022 she has been a dancer with the Centre Chorégraphique National du Havre, France, and with Compagnia Tiziana Arnaboldi, Switzerland.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Reservations
By telephone answering service: +41 (0)79 646 16 14
Online: www.teatrosanmaterno.ch

Tickets
Fr. 25.– (Fr. 20.– for AVS card holders, students, apprentices, members of the e-venti culturali association and Club Rete Due; free admission for AG Cultura pass holders, young people up to 16 years of age and accredited journalists). Teatro San Materno is accessible to wheelchairs (non-electric) and people with disabilities.

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