

DAKHLA

Creation for 4 dancers
Choreography Abou Lagraa



World Première

January 2017, 12 – 16 : Théâtre de Suresnes Jean Vilar - Suresnes Cité Danse 2017

Production Cie La Baraka

Co-producers Théâtre de Suresnes Jean Vilar / Suresnes Cité Danse 2017

Support : Département Ardèche

Artistic residency at Annonay Agglo - En scènes

With the support of the CCNR – direction Yuval Pick pour le prêt de studio

Choreography:

Abou Lagraa

Dancers:

Ludovic Collura, Diane Fardoun, Nassim Feddal, Amel Sinapayen

Musics:

Prince, *It's gonna be a beautiful Night*

Supertramp, *Cannonball*

Mike Dehnert, *Palindrom and Quattro*

Kaytranada, *Lite spots*

Cheikh Liamine, *El Djazair Ya Hbibti (Algérie mon amour)*

Orchestre El Gusto, *Duo Rabbin/Muezzin*

Additional Music : Olivier Innocenti

Lighting design:

Sandrine Faure

Running time : 55min



The arab title “Dahkla” means the entrance in English. Four dancers, two hip-hop dancers, one of them from the Algiers Contemporary Ballet, and two contemporary dancers, take us on a powerful trip to three sea ports: Hamburg, Algiers and New York.

What questions and interests me on this choreographic travel is the passage through different worlds, different culture, from Europe to Africa by way of the American continent.

These three homeports are an invitation to discover four emblematic cities: white Algiers, brazen New York that never sleeps and Hamburg, one of the biggest European electronic music scenes.

These three port cities, that I love and know, symbolise doors for me, the doors of men with multiple cultures, of Europe and Orient. Doors on which break waves scented like the Orient, like exile and like freedom.

Dahkla is a quartet where I return to the fusion of contemporary and hip-hop dance that is iconic of my choreographic writing. Each of the four artists embodies this blending by their diverse origins: Algeria, French from Reunion island, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Lebanon, Italy. Drawing from this wealth I will sublimate and enhance their personalities, as I play with a choreographic composition that highlights the space, the everyday life, the colors and the play of light of these different ports.

I invite the audience to rediscover the arab-andalusian music of Algiers, the Chaâbi, the brilliant DJ Mike Denhert from Berlin, the richness of composition and musical madness of eighties sublimated by the very talented and regretted "Love Symbol" Prince and the group Supertramp.

Dahkla is a quartet about meeting and hope, where the audience will discover with emotion four artists whose imaginary realm claims the freedom to circulate from port to port, a world that I dare to dream... with no borders or taboos.

Abou Lagraa
2016 September

- 25 mars 2017 : Théâtre des Cordeliers – Annonay
- 3 mai 2017 : Les Rencontres Chorégraphiques de Carthage, Tunisie
- 30, 31 mai, 01 et 02 juin 2017, Ruhrfestspiele, Recklinghausen, Allemagne
- Octobre 2017 : Le Radiant-Bellevue, Caluire, 1 date (Festival Karavel)
- 8, 9 décembre 2017 : Les Gémeaux, Scène Nationale de Sceaux (Festival Kalypso)



ABOU LAGRAA

Choreographer, dancer and artistic director of the Company La Baraka



Born in France to Algerian parents, Abou Lagraa began dancing at the age of 16 before entering the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse, Lyon. He began his career as a dancer at the S.O.A.P. Dance Theatre, Frankfurt with Rui Horta and became his assistant on a project at the Calouste Gulbenkian Centre, Lisbon. He was soon noticed and went on to work with Robert Poole, Denis Plassard and Lionel Hoche

His qualities as a performer have been rewarded twice: in 1998 by the 2nd Prize for performance at the Paris International Dance Competition, then in 2009 the prize for Best Male Dancer, awarded by the International Movimentos Dance Prize.

In 1997 he founded his own company, La Baraka. Once again, recognition came quickly; numerous French venues programmed the young choreographer and he received proposals for collaboration. As a result, after 4 years as an associated artist at Bonlieu Scène Nationale in Annecy, since 2009 to 2014, Abou Lagraa and his company have been hosted in production residency at Gémeaux, Scène Nationale, Sceaux. In 2015-2016, he was an associated artist at La Maison de la Danse in Lyon.

The fame of the company spread rapidly beyond France's borders and tours followed one after the other, throughout Europe and also in the United States of America, Algeria, Russia, China, Tunisia and Indonesia...

Alongside his work with the company, Abou Lagraa is regularly in demand by large organisations.

In 2001 he devised "Fly, Fly" for the CCN Ballet de Lorraine. This piece later was subsequently added to the repertoire of the ABC Dance Company of St

Pölten in Austria. In 2003 he devised a work for the second-year students of the "Centre National de Dansee Contemporaine" in Angers, then in 2007 for the pupils of the Frankfurt Hochschule and the pupils of the "Centre Méditerranéen de Danse Contemporaine", Tunis.

In 2006 his work entered the repertoire of the "Paris Opéra Ballet" with "Le Souffle du Temps", a piece for 21 dancers, including 3 étoiles (Marie-Agnès Gillot, Manuel Legris, Wilfried Romoli).

Then, in 2008, he composed "Everyone's One" at the invitation of Ballet Memphis (USA).

Since 2008, in association with the french Cultural Ministry, the algerian Cultural Ministry and the Algerian Agency for the Cultural Brilliance, he works, with Nawal Lagraa-Aït Benalla, in the elaboration of a "Mediterranean Cultural Bridge", the project of French-Algerian cooperation for the development of the dance and the artistic exchanges which will contain a program of Training and creation. In this frame, he sees confiding for July 2009, the choreography of closing ceremony of the 2nd Pan-African Festival of Algiers.

In 2010, he creates **the Contemporary Ballet of Algiers**, under the Nawal Lagraa-Aït Benalla's educational responsibility, with a first piece **NYA**. The success of which ends in several national and international tours.

This piece was to be distinguished in 2011 when it was awarded the Grand Prix de la Critique as "Best Choreography of the Year".

In 2016, he becomes the « Dream up » ambassador, an international arts-based education programme set up by the BNP Paribas foundation. This programme will help some 30,000 underprivileged or disabled children and teenagers to develop and find fulfilment by practising an artistic or creative activity.

In 2016, he becomes "Chevalier des arts et des lettres" nominated by the French ministry of culture.

Creations

2016 **Dakhla** – Première à Suresnes Cité Danse 2017
2015 **Le Cantique des cantiques** – Première à la Maison de la Danse de Lyon
2013 **El Djoudour** (*les racines*) pour l'ouverture de Marseille – Provence 2013, capitale européenne de la Culture
2012 **Univers...l'Afrique** pour les Gémeaux Scène Nationale de Sceaux
2010 **Nya** pour le Ballet Contemporain d'Alger
2010 **Un Monde en Soi** avec le Quatuor Debussy
2009 Cérémonie de Clôture du **Festival Panafricain** – Algérie
2008 **Everyone's one** pour le Memphis Ballet (USA)
2008 **D'Eux Sens**
2007 **Nawal (ou l'offrande)** pour le Centre Méditerranéen de Danse Contemporaine de Tunis
2007 **My Skin** pour la Hochschule de Francfort
2007 **Matri(K)is**
2006 **Le Souffle du Temps** pour les étoiles (Marie-Agnès Gillot, Manuel Legris et Wilfried Romoli,) et le Ballet de l'Opéra de Paris
2006 **Le Pas Suspendu** avec l'Orchestre des Pays de Savoie "La Jeune Fille et La Mort" (Schubert) et les "Trois Tempéraments" (Hindemith)
2006 **R.B.V.B.**
2005 **Où Transe**
2004 **Cutting Flat**
2003 **Leïla** pour l'école supérieure du Centre de Danse Contemporaine d'Angers
2002 **Allegoria Stanza**
2001 **4 point 5** pour le Jeune Ballet du CNSMD de Lyon
2001 **Fly, Fly** au CCN Ballet de Lorraine (au répertoire de l'ABC Dance Company (Saint Pölten Autriche)
2000 **Nuit Blanche**
2000 **Passage**
1999 **Kraft**
1998 **Violatus**
1998 **Les 2**

Medias audiovisuels

La Baraka d'Abou Lagraa – France3.
Hip Hop Fusion - Musiques au Cœur d'Eve Ruggieri - France2.
Nuit Blanche - ARTE.
La Danse d'Abou Lagraa - Musiques au Cœur sur France2, Mezzo et TV5 Monde
Reportages et interviews JT de TF1, France2, France3, Les Mots de Minuit, Paris Dernière, France Ô, France24...

www.aboulagraa.fr

CONTACTS



COMPAGNIE LA BARAKA

115 boulevard de la Croix Rouse - 69004 Lyon
France
04 78 29 59 80
www.aboulagraa.fr

Administration

Laure Chaveyriat
admin@cie-labaraka.com

Booking Germany, Austria, Swiss, Italy, Africa

Helga Müller - Serre
helgamserre@aol.com
06 83 81 30 03

Booking France

Sergio Chianca
diffusion@aboulagraa.fr
06 80 57 53 81

Production and Communication

Myriam Boudenia
prod@cie-labaraka.com