



SULLE SPONDE DEL LAGO – ON THE SHORES OF THE LAKE

Together with the dancers of FORWARD DANCE COMPANY of LOFFT – DAS THEATER and its artistic project director Gustavo Fijalkow, choreographer Alessandro Schiattarella takes a critical and personal look at one of the most famous works of classical ballet: Swan Lake.

Swan Lake – to the music of Tchaikovsky – is one of the most famous works of classical ballet and thus also representative of a certain idealized body image. It continues to shape our viewing habits and expectations of dance today. The six dancers play with these expectations. They weave their experiences and voices – humorous and loud or quiet and threatening – into the piece, thus taking ownership of stories of Swan Lake.

The result of this immersive dance performance is a multi-layered mosaic of Swan Lake, which appears differently depending on the perspective. Initially fragmented, the dancers nevertheless come together to form a "collective, utopian human-machine-organism" (Steffen Georgi, Leipziger Volkszeitung).

SULLE SPONDE DEL LAGO – ON THE SHORES OF THE LAKE's critical and personal view of Swan Lake does not emerge in a vacuum, but joins a tradition of iconic Swan Lake productions that have critically appropriated the material.

CREDITS

CHOREOGRAPHY Alessandro Schiattarella

FROM + WITH Mouafak Aldoabl, Elsa Artmann, Renan Alves Manhães, Alfred Quarshie, Tamara Rettenmund, Lisa Zocher

DRAMATURGY Gustavo Fijalkow

LIGHT+ SETDESIGN Thomas Giger

MUSIC Pável Aguilar und Pjotr Iljitsch Tschaikowski

COSTUMES Giulia Marcotullio

ARTISTIC SUPPORT Alice Giuliani

ARTISTIC PROJECT DIRECTION

FORWARD DANCE COMPANY Gustavo Fijalkow





„[The production] is based on the very intensive examination of various Swan Lake productions of the last decades. [...] Alessandro Schiattarella and the FORWARD DANCE COMPANY say: we establish this reference, we place ourselves in a genealogy of people who have already worked against conventions and standardization and we say: now it's our time to appropriate this, to transform this! I think that's a great attitude that has a lot to do with empowerment.“

Elisabeth Nehring,
Deutschlandfunk Kultur

„The evening lives from the performers, who repeatedly come together and fly apart, encountering each other with great attentiveness, which is emphasized so that their own work may well be read as a counter-design to the satirized frenzy of perfection in classical dance. At the same time, they also repeatedly use (especially musically) classical motifs of the great Tchaikovsky ballet, such as the black swan or also implied spatial grasps à la ‚Swan Lake‘. [...] The still young company has found its own dance style, which is less evident as a dance form than in the way they interact with each other.“

Torben Ibs, tanznetz

„The most successful image that SULLE SPONDE DEL LAGO [...] finds is the dismantling and ‚misuse‘ of two height-adjustable ballet bars, i. e. a so-called ‚ballet system‘, which is first disassembled into individual parts by the ensemble on stage in a ceremonial community work, then played around and finally integrated into a procession that is as ironic as it is touching: into a moving great whole of bodies and ballet bars, limbs and wheelchairs, gestures, words, facial expressions and music. To a collective, utopian human-machine-organism.“

Steffen Georgi,
Leipziger Volkszeitung

„SULLE SPONDE DEL LAGO holds a mirror up to classical ballet with its sometimes subtle, sometimes more obvious irony. Also through the unusual seating in the space: instead of the classical arrangement of auditorium and stage, the audience sits together with the performers distributed in small groups on the stage. They wanted to create a space shared by everyone present, says Gustavo Fijalkow, artistic project director of FORWARD DANCE COMPANY. ‚It also means that depending on where you sit, you might see a completely different story.‘“

Elodie Kolb, bz Basel



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GENRE: Dance performance with 6 dancers

AGE: 6+

DURATION: As part of the staging, admission starts 10 minutes before showtime | The dance performance itself lasts about 50 minutes

STAGE: ground level | min. 14 x 12 m | Sitting islands on stage are part of the staging | For video projection a free wall is required

AUDIENCE: depending on stage and grandstand size (≈70–120)

LANGUAGE: English and German, sign language and audio description possible

ACCESSIBILITY: required for stage, dressing room and restrooms





COMPANY

FORWARD DANCE COMPANY is the in-house dance company of LOFFT - DAS THEATER, an independent production house in Leipzig. It consists of a permanent ensemble of six dancers who work with changing choreographers. Artistic Project Director is Gustavo Fijalkow.

VISION

FDC questions aesthetically and discursively long-established worldviews, power relations and body images. It does so by creating new, hitherto unexplored dance vocabulary and making it visible in its stagings.



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THANK YOU!

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