



cie. **toula limnaios**

»if I was real«

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about »if I was real«



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## »if I was real«

»there is no love of life without despair of life« - albert camus

on the 65th anniversary of albert camus' death, the cie. toula limnaios presents a reconstruction of »if I was real« from 2013, inspired by his early essay »l'envers et l'endroit« (light and shadow). in camus' work, light and shadow reflect the struggle between emotion and rationality, a tension that also forms the core of the piece.

»if I was real« explores the paradoxes and ambiguities in situations of human alienation and isolation. in fragmentary images, a mysterious world full of hidden connections unfolds. what initially seems strange becomes increasingly familiar – in a way that cannot be put into words. the dancers immerse themselves in hidden rituals, invent movements to combat fear and balance between reality and dream. the choreography plays with illusions and sensuality, without committing itself to fixed meanings. sensory impressions remain open to associations and retain their original beauty.

concept/choreography/space: toulalimnaios

music: ralf r. ollertz

dance/creation: rafael abreu, daniel afonso, francesca bedin, félix deepen,  
karolina kardasz, enno kleinhänding, amandine lamouroux, alessia vinotto

assistance: alice gaspari

costumes: toulalimnaios

light design: domenik engemann

technical director: felix grimm

lighting & stage technics: jan römer

touring/cooperations: marie schmieder

public relations: sarah böhmer

duration: approx. 60 minutes

premiere: 5 dec 2013 (dance: giacomo corvaia, jozsef forro, marika gangemi, samuel minguillon, hironori sugata,  
karolina wyrwal, inhee yu, ann-christin zimmermann)

tours: munster

the cie. toulalimnaios is supported by the  
senate department for culture and social cohesion.

Senate Department  
for Culture  
and Social Cohesion

**BERLIN**



trailer »if I was real«

full length video »if I was real«



# cie. toula limnaios

press reviews »if I was real«

»shadows, often a cipher for liveliness, emerge here as a sign of fear of the strangeness of a world in and around us that cannot be controlled by the individual. the title of the piece implies the possibility of the subject's otherness. 'if i was real' celebrates love as the only force that creates trust. the versatile cie. toula limnaios gives us a danced essay inspired by albert camus' 'light and shadow' about the possibilities of being. quiet, mysterious, open to new perspectives, a little crazy.«

(neues deutschland, karin schmidt-feister, 2013)

»in »if I was real«, cie. toula limnaios surprisingly leaves fate, pain and suffering behind and takes off into a round dance of festive, wild beauty.«

(kulturradio, frank schmid, 2013)





### **toula limnaios (choreographer/ artistic director)**

toula limnaios (\*1963, athens/ greece) is trained in classical and modern dance, m. alexander and laban technique as well as music and followed a dance education in brussels, she worked as an interpreter with claudio bernardo, régine chopinot and as an assistant with pierre droulers. later she continued her education at the folkwang hochschule in essen, where after a short time she became a member of the folkwang tanzstudio under the direction of pina bausch. from 1995-2003 she danced in live improvisations with the musicians konrad bauer and peter kowald. 2007/2008 she was guest professor for choreography at the hochschule ernst busch in berlin and was guest choreographer at various theatres. since 1996 she has founded and directed the cie. toula limnaios together with ralf r. ollertz.

### **ralf r. ollertz (music)**

ralf r. ollertz (\*1964, mönchengladbach/ germany) studied composition, electroacoustic music and conducting in italy and at the folkwang hochschule in essen. in addition to chamber and orchestral music, he has also written electroacoustic music and radio plays, for which he has received numerous international awards and grants. in 2002 he composed the short opera »carcrash« with willy daum for the state operas in hanover and stuttgart. tours, radio and television productions have taken him through europe, south america, the usa, japan, australia and africa. since 1996 he has founded and directs the cie. toula limnaios together with toula limnaios

### **rafael abreu (dance)**

rafael abreu (\*1991, guarulhos/ brazil) has an education in classical ballet and contemporary dance from various schools in the city of são paulo. he was part of numerous companies and projects: among them quasar cia de dança (goiania), punto de inflexion (mexico city), cia de dança anderson couto, and the são paulo-based raça cia de dança, cia danças claudia de souza, companhia de danças de diadema, and virtual cia de dança. he joined cie. toula limnaios in 2024.

### **daniel afonso (dance)**

daniel afonso (\*1981, las palmas/ spain) completed his training at the royal conservatory in madrid. he worked for 10&10, tenerifedanzalab in tenerife, at the staatstheater braunschweig with jan pusch as well as with yossi berg & oded graf and douglas thorpe. in the company chameleon (uk), he danced for choreographers such as anthony missen, gemma nixon and john goddard as well as for dmt (nl) with judith van der klink. daniel also teaches and develops projects of his own. he is a member of the cie. toula limnaios since 2015.

### **francesca bedin (dance)**

francesca bedin (\*1990, vicenza/ italy) studied contemporary dance, tap dance, percussion and drums in italy and abroad (tanzfabrik, marameo, danseateliers, eastman...). she joined sinedomo group by l. tonin and started her professional career with naturalis labor by l. padovani, s. bertoncilli and with esklan art's factory by e. silgoner. by the collaboration with the choreographer g. menti she won the 1. prize and the eastmanprize at 22nd int. solo tanz theater festival. francesca is member of the cie. toula limnaios since july 2020.

### **félix deepen (dance)**

félix deepen (\*1996, brussels/belgium) graduated from the rudra béjart school lausanne in 2016. he danced for various companies throughout europe including dddd (nl) it dansa (spn) and zfinmalta (mlt). he has danced and worked on pieces by international choreographers such as siri larbi cherkaoui, akram khan, alexander ekman, emanuel gat, paolo mangiola, ohad naharin, rafael bonachela, sergiu matis, lorena nogal, roy assaf, tania carvalho, jacopo godani and sasha amaya. he is a member of cie. toula limnaios since 2024.

# cie. toula limnaios

## alice gaspari (assistant)

alice gaspari (\*1986, rimini/ italy) graduated from the northern school of contemporary dance (uk), then engagement at the phoenix dance theater in leeds. after a few years of freelancing in england, permanent member of the company of the staats theater braunschweig, first under the direction of jan pusch and then under gregor zöllig (2014 to 2020). since 2021 she works as a freelance dancer and lives in berlin. in the last 10 years she has worked with many different choreographers such as roy assaf, guilherme bothelo, guy nader and maria campos. since 2023 she is assistant to toula limnaios.

## karolina kardasz (dance)

karolina kardasz (\*1994, bialystok/ poland) graduated at the academy of theater arts at the dance theater department in kraków. she did internships at francesca selva company and irene k company. since 2018, she was a member of irene k company, where she has created several pieces with different choreographers. as a freelance dancer, karolina created her own short pieces, which were presented at festivals in different countries. she likes to share her approach and way of moving while leading different workshops. since august 2023 she is a member of the cie. toula limnaios.

## enno kleinehanding (dance)

enno kleinehanding (\*1996, aachen/germany) studied ballet at the staatliche ballettschule berlin and has a bachelor of arts from the hochschule für schauspielkunst ernst-busch. he worked for theater hof, oper halle and last for les grands ballets canadiens in montreal. in the last years he got to work with choreographers like nanine lining, andrew skeels, cass mortimer eipper and others and also developed some work himself. he has been a member of cie. toula limnaios since 2024.

## amandine lamouroux (dance)

amandine lamouroux (\*1994, toulouse/ france) studied in epsedanse, montpellier and centre chorégraphique james carles, toulouse. she received her state diploma as a contemporary dance teacher. then she danced with roberto zappalà's colectivo, amos ben tal, manfredi perego, moritz ostruschnjak, sita ostheimer and sara ducat's company. since august 2023 she is a member of the cie. toula limnaios.

## alessia vinotto (dance)

alessia vinotto (\*2000, genoa/ italy) moved to germany at a young age to attend the prestigious contemporary dance school of hamburg (cdsh), where she studied until 2019. she had been a member of the current dance collective, theater plauen-zwickau, collective miii3d. she collaborated in multiple productions which premiered at kampnagel and has presented her own choreographies at numerous festivals across germany, poland, and denmark. she joined cie. toula limnaios in 2025.





the cie. toula limnaios is an ensemble for contemporary dance, founded in brussel in 1996 by choreographer and performer toula limnaios and composer ralf r. ollertz. a year later the company moved to berlin. in 2001, they were awarded the »meeting neuer tanz« prize. in 2004, their beckett trilogy was rearranged into a documentary entitled »atemzug« produced by zdf/arte. their own production house halle opened in 2003 and is an internationally connected theatre. the company gets funding from the city of berlin department for culture and europe since 2005 and was selected by the fonds darstellende künste to receive conceptual funding for »leading ensembles in the field of independent theater and dance« from 2008 until 2010. in 2012, they were awarded the »george tabori prize«.

in addition to its artistic work, it is committed not only to innovative working structures, but also to the outreach and distribution of dance in our society. the cie. toula limnaios ensemble presents 60-70 performances every year and works with 18 salaried employees, who are supported by an even larger number of closely associated freelancers. with its flexible, lean, but highly effective structure and in co-production with international partners, the company continuously produces ensemble work of exceptional quality, making them one of the most successful ensembles for contemporary dance today.

as a representative of the german dance scene for the goethe institute and the federal foreign office, they present their repertoire in europe and worldwide since 2005. the company is institutionally funded by the state of berlin, senate department of culture and social cohesion since 2014.

the cie. toula limnaios presents dance that is awake, critical and bold – with concern for humankind, made by and for people.

# cie. toula limnaios

at a glance

1996	founding in brussel: artist in residence/ theatre l' l
1997	moving of the company to berlin
2003	opening of own theater HALLE Tanzbühne Berlin
2005 - 2013	basic fundings by city of berlin - department for culture and europe
2008 - 2010	conceptual funding by fonds darstellende künste e.v.
2012	george tabori award
since 2014	institutional funding by the city of berlin
since 2016	cultural ambassador of the german ministry of foreign affairs
2022	publication of the illustrated book »cie. toula limnaios« by kettler verlag
2023	founding of utopia - european ensemble network for dance
2026	jubilee 30-years cie. toula limnaios

## members:

artistic director	toula limnaios
choreography/ dance	toula limnaios
artistic director	
music/ production	ralf r. ollertz
ensemble dance	rafael abreu daniel afonso francesca bedin félix deepen karolina kardasz enno kleinehanding amandine lamouroux alessia vinotto

assistance	alice gaspari
public relations	sarah böhmer
touring/ cooperations	marie schmieder
technical director/ light design	felix grimm
light/ stage technic	domenik engemann, jan römer
graphic design	cyan - graphisches büro
video	giacomo corvaia
costumes	toula limnaios
accounting/ controlling	nn
resilience dispatcher	paul tinsley

## venues

**in berlin** akademie der künste, hebbel-theater, HALLE Tanzbühne Berlin, haus des rundfunks

**national** bielefeld, bonn, bremen, bremerhaven, cottbus, dessau, dortmund, dresden, erfurt, erlangen, essen, frankfurt/m, hannover, hameln, krefeld, heilbronn, münster, oberhausen, offenburg, osnabrück, ludwigshafen, quedinburg, recklinghausen, stuttgart, wuppertal

**international** armenia, austria, belgium, bulgaria, brazil, chile, cyprus, dominican republic, denmark, ecuador, france, georgia, greece, ireland, italy, jordan, lithuania, latvia, mexico, nicaragua, north macedonia, panama, poland, romania, russia, senegal, serbia, slovenia, spain, switzerland, trinidad & tobago, venezuela, west bank

## repertory

**2025** »jeux« **2024** »la nef des fols« **2023** »les égarés« **2022** »staubkinder« **2021** »point de vue«, »clair obscur« **2020** »tell me a better story 1+2«, »meantime« **2019** »shifted realities« **2018** »volto umano« **2017** »momentum«, »die einen, die anderen« **2016** »tempus fugit« **2015** »minute papillon«, »la salle« **2014** »blind date«, »miles mysteries« **2013** »if i was real«, »the thing i am« **2012** »wut«, »the rest of me« **2011** »anderland«, »every single day« **2010** »secrets perdus«, »à contre corps« **2009** »wound«, »les possédés« **2008** »the silencers«, »reading toscia« **2007** »simply gifts«, »life is perfect« **2006** »real time.compiler«, »éclats du réel«, »irrsinn« **2005** »die sanfte«, »short stories« **2004** »double sens«, »spuren« **2003** »better days«, »here to there«, »isson« **2002** »outré vie«, »drift« **2001** »nichts. ich werde da sein, indem ich nicht da bin.« **2000** »falten der nacht«, »ysteres«, »vertige« **1999** »faits d'hiver« **1998** »entrevissions« **1997** »landscapes«, »le temps d'après« **1996** »d'un(e)s«

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