



»la nef des fols«

cie. toula limnaios

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cie. toula limnaios
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about »la nef des fols«

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»la nef des fols« is inspired by the motif of the »Ship of Fools«. This dates back to Plato, but has become an increasingly burning theme in literature and art from the Middle Ages to the present day. »la nef des fols« allows us to think in different directions. It remains unclear whether the protagonists represent an exuberant society that is eagerly navigating a pilotless ship that has already lost its course, or whether they are trying to escape disaster and danger. On their journey into the unknown, subject to the paradox of total freedom and complete imprisonment at the same time, they frenetically strive forward.

In an almost surrealist allegory of the vices of our time, cie. toula limnaios searches for the element that creates community in an increasingly merciless world. Violence is mixed with moments of light and hope, while despite all the tragedy, there is always an underlying beauty to the poetic images.

»The journey of the madman is a rigorous separation, locked in a boat from which there is no escape.«

Michel Foucault

from: »Madness and Society –
A History of Madness in the Age of Reason«

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»la nef des fols«

HALLE Tanzbühne Berlin

24 – 27 September 2025

1–4 October 2025

8.30 p.m.

Concept/Choreography/Space

Music

Dance/Creation

Toula Limnaios

Ralf R. Ollertz

Rafael Abreu, Daniel Afonso, Francesca Bedin, Félix Deepen, Karolina Kardasz,
Enno Kleinehanding, Amandine Lamouroux, Alessia Vinotto

Assistance

Technical Director/ Light Design

Costumes

Lighting and Stage Technics

Touring/Cooperations

Public Relations

Alice Gaspari

Felix Grimm

Toula Limnaios, Kristina Weiß-Busch

Domenik Engemann

Marie Schmieder

Sarah Böhmer

The cie. toula limnaios is supported by the Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion, Berlin. Media partners: tip Berlin, The Berliner

Senate Department
for Culture
and Social Cohesion

BERLIN



tipBerlin THEBERLINER



Biographies

Toula Limnaios (artistic director / choreography)

Toula Limnaios was born in Athens in 1963. After her training in classical and modern dance, M. Alexander and Laban technique as well as music and dance pedagogy in Brussels, she worked as a performer with Claudio Bernardo, Régine Chopinot and as an assistant with Pierre Droulers. Later she continued her training 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. In 2007/2008 she was a guest professor for choreography at the Hochschule Ernst Busch in Berlin and was a guest choreographer at various theatres. She has founded and directed the cie. toula limnaios together with Ralf R. Ollertz since 1996.

Ralf R. Ollertz (artistic director / music)

Ralf R. Ollertz was born in 1964. He 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 scholarships. 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 to Europe, South America, the USA, Japan, Australia and Africa. He founded and has directed the cie. toula limnaios together with Toula Limnaios since 1996.

Rafael Abreu (dance)

Rafael Abreu (*1991, Guarulhos/ Brazil) trained in classical ballet and contemporary dance at various schools in São Paulo. He has been part of numerous companies and projects, including 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 has been a member of cie. toula limnaios since 2024.

Daniel Afonso (dance)

Daniel Afonso (*1981, Las Palmas/Spain) trained at the royal conservatory in Madrid. He worked for 10&10, Tenerifedanzalab in Tenerife, at the Staatstheater Braunschweig with Jan Pusch as well as 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 and at DMT (NL) with Judith Van der Klink. Daniel also taught and developed his own projects. Since 2015 he is a member of the cie. toula limnaios.

Francesca Bedin (dance)

Francesca Bedin (*1990 Vicenza/ Italien) studierte zeitgenössischen Tanz, Stepptanz, Perkussion und Drums in Italien und im Ausland (Tanzfabrik, Maraméo, Danseateliers, Eastman...). Sie trat der Sinedomo Group von L. Tonin bei und begann bei Naturalis Labor von L. Padovani und S. Bertocelli und der Esklan Art's Factory von E. Silgoner. Mit dem Choreographen G. Menti gewann sie den 1. Preis und den EastmanPrize beim 22. Intl Solo Tanz Theater Festival. Seit August 2020 ist sie Mitglied der cie. toula limnaios.

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 and Jacopo Godani. He has been a member of cie. toula limnaios since 2024.

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 Linning, Andrew Skeels, Cass Mortimer Eipper and others and also developed some work himself. He has been a member of cie. toula limnaios since 2024.

Karolina Kardasz (dance)

Karolina Kardasz (*1994, Białystok/ Polen) 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, she 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 new member of the cie. toula limnaios.

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 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 and the collective Miii3d. She collaborated on multiple productions that premiered at Kampnagel and has presented her own choreographies at numerous festivals across Germany, Poland, and Denmark. She joined cie. toula limnaios in 2025.

Alice Gaspari (assistance)

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 Staatstheater 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.





press on »la nef des fols«

»As always with Toula Limnaios, much is enigmatic and not so easy to interpret, which is why some of the images are so uncanny and creep under the skin. Precisely because some things seem so drastic and oppressive, »la nef des fols« is another piece full of human insight, with freely associated dance images about the state of our world - a world that here is an extremely restless world tossed back and forth. A wild and feverish world, and this ship of fools - our contemporary life - has been caught in a raging storm - it will certainly not sink in this storm, but it will be totally shaken.«

(Frank Schmid, radio3)

»The Greek choreographer, through a representation full of symbolism, metaphors and very suggestive dance moments, manages to portray this ship very well. [...] Perfectly accompanied by the intense music of Ralf R. Ollertz and the suggestive lights of Felix Grimm, the show, very articulated and complex, manages to illustrate the misadventures of who is lost. »la nef des fols« is a perfect criticism of the political system of yesterday and today.

(Nicola Campanelli, campadanza)

»The physical movement scenario [is] full of ideas that produce astonishing vignettes: the man who, like Barlach's »Schwebender« seems to grow out of the back wall of the building; the rotating cross-like collective that organically welds people and ship ropes together; finally, the woman strapped to the back of a man like a bundle of weight, who soon awakens from her passivity.«

(Dorion Weickmann, Tanz)



The cie. toula limnaios is an ensemble for contemporary dance, founded in Brussels in 1996 by choreographer and performer Toulia 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, Senate Department for Culture 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 City of Berlin, Senate Department of Culture and Social Cohesion.

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

www.toula.de

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at a glance

1996	founding in Brussels: artist in residence/ Theatre L'
1997	moving of the company to Berlin
2003	opening of own theatre HALLE Tanzbühne Berlin
2005 - 2013	basic fundings by City of Berlin
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
2021	jubilee 25-years cie. toula limnaios
2022	foundation of the European ensemble network „utopia“ publication of the book »cie. toula limnaios« at Kettler Verlag

Artistic Director	
Choreography/Dance	Toula Limnaios
Artistic Director	
Music/Production	Ralf R. Ollertz
Ensemble Dance	Daniel Afonso, Rafael Abreu 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 Technics	Domenik Engemann, Jan Römer

Resilience Dispatcher	Paul Tinsley
Graphic Design	cyan - graphisches Büro
Video	Giacomo Corvaia
Costumes	Toula Limnaios, Kristina Weiß-Busch

Venues	
in Berlin	Akademie der Künste, HALLE Tanzbühne Berlin, Haus des Rundfunks, Konzerthaus Berlin

national	Bielefeld, Bonn, Bremen, Bremerhaven, Buchholz, Cottbus, Dessau, Dortmund, Dresden, Erfurt, Erlangen, Essen, Frankfurt/M, Hannover, Hameln, Krefeld, Heilbronn, Münster, Oberhausen, Offenburg, Osnabrück, Ludwigshafen, Quedlinburg, Recklinghausen, Stuttgart, Wuppertal
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international	Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Brazil, Chile, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Lithuania, Latvia, Mexico, Nicaragua, North Macedonia, Panama, Poland, Romania, Russia, Switzerland, Senegal, Serbia, Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, Venezuela, West Bank
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Repertory

2025 »jeux« 2024 »la nef des fols« 2023 »les égarés« 2022 »staubkinder« 2021 »point de vue«, »clair obscur«, »inmitten« 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 »la 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 toscas« 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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