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for  
dance  
presents

# COMPAGNIA ZAPPALÀ DANZA

»romeo and juliet 1.1 - the blur of the bodies«



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# Compagnia Zappalà Danza

## »romeo and Juliet 1.1. – the blur of the bodies«

HALLE Tanzbühne Berlin

17 + 18 September 2025, 8:30 p.m.

German premiere

**Direction/ Choreography**  
**Music**

Roberto Zappalà  
Pink Floyd, Elvis Presley, Luigi Tenco, José Altafini, Mirageman, John Cage,  
Sergei Prokofiev  
Fernando Roldan Ferrer, Valeria Zampardi

**Dance**

**Text**  
**Light/ Costumes**  
**Technische Leitung**  
**General Management**

Nello Calabrò  
Roberto Zappalà  
Sammy Torrisi  
Maria Inguscio

**A production by**

Scenario Pubblico/Compagnia Zappalà Danza – Centro Di Rilevante Interesse Nazionale per la Danza

**Co-produced by**

Orizzonti Festival Fondazione

**Collaboration with**

»Le Mouvement Mons« Festival (Belgium)

**Supported by**

Ministero Della Cultura und Regione Siciliana Assessorato del Turismo, Sport e Spettacolo

**Guest performance**

Im Rahmen von utopia – europäisches ensemblesnetzwerk für tanz

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**As part of utopia – european ensemble network for dance, the Sicilian Compagnia Zappalà Danza presents its fourth German premiere at HALLE Tanzbühne Berlin.**

In »romeo and juliet 1.1 – the blur of the bodies«, choreographer Roberto Zappalà explores what it means to feel »blurry«. Technically, blur is a matter of distance – too near or too far from the focal point. Transferring this to the lovers of Verona, we feel blurry when the distance between ourselves and the world, or the one we love, isn't quite right, when that space is shaped by our way of being. Zappalà shifts focus to the individuality of the lovers, each facing a personal, socially rooted discomfort. While in Shakespeare love is sublimated by death, version 1.1 reflects on – and rebels against – a present where the death drive sublimates only itself. In response, it proposes passion and a reverence for life. A reimagining that doesn't aim to speak about love, but to be an act of love– toward life itself.

»... The two lovers alone are enough to sketch and encapsulate the famous love story with their vibrant bodies– soft and tense, breathless and impetuous in their clinging, separating, and reuniting...«  
Giuseppe Distefano, Danza&Danza

»romeo and juliet 1.1 by Roberto Zappalà is a choreography of lightness, tenderness, and the strength it takes to merge–to go beyond one's own body, to be both one and two, to remain 'I and you' and become 'we.' The power of Zappalà's work lies in the sweetness of touch–a pastel drawn with the colors of the earth, with things that are real, that you can feel.«  
Matteo Brighenti, Paneacquaculture

»For these two, Zappalà, with an acute sense of rhythm and strong theatricality that leaves no room for dead time, has created a dance that is deeply sensual and physical, with acrobatic nuances–a long sequence of courtship that culminates in soaring leaps and mid-air embraces.«  
Sergio Trombetta, La Stampa

»What most defines this new version is precisely its blurriness–not conceived as a visual effect, a hazy atmosphere, or something external to the relationship, but rather, within a bare yet crystal-clear scene, as an inner quality of the dance itself: a secret yet vital score guiding the connection between characters, between dancers, and with the audience.«  
Paolo Randazzo, Rumorscena

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**Compagnia Zappalà Danza** is one of the leading dance companies on the Italian scene. For over 30 years, under the choreographic direction of Roberto Zappalà and the dramaturgical supervision of Nello Calabrò, the company has developed and performed over 80 productions internationally. Their creations are characterized by the choreographic language »MoDem«, which they have coined over the years. Since 2002, Compagnia Zappalà Danza has been based at Scenario Pubblico in Catania, which has allowed them to deepen their choreographic research and put down roots in the region. In 2015, Scenario Pubblico/Compagnia Zappalà Danza was recognized by the Italian Ministry of Culture as a National Centre for Dance Production and received a further upgrade in 2022 with recognition as a Centre of Relevant National Interest. The awards received include the Danza & Danza Award for »Asemu tutti devoti tutti?« and »LA NONA«.

**utopia - european ensemble network for dance** brings together European ensembles in an international context. The network, founded by cie. toula limnaios, was created in response to current cultural policy, which is threatening the livelihoods of many ensembles across Europe. utopia stands for exchange, diversity and encounters and is characterized by its various network partners: In addition to guest performances, utopia also hosts workshops and other discourse formats, so that other dance styles and choreographic handwritings can be experienced intensively and up close.



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