cie. toula limnaios



an elephant in the room

21–24
28–31 okt
2026

cie. toula limnaios /
HALLE Tanzbühne Berlin
Eberswalder Straße 10
10437 Berlin

Artistic Directors:
Toula Limnaios & Ralf R. Ollertz

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»an elephant in the room«

HALLE Tanzbühne Berlin
21 – 24 + 28 – 31 October 2026
8:30 p.m.

Concept/Choreography/Space	Toula Limnaios
Music	Ralf R. Ollertz
Dance/Creation	Daniel Afonso, Francesca Bedin, Félix Deepen, Karolina Kardasz, Enno Kleinehanding, Amandine Lamouroux, Andrés Ortiz, Alessia Vinotto
Assistent	Alice Gaspari
Technical Director/Light Design	Felix Grimm
Lighting/Stage Technics	Domenik Engemann
Costumes	Kristina Weiß-Busch, Toula Limnaios
Touring/Cooperations	Marie Schmieder
Public Relations	Sarah Böhmer

Duration: approx. 60 Minuten

The cie. toula limnaios is funded by the Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion, Berlin.

Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion | BERLIN



»an elephant in the room«

The new choreography by cie. toula limnaios is conceived as a diptych and approaches the unspoken and silence. Two quartets, standing in contrast and harmony with one another, reveal their meaning only through their interplay.

Things that are not spoken about do not disappear. Silence is loud. It carries memories and experiences. It continues to grow within our bodies and encounters us in the other. »an elephant in the room« follows the traces of what remains unspoken between us.

»All truths that are kept silent become poisonous.« (Friedrich Nietzsche)

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Portrait of cie. toula limnaios

cie. toula limnaios is a contemporary dance ensemble founded in Brussels in 1996 by choreographer and performer Toula Limnaios and composer Ralf R. Ollertz. In 1997, they moved their base to Berlin. In 2001, the company was awarded the »Meeting Neuer Tanz« prize. In 2004, its Beckett trilogy was produced as a television film for ZDF/arte under the title »atemzug«. In 2003, the company opened its own venue, HALLE, which has since established itself as an internationally connected theatre and production house.

Since 2005, the company has received support from the Berlin Senate Department for Culture, and for the years 2008–2010, the Fonds Darstellende Künste awarded it conceptual funding for »leading independent theatre and dance ensembles«. In 2012, it received the »George Tabori Preis«.

Alongside its artistic work, the company is committed not only to innovative working structures, but also to the dissemination and mediation of dance within our society. cie. toula limnaios presents 60–70 performances per year with its ensemble and works with 18 permanent employees, supported by numerous artists who collaborate with the company on a temporary basis. With flexible, lean yet highly effective structures and in co-production with international partners, it continuously produces high-quality ensemble work and is today one of the most successful contemporary dance ensembles.

In 2022, cie. toula limnaios initiated EUtopia – european ensemble network for dance, an international platform for exchange and collaboration. Founded by the company, the network emerged in response to cultural policy developments that are increasingly threatening the working conditions of independent ensembles across Europe. EUtopia stands for diversity, dialogue and artistic encounters. In addition to guest performances, the network includes workshops and discourse formats that offer direct encounters with different dance styles and choreographic approaches and sustainably strengthen transnational exchange.



HALLE Tanzbühne Berlin

HALLE Tanzbühne Berlin is the production venue and performance space of cie. toula limnaios and its guests. In 2000, Toula Limnaios and Ralf R. Ollertz established their rehearsal space in the listed building, which has since also served as a workplace for numerous other artists. Since 2003, HALLE has been a self-financed theatre that has established itself internationally as a leading venue for contemporary dance.

Built in 1870, this architectural gem was technically and infrastructurally modernised in 2016. The renovation of HALLE was financed by the Stiftung Deutsche Klassenlotterie Berlin.

Currently, cie. toula limnaios is building a choreographic centre on the site of HALLE Tanzbühne Berlin. It comprises a large rehearsal stage, a warehouse and a multi-storey building with guest apartments for artists and office spaces.

In the future, the rehearsal stage will serve as the company's central rehearsal space while also offering artists from Berlin and abroad new opportunities to work. Accommodating guest artists directly at the production site fosters intensive artistic processes and international collaboration and positions HALLE Tanzbühne Berlin as an open, forward-looking space for Berlin's independent dance scene.

The new building is funded by the State of Berlin, represented by the Senate Department for Culture and Social Cohesion; the Federal Republic of Germany, represented by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media on the basis of a decision by the German Bundestag; and the Stiftung Deutsche Klassenlotterie Berlin.



Biographies

Toula Limnaios (Choreographer/Artistic Director)

Toula Limnaios was born in Athens in 1963. After training in classical and modern dance, the M. Alexander and Laban techniques, as well as music and dance education in Brussels, she worked as a performer with Claudio Bernardo and Régine Chopinot and as an assistant to Pierre Droulers. She later continued her training at the Folkwang Hochschule in Essen, where she soon became a member of the Folkwang Tanzstudio and danced in live improvisations with musicians Konrad Bauer and Peter Kowald. Since 1996, she has co-founded and co-directed cie. toula limnaios together with Ralf R. Ollertz. She has received numerous prizes and awards for her work and is today one of Germany's most renowned choreographers.

Since then, tours and guest performances have taken her to Armenia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Germany, Denmark, France, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Latvia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Austria, Panama, Poland, Trinidad & Tobago, Switzerland, Senegal, Spain, Cyprus and Venezuela. In addition to directing her ensemble, she has also worked as a guest choreographer at Theater Osnabrück, the Hochschule für Darstellende Künste Frankfurt am Main and Theater Münster. From 2007 to 2008, Toula Limnaios was a guest professor of choreography at the Ernst Busch University of Theatre Arts Berlin.

Ralf R. Ollertz (Composer/Artistic Director)

Ralf R. Ollertz was born in 1964 and studied composition, electroacoustic music, piano and conducting in Nuremberg and Düsseldorf. He became musical director at the Wuppertaler Schauspielhaus and studied composition with Salvatore Sciarrino in Città di Castello, Italy. He subsequently continued his studies at the Folkwang Hochschule in Essen, graduating with an artistic diploma in composition under Nikolaus A. Huber and in electroacoustic music under Dirk Reith. He studied with Jean Cébron, founded and directed the new music ensemble »go ahead« and worked intensively with visual artists.

In addition to chamber and orchestral music, Ralf R. Ollertz composes electroacoustic music and radio plays, for which he has received numerous international awards and scholarships. Tours as well as radio and television productions have taken him throughout Europe, South America, the USA, Japan and Australia. In March 2002, his opera »carcrash«, composed together with Willy Daum and Xavier Zuber, premiered at the Staatsoper Hannover and was revived at the Staatsoper Stuttgart in 2006. From 1998 to 2004, he worked as a sound designer at Babelsberg Film Studios. Since 1996, he has co-founded and co-directed cie. toula limnaios together with Toula Limnaios. In 2012, they were awarded the George Tabori Prize.

Daniel Afonso (Tanz)

Daniel Afonso (*1981, Las Palmas/Spain) trained at the Royal Conservatory in Madrid. He worked with 10&10 and Tenerifedanzalab in Tenerife, at Staatstheater Braunschweig with Jan Pusch, and with Yossi Berg & Oded Graf and Douglas Thorpe. With Company Chameleon (UK), he danced for choreographers such as Anthony Missen, Gemma Nixon and John Goddard, and with DMT (NL) he worked with Judith van der Klink. He has also taught and developed his own projects. He has been a member of 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, including at Tanzfabrik, Marameo, Danseateliers and Eastman. She joined the Sinedomo Group by L. Tonin and worked with Naturalis Labor by L. Padovani and S. Bertoncelli and the Esklan Art's Factory by E. Silgoner. With choreographer G. Menti, she won 1st Prize and the Eastman Prize at the 22nd International Solo Dance Theatre Festival. She has been a member of cie. toula limnaios since August 2020.

Karolina Kardasz (Dance)

Karolina Kardasz (*1994, Bialystok/Poland) graduated from the Academy of Theatre Arts (Dance Theatre Department) in Krakow. She completed internships with the Francesca Selva Company and Irene K Company and became a member of Irene K Company in 2018. As a freelance dancer, she created her own short pieces, which were presented at festivals in various countries. She has been a member of cie. toula limnaios since August 2023.

Enno Kleinehanding (Dance)

Enno Kleinehanding (*1996, Aachen/Germany) studied ballet at the Staatliche Ballettschule Berlin and holds a Bachelor of Arts from the Ernst Busch University of Theatre Arts. He worked with Theater Hof, Oper Halle and, most recently, Les Grands Ballets Canadiens in Montreal. He has worked with choreographers such as Nanine Linning, Andrew Skeels and Cass Mortimer Eipper and has also developed several works of his own. He has been a member of cie. toula limnaios since January 2024.

Amandine Lamouroux (Dance)

Amandine Lamouroux (*1994, Toulouse/France) studied at Epsedanse in Montpellier and the Centre Chorégraphique James Carles in Toulouse, where she received her diploma as a teacher of contemporary dance. She subsequently danced with the Roberto Zappalà collective, Amos Ben-Tal, Manfredi Perego, Moritz Ostruschnjak, Sita Ostheimer and Sara Ducat's company. She has been a member of cie. toula limnaios since August 2023.

Andrés Ortiz (Dance)

Andrés Ortiz (*1995, Argentina) completed a three-year contemporary dance training programme at the Contemporary Dance Workshop of Teatro San Martín in Buenos Aires. He subsequently became a member of the Contemporary Ballet of Teatro San Martín, where he danced for six years, followed by two years as a dancer with Sokio Teatras Aura (Aura Dance Theatre) in Lithuania. Throughout his career, he has worked with choreographers from different parts of the world. He has been a member of cie. toula limnaios since 2026.

Alessia Vinotto (Dance)

Alessia Vinotto (*2000, Genoa/Italy) moved to Germany at a young age to study at the Contemporary Dance School Hamburg (CDSH), where she trained until 2019. She subsequently became a member of The Current Dance Collective, Theater Plauen-Zwickau and the MIII3D collective. Several productions she collaborated on premiered at Kampnagel. She has also presented her own choreographies at numerous festivals in Germany, Poland and Denmark. She has been a member of cie. toula limnaios since 2025.

Alice Gaspari (Assistant)

Alice Gaspari (*1986, Rimini/Italy) graduated from the Northern School of Contemporary Dance (UK) and subsequently joined Phoenix Dance Theatre in Leeds. After several years working as a freelancer in England, she became a permanent member of the company at Staatstheater Braunschweig, first under the direction of Jan Pusch and later Gregor Zöllig (2014–2020). Since 2021, she has worked as a freelance dancer and lives in Berlin. She has been an assistant at cie. toula limnaios since early 2023.

cie. toula limnaios

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
2022	foundation of the European ensemble network „EUtopia“ publication of the book »cie. toula limnaios« at Kettler Verlag
2026	30th anniversary of cie. toula limnaios

Artistic Director Choreography/Dance	Toula Limnaios
Artistic Director Music/Production	Ralf R. Ollertz
Ensemble Dance	Daniel Afonso, Francesca Bedin, Félix Deepen, Karolina Kardasz, Enno Kleinehanding, Andrés Ortiz, Amandine Lamouroux,
Assistent	Alice Gaspari
Public Relations	Sarah Böhmer
Touring/Cooperations	Marie Schmieder
Technical Director, Light Design	Felix Grimm
Lighting/ Stage Technics	Domenik Engemann, Jan Römer
Resilience Dispatcher	Paul Tinsley
Graphic Design	cyan - graphisches Büro
Video	Giacomo Corvaia, Bernd Sahling
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
international	Armenia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Brazil, Chile, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Lithuania, Latvia, Mexico, Nicaragua, North Macedonia, Austria, Panama, Poland, Romania, Russia, Switzerland, Senegal, Serbia, Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, Venezuela, West Bank, Cyprus

Repertory

2026 »an elephant in the room« **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 tosca« **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** »outre vie«, »drift« **2001** »nichts. ich werde da sein, indem ich nicht da bin.« **2000** »falten der nacht«, »ysteres«, »vertige« **1999** »faits dhiver« **1998** »entrevisions« **1997** »landscapes«, »le temps d'après« **1996** »d'un(e)s«

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