DIAGNOSTIC F20.9

Solo piece choreographed and performed
by Jann Gallois | Cie BurnOut
Presentation

This new solo piece is about mental disorders and other types of psychological perturbations. The performance lasts about 50 minutes.

During the creation process, I met people who suffer from schizophrenia. I went to hospitals and psychiatric associations where I interviewed patients, their relatives and their doctors.

By listening to these people’s testimonies, I wanted to learn more about the different physical and psychological symptoms and find answers to the why and how of schizophrenia. What are the aspects? The causes? And the consequences? I really wanted to understand what it means to suffer from such a disorder and how it is experienced in everyday life. The more I could understand, the better I could transcribe it into movement language.

The result is a creation between dance and theatre, sometimes serious, sometimes humorous, in which I try to sculpt a dual body in a torn mind.

Solo piece choreographed and performed by Jann Gallois

50 minutes

Premières

Short version (30 minutes)
24th, 25th & 26th January 2015
Suresnes Cité Danse Festival

Full version (50 minutes)
12th April 2015
Le Grand Bain Festival, Lille

© Laurent Philippe
Diagnostic F20.9 refers to the classification of the World Health Organisation (WHO) that was established in order to create a standard diagnostic tool to define physical and psychological disease. The ICD manual (International Classification of Diseases), which is periodically revised, gives code F20.9 to "schizophrenia, unspecified".

As I have always been interested in mental disease and psychological distress, I wanted to learn more about the dominance of the brain and how it induces behaviour. Are we always in control of our thinking? Schizophrenia puts the role of the brain in perspective, the mechanisms of control and losing control of our thinking. Schizophrenia is an extreme mental disorder but how it develops in a person remains a mystery.

Diagnostic F20.9 is an interpretation of the power of our brain and the effects it may have on our behaviour: false beliefs, auditory and visual hallucinations, inactivity, split personality... I use speech and movement to express on stage this strange and often conflicting cohabitation of body and mind and how that can be scary, surprising, funny and magical.

I also wanted to question the common need to diagnose, to classify and to direct in a therapeutic protocol all deviation of what is "normal". If you are an island, if you are confused, if you evolve in a reality of your own, does that necessarily mean that you are not normal?

Even if schizophrenia is a disease, it does not exclude intelligence and creativity. Mankind will always find its way through madness. Some will see it as a curse, I prefer to see it as a seed of genius, keeping in mind that the artist and the schizophrenic share a similar distorted view of reality.

In an uncluttered, intimate setting, one single body undergoes its evolutions on a music creation that combines electronic and contemporary music and that is as distorted and contrasting as the character on stage.

As I wanted to feel the psychological restraint of schizophrenic patients, I transcribed their psychological confinement into a spatial one, by restricting the body to a central moving space of 9m2, which is the regulatory size of prison cells in France.

This journey through the world of a character in prey of hallucinations and personality disturbances will be conveyed by both a theatrical and choreographic interpretation meant to emphasise the complexity of the relation between the body and the mind. A complexity revealed by text and movement language, sometimes hilarious and then again sad, sometimes tense and fast and then again relaxed and moderate.

The final scene sheds a subtle but penetrating light on the vulnerability of the body when it is confronted with the power of the rain, water falling out of the sky, symbol of purification and life.

© Anne-Sylvie Bonnet
- The audacity and accuracy of Jann Gallois, wonderful surprise of Suresnes Cité Danse.
- Jann Gallois invents with an extreme richness movements and figures which make palpable the sickness that gangeres here charachter.

Sophie Jouve - Culturebox, January 2015

- A precise and energetic choreography, movements of great subtlety and an interpretation as accurate as virtuoso favours wonderfully Jann Gallois' intention. If her body, subtle and sharp, as her vocabulary keeps a hip-hop imprint, her dance is very contemporary. The scenography, made of intelligent and elegant mix of lights, traces subtle limits between madness and a clear mind.

Delphine Baffour - Danses avec la plume, January 2015
Biography

After many years studying music at the conservatoire, Jann Gallois started dancing in 2004. It was Thony Maskot, a mainstay of the French hip hop scene, who introduced her to what was to become her passion. At the same time, to widen her skills, Jann trained as a contemporary dancer at the Peter Goss School. She also trained as an actress at the Ecole de Théâtre de Paris, under Colette Louvois, whilst following her self-taught path.

Since 2008, Jann Gallois has worked for various companies and choreographers, starting with Sébastien Lefrançois, followed by François Berdeaux, Sylvain Grouf, Bouziane Bouteldja, Coraline Lamaison, Angelin Preljocaj, Sebastien Ramirez and Kaori Ito.

In 2012, Jann Gallois embarked upon choreographing and, together with Damien Guillemín, she created Nager dans ses rêves a duet supported by Luc Petton and the « Laboratoire Chorégraphique de Reims ».

The success of that piece encouraged her to set up her own company, Cie BurnOut, and to write her first own solo piece, $P=mg$ for which she was 9 times awarded by national and international prizes, such as Paris Young Talent Prize and Beaumarchais-SACD Prize in Paris, Solo-Tanz Theater Prize in Stuttgart, Masdanza Prize in Canary Islands, Machol Shalem Prize in Jerusalem, and Gdansk solo dance contest Prize in Poland.

In 2015, Jann Gallois confirmed her artistic signature, combining choreographic and theatrical work, by creating once again a solo-piece called Diagnostic F20.9, and Compact for 2016 (Première January 16-18 at the Suresnes Cités Danse Festival) a duet piece with her main partner Rafal Smadja who became her choreographic assistant. In August, she was named « Bearer of Hope » in the german Tanz YearBook 2015.
Inspirations  List non exhaustive

Mental and psychological diseases (Michel Foucault)
Tomorrow I was mad (Arnhild Lauveng)
The man who mistook his wife for a hat (Oliver Sacks)
Mulholland Drive (David Lynch)

Tour dates

24th, 25th and 26th of January 2015 (short version)
Suresnes Cités Danse Festival
Paris, France

12th of April 2015
Le Grand Bain Festival
Lille, France

12th of June 2015
June Events Festival
Paris, France

12th of March 2016
Hybrides Hip Hopées Festival
Divonne-les-Bains, France

12th of April 2016
Rencontres Essone Danse, Théâtre de Brétigny-sur-Orge
Brétigny-sur-Orge, France

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Production
Compagnie BurnOut

Coproductions
Théâtre de Suresnes Jean Vilar - Maison Folie Wazemmes de Lille - ARCADI Ile-de-France / Dispositifs d’accompagnements - IADU (Fondation de France / La Villette with the support of Caisse des Dépôts & Acsé) - SPEDIDAM - La Briqueterie / CDC du Val-de-Marne - CDC Atelier de Paris / Carolyn Carlson

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