

Contre-jour

Alexander Vantournhout / not standing

When people or animals move along a loose surface of sand or soil, they leave traces. These prints made by feet or paws 'describe' what's underfoot and remind us of the original meaning of the word choreography: 'to write with movement'.

Contre-jour is set on a stretch of sand. Five performers walk, run, hop, move like cats on hands and feet to create a diversity of 'impressions' - only to erase them to make way for new symbols, new choreography. But also to vanish, because leaving traces can be dangerous: you might be entering someone's property illegally or trying to pass a border unseen.

In *Contre-jour*, the movements leave impressions, in the loose sand but also in the spectator's memory. Five bodies pass by through the desolate landscape, as if it were a film. Five individuals helping one another as a group in collective movements, solos and duets. In dance and live singing. Solace and resistance reverberate through the interplay of togetherness and solitude.

Contre-jour is the latest performance by **not standing**, the company led by Alexander Vantournhout, where every creation originates from fundamental movement study. After the solo *Aneckxander*, the duet *Through the Grapevine* and the location performance *Screws*, all selected for TheaterFestival, Alexander Vantournhout now - for the first time - chooses to fully embrace the role of choreographer and gives the stage to a cast of five performers with diverse backgrounds in dance, musical, circus and more.

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Concept & choreography: Alexander Vantournhout
Created with & performed by: Philomène Authelet, Tina Afijan-Breiova, Noémi Devaux, Ariadna Gironès Mata & Aymara Parola

Research collaborator: Emmi Väisänen
Dramaturgy: Rudi Laermans & Sébastien Hendrickx
Rehearsal director: Maria Ferreira Silva, Axel Guérin, Lodie Kardouss, Anneleen Keppens, Lise Vachon & Esse Vanderbruggen
Vocal coach & music dramaturgy: Fabienne Seveillac

Light design: Harry Cole
Costumes: Sofie Durnez
Videography: Stanislav Dobak
Sound design: Bob Hermans

Special thanks to: Kim Amankwaa, Willy Cauwelier, Euridike De Beul, Tom de With & Astrid Sweeney

Company manager: Esther Maas
Technical production: Bram Vandeghinste & Rinus Samyn
Production & tour manager: Aïda Gabriëls
Diffusion: Frans Brood Productions

Production: not standing
Coproduction: Arts Center Vooruit, Ghent (BE), Cirque-Théâtre Elbeuf (FR), Le CENTQUATRE, Paris (FR), Theater op de Markt - Dommelhof, Neerpelt (BE), Theater Freiburg (DE), Charleroi Danse (BE), Lithuanian Dance Information Center, Vilnius (LT), Peeping Tom, Brussels (BE), Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg (LU), Maillon, Théâtre de Strasbourg – Scène européenne (FR)

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Alexander Vantournhout is artist-in-residence in Arts Centre Vooruit in Ghent and associated artist of le CENTQUATRE Paris and Cirque-théâtre Elbeuf. He is cultural ambassador of the city of Roeselare and is also supported by Fondation BNP Paribas for the development of his projects.

<https://notstanding.com/>