



Chaliwaté Company

Joséphina

by Sandrine Heyraud
and Sicaire Durieux

Gestural Theater

Dramatic criticism:

Katya Montaignac

Setting:

**Karine Galarneau and
Thiebault Vanden Steen**

Sound: Nancy Bussières

**Lights: Frédérick Gravel and
Jérôme Dejean**

Stage management:

Jérôme Dejean

Press: Christine Willem

Graphism: Alicia Dekoninck

Fotos: Thibaut Van Boxtel

CAN BE PERFORMED IN FRENCH, ENGLISH OR SPANISH



“The Chaliwaté Company combines verbal poetry and poetic movement that never ceases to surprise”
Fabienne Cabado, « Parler avec son corps »
(Voir, September 2008)

Creative framework

Created in June 2008 as part of a creative mastery for the drama department of the University of Quebec in Montreal (UQAM), Joséphina met such success that Omnibus decided that it should be performed at the International Montreal Mime Festival in October 2008, for five shows that turned out to be sold out.

Story line

In this piece, a man and a woman cross paths. From flashbacks to disturbing dreams, from scattered memories to obsessive desire, the spectator is free to piece together the puzzle of a dreamed relationship, or of a relationship that no longer exists, the story of a shattered or idealised couple. Between reality and fantasy the body and the word come together in a very intimate fashion, allowing poetic shifts and entanglements, comical changes in direction and a strong visual impact of the physical metamorphosis. The spoken words and the physical movements divert and transform each other. Through this dialogue between the body and the spoken word, the visual force of the written text is expressed both physically and poetically through the body of the mime actor.



Within the four walls of his small apartment Alfredo is alone and yet someone else is there.
"That is the mystery, the solution lies in it."
Caught in the middle of a play with words, body movements, ellipses and clues, the absent and yet omnipresent Joséphina, occupies the space...
What happened three months ago?
As the physical sequences evolve, words and action never giving it away, fragments of life and intimacy are revealed.
What clues should you follow? What should you believe?
Movements and sounds intertwine, desperately trying to solve the mystery...

Artistic approach of the Chaliwaté Company

The Chaliwaté Company was created in 2005. It is actively involved in creative projects, research and work to transmit this form of expression. Fed by the teachings and legacy of the three great contemporary and European masters of the mime art: Etienne Decroux, Marcel Marceau and Jacques Lecoq, the Chaliwaté Company performs its shows and shares its poetic and comic approach while constantly reflecting on the foundations of this particular artistic form of stage art. Each show is the result of serious reflection and exploration of the dramatic rules and principles belonging to the mime arts, such as the metamorphosis of the body, transformation of objects and environments, symbolisation, but also the study of ways to cross this expression with other forms of stage arts (modern dance, farcical and more classic forms of the comical art form). Using a precisely mastered and resourceful body language, shaping movements as a sculptor would shape a statue, taming the silences, the Chaliwaté Company works to combine the different techniques, aiming to surprise the audience and encourage the spectator to let his emotions do the talking.



Joséphina

Does adding verbal expression to the mime art mean that we remove that which specifically defines it? This question was used as a starting point in the creative process of Joséphina. The second original creation by the Chaliwaté Company, the show is for all audiences and offers a subtle combination of verbal expression and body movement. Using every-day-life situations as well as surrealistic situations, but also illustration and abstraction, the piece drifts from one form to another in such a way which allows the artist to experiment the different facets of the human body as an artistic tool, combining it with texts written by modern authors such as Xavier Durringer, Gao Xingjian and Henri Michaux.

The Team

Sicaire Durieux and Sandrine Heyraud
Directing and performing Joséphina



After two years of training with the masters of mime art at the Marcel Marceau School in Paris, followed by additional training experience with disciples of Étienne Decroux and Jacques Lecoq, Sicaire Durieux and Sandrine Heyraud create the Chaliwaté Company in 2005. Their goal is to promote the mime art in all its forms (performances, debates, workshops). Their first show, *Eau la la...*, has been performed around the world in many festivals among which we can mention the Journées du Théâtre Gestuel in Paris (2004), the Festival International de Mime de Périgueux Mimos (2005), the International Mime Festival in Israel (2006), the Leu Tempo Festival (Île de la Réunion, 2006), the Caribbean International Mime Festival (Puerto-Rico, 2007).

While pursuing their artistic carriers, Sandrine Heyraud and Sicaire Durieux have studied at university. Sandrine Heyraud at the Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris 3 in Paris, the Università di Bologna in Italy, and UQAM in Montreal. Sicaire Durieux at the Université de Montpellier 3, the Université de Paris 8 and is currently doing a PhD in Study and Practice of Arts at UQAM in Montreal.

Meanwhile, Sicaire Durieux teaches the specific techniques and know-how of the mime art in a number of schools and universities. We can list The Université de Paris 8 and the École supérieure de théâtre de l'UQAM in Montreal, but also l'Éponyme Theatre School in Paris, among the places he has taught the mime art. He also organises workshops during festivals (Mimos 2005, 2008, 2010).

Contact

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