



programme

# RIDC

22.23.24 june 2023  
theater rotterdam



Chaos by Medhi Berdai (2022) | © Ton van Til



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## Welcome

We are immensely proud to present this fifth anniversary edition of the Rotterdam International Duet Choreography Competition (RIDCC). Today, you will witness unique and multi-styled duets by talented choreographers from all over the world.

What inspires us the most is to see that this competition leads to straightforward and promising opportunities for the artists. We hope that RIDCC will be the start of a fruitful journey for all participants, while offering the audience a showcase of outstanding duets.

Enjoy!

Maya Roest, Mischa van Leeuwen & Lobke Nabuurs



# Creating a competition

At RIDCC, choreographers from all over the world come together to share their creations, compete for awards, participate in a full programme of workshops, master classes and coaching sessions, and to make valuable connections for their future.

For founders Maya Roest and Mischa van Leeuwen, RIDCC is more than just a competition: it's about providing a platform to young makers, lifting each other up, and creating a community. "We're building bridges across the international dance world."

A little over ten years ago, Mischa choreographed a solo for Maya, entered the Internationales Solo Tanz Theater Festival Stuttgart competition and won the second prize in choreography. A great experience on its own for sure, but mostly it made the two Scapino Ballet dancers realize how valuable a competition can be for young makers.

"Entering into a competition can generate a lot of interest and opportunities," Maya says, "and especially when you win, people know your success was not just a coincidence." The label that gets attached to your work opens new doors and allows you to connect to new audiences. And after the cutbacks in subsidies in 2012, young makers didn't stand much of a chance."

## Two people on a stage

Since a professional choreography competition did not exist in the Netherlands, Maya and Mischa decided to create their own, entirely focused on duets – which

was a global first. "Two people on a stage equals a story", Mischa continues. "And it inspires the audience to come up with that story. A duet is a pleasure to watch, right from the start."

Instead of awarding cash prizes, RIDCC hands out Partner Awards. The 11 awards are from partners like Nederlands Dans Theater, Skånes Dansteater, and Club Guy & Roni, among others. There is also an Audience Award and of course the coveted XL Production Award – a chance to create a complete professional production in collaboration with Scapino Ballet Rotterdam and RIDCC. The prize is worth an unprecedented 100.000 euro and is made possible by the Droom en Daad Foundation and Scapino Ballet Rotterdam.

## An immersive experience

It's what Maya and Mischa had in mind right from the start: providing opportunities for choreographers to work together with renowned companies so they can benefit from their experience and facilities, and develop their craft, gain experience, and make connections that will be invaluable to their careers. "Because as a young choreographer, you have to do everything yourself", Maya explains. "You don't have a producer, marketer or business director. You have to figure it all out."

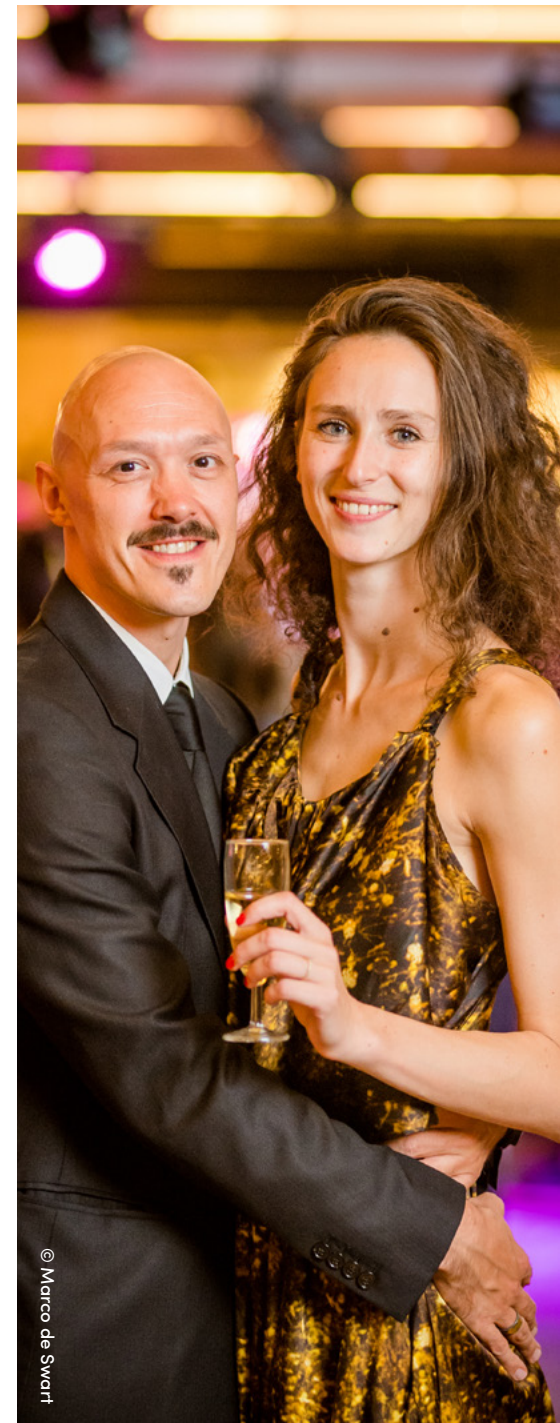
The opportunities RIDCC offers are not limited to the award winners: during the three-day competition and beyond, participants get an immersive experience with masterclasses, workshops, and networking sessions. They learn how to build their career and market themselves, work with lighting to enhance their creations, and use social media and networking to their advantage. Each year, one of the workshops is presented by a prominent choreographer, talking about their lives and process. Over the last few years we've invited Hofesh Shechter and Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui for this purpose.

Instead of a competitive environment, former participants talk about finding a community at RIDCC, where the invitation alone offers an extensive learning experience. A place where choreographers are facilitated to take control of their career, and companies come together to provide those opportunities – putting aside their rivalry for the time being. "We're building bridges across the international dance world", Mischa says, smiling.

## Looking forward

The event has grown into a five-day event, with workshops and classes, and performances by former award winners under the title of *RIDCC Brings Back* – as well as online events organized throughout the year. In this way, RIDCC continues to carry out its mission; by attracting new choreographic talent – the voices of the future – we stimulate innovation and diversity within the art of dance. Tonight, you will witness the names of the future on stage, performing a variety of dance styles.

We wish you an inspiring journey!



© Marco de Swart





*Synthetic Love by Erika Silgoner | © Ton van Til*

# Springboard for choreographic talent worldwide

RIDCC is a unique annual dance festival that brings together new choreographic voices with renowned artistic leaders and programmers, both nationally and internationally. Up-and-coming choreographic talents from all over the world, in all imaginable dance styles, participate in a duet competition, where they can win outstanding awards.

## **Talent development programme**

During the event and beyond, the choreographers take part in a talent development programme, providing them with tools to engage in the dance world in a professional and self-confident manner.

## **Diversity and innovation**

The purpose of RIDCC is to promote diversity and innovation within the art of dance, by engaging unique, choreographic talent. Through both the competition, as well as the workshops and activities focused on artistic growth, RIDCC aspires to be the best possible springboard for choreographic talent.

All of this takes place in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, which makes this city the place to discover the work of a new generation of dance artists from across the world.

RIDCC offers great possibilities for networking. The vibrant event provides a professional set up for the emerging talents to present their choreography. The days are filled with artistic growth and many future creative collaborations are established.

*Family Honour by Kwame Asafo-Adjei (2019) | © Ton van Til*





## Duets



**Simposio**

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**Up**

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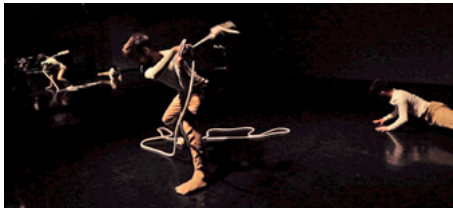
**MEGASTRUCTURE**

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**Oxytocin**

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**BOJ**

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**LOCA**

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**Aura**

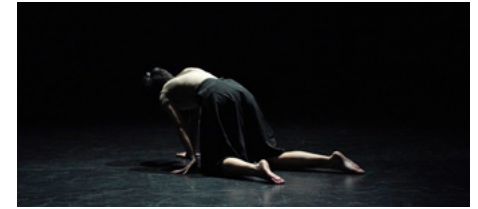
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## Duets



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# Choreographers



Lia Claudia Latini & Giovanni Leonarduzzi



Yang Kang, Huang Sijun & Zhu Xinyun



Isaiah Wilson & Sarah Baltzinger



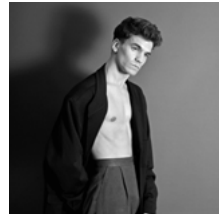
Tamir Golan



Urvil Shah & Chetan Solanki



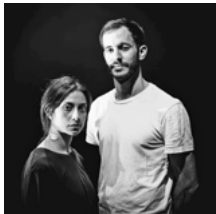
Maria Chiara de' Nobili & Alexander Miller



Albert Hernández



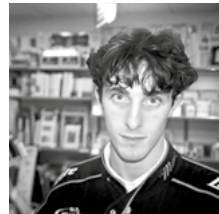
Tang Chenglong



Borna Babić & Eliana Stragapede



Chen Yi En



Charlie Skuy



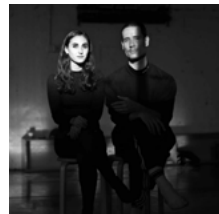
Nadine Gerspacher & Arias Fernandez



Or Marin



Li Chen & Shi Feiyang



Rebecca Laufer & Mats van Rossum



Fan Xiaoyun

# Simposio

Choreographers Lia Claudia Latini & Giovanni Leonarduzzi

Performers Lia Claudia Latini & Giovanni Leonarduzzi

“RIDCC offers an excellent opportunity to deepen the knowledge of ourselves, and of our research.”

## Choreography

From Plato's story to the present day, a continuous tension in search of the total, unique, complete body. From the 'hermaphrodites' narrated in Aristophanes' speech, supernatural figures, in terms of strength and shape, to the divided body that we have. The attempt at reunification, the tension towards completeness, the relationship that is never completely 'satisfied' because it seems to be impossible to go back to being a 'single body'. From the specific story of Plato to the analysis of current society: the difficulty of finding, maintaining and cultivating a couple relationship in a society that pushes towards an ever stronger individualism and which leads to less acceptance of the 'compromise' of the couple. This is where our moving figures are born; where the two bodies, added together, create a larger one.

## Choreographers

Giovanni Leonarduzzi, aka 'Gava', began his career in dance through breakdance in '96 and soon approached the theatrical environment.

Lia Claudia Latini was born and trained in Friuli Venezia Giulia, she began with the study of academic dance and continued and completed her artistic studies, graduating in fashion design. Together, Giovanni and Claudia participated in Italian and international dance platforms, such as Choreography 36 Hannover, CICC Copenhagen, Interplay, MasDanza. Their choreographic research develops through a study of movement and language that pushes from urban roots towards a choreographic writing of contemporary dance, up to the research in partnering.



# Up

Choreographers Yang Kang, Huang Sijun & Zhu Xinyun

Performers Yang Kang & Huang Sijun

“We are eager to experience creative dance presentations, study working methods, and to build good friendships.”

## Choreography

Folded ladders are stable when in use but unstable when folded together.

*Up* is a repetition that wanders between equilibrium and imbalance. When people have the possibility of up and down, they will be in fact suspended in the air, with various emotions such as fear, doubt, anxiety, and loneliness emerging one after another. The work *Up* discusses the sensitive and complex relationship regarding confrontation and collaboration, persistence and abandonment, and hope and darkness. When going through these relationships, we explore world forms with results that are currently unknown but bear our final liberation.

## Choreographers

Yang Kang, an independent dancer and choreographer, was selected as one of

China's top dancers and choreographers in 2022. He participated in different cross-disciplinary productions, and performed at several theaters and festivals, like the National Centre for the Performing Arts in China and the Shekou Theatre Festival.

Huang Sijun is a Chinese independent dancer and choreographer. Since 2021, he started collaborating with different artists, and performed at the National Centre for the Performing Arts, and the Guangzhou Opera House.

Zhu Xinyun is a cross-disciplinary choreographer and theatre creator. Her works have been commissioned by the Shanghai International Dance Center and Hong Kong Arts Festival, and presented in different art platforms, including Shanghai International Arts Festival.



# MEGASTRUCTURE

Choreographers Isaiah Wilson & Sarah Baltzinger

Performers Isaiah Wilson & Sarah Baltzinger

“During our creative process, we wanted to combine both of our movement qualities to develop a singular language that revolves around disarticulated and percussive bodies.”

## Choreography

*MEGASTRUCTURE* draws with curiosity the trajectory of two bodies in constant cohabitation. A piece themed around intimacy whose dance material forms strange and perilous associations. This duo is like a puzzle whose pieces are constantly being dismantled, searched for, tested and reinvented. *MEGASTRUCTURE* is a choreographic piece without sound composition, without decor, whose natural musicality is generated by the bodies on stage in a percussive energy.

## Choreographers

Sarah Baltzinger worked as a performer for various choreographers in Europe, such as Bernard Baumgarten, Peter Mika, Helder Seabra and Wayne Parsons. At the same time, she developed her own

choreographic work based on a research about puppeteering and dislocated body. She works actively with Isaiah in various projects.

Isaiah Wilson completed his secondary education at the Lycée des Arts et Métiers and proceeded dance at Codarts Rotterdam. He did his internship with the company ICK Amsterdam. He later worked with Dresden Frankfurt Dance Company. Today, he collaborates with Sarah and works as an independent interdisciplinary artist.





## Oxytocin

Choreographer Tamir Golan  
Performers Gil Algrabli & Tamir Golan

“I am eager to immerse myself in the unique atmosphere of the competition, collaborate with fellow choreographers, and be exposed to new perspectives and artistic influences.”

### Choreography

The thin line between longing to strangeness, calmness to panic, pleasure to pain, laughter to cry. Boundaries, powerment, empathy, control, frustration, false hope, dependence, love, and hate. Two wanderers share a similar past in which the thin line between longing to strangeness is central.

### Choreographer

Tamir Golan was born in 1999. He served in the IDF as an Outstanding Dancer while studying at the Masloul-Professional Dance Program, Tel Aviv. In 2021, Tamir participated in 1/2/3 – a programme for emerging choreographers at Suzanne Dellal Centre, and created three new pieces. He won the Outstanding Creator for his duet creation. Between 2019 and 2022 Tamir danced with Avshalom Pollak Dance Theater. With his works he participated in Holland Dance Festival (Den Haag, the Netherlands) and MILANO LTRE (Milan, Italy). Tamir was chosen for a residency of two months at Quartier Am Hafen (Cologne, Germany) to create a new piece, with the cooperation of Suzanne Dellal Center (Tel Aviv, Israel).

## BOJ

Choreographers Urvil Shah & Chetan Solanki  
Performers Urvil Shah & Chetan Solanki

“With the help of RIDCC, it would take us one step closer to explore and combine the beliefs and perspectives of the eastern and western world of art.”

### Choreography

*BOJ* in Hindi means ‘burden’. It is an interplay into the emotional journey of the conversations and confrontations one has from within. What happens when one is given a life they are unable to choose? A sense of responsibility one did not account for? A never ending yet recurring story of realisation, fight and acceptance of a burdened fate. Growing up in India, a country so rich in culture, religion, and history. To accept one’s destiny rather than be a charioteer of it, was a normality. It made us curious to explore the state of such a majority and to discover the paths their minds and body would encounter at a certain moment in time.

### Choreographers

Urvil Shah and Chetan Solanki first met in 2013 in Mumbai. Together, they have trained, danced and performed in over 12 countries across the world. Their partnership first started in 2016 during their tenure at Navdhara India Dance Theatre Company (NIDT) where they started aligning their ideas, language of movement, and artistry.

Coming from the same ideology, culture and beliefs, yet having different journeys nationally and internationally, they produce a unique combination of eastern and western ideas from which they derive inspiration to create. They have worked with companies like Club Guy & Roni and Navdhara India Dance Theatre (NIDT) together, and MiR Dance Company and Zawirowania individually.





# until again

Choreographers Maria Chiara de' Nobili & Alexander Miller  
In collaboration with dancer Nam Tran Xuan

"Our company was born three years ago from the motivation to apply for RIDCC, as already back then we were fascinated by the talent and ambition of the team and the participants."

## Choreography

*until again* wants to emphasise that sharing loneliness, eternal waiting, struggles, and the journey of life with a friend is what can possibly turn our cries into laughter and our loneliness into love.

## Choreographers

Miller de Nobili is the label for the joint work of Maria Chiara de' Nobili and Alexander Miller. Both graduated from the M.A. Choreography at Palucca Hochschule für Tanz Dresden. MdN combines urban and contemporary dance, breaking, and acting methods. Their full-length work *PACK* premiered in 2021 at HELLERAU – European Centre for the Arts. After its successful debut, *PACK* was presented at the Tanzplattform

Deutschland 2022. In 2022, MdN produced *clouds for tomorrow*. The work was invited to the Tanzplattform Bern, PACT Zollverein, among others. In November 2022, MdN premiered their full-length production *Don't you dare!* co-produced by HELLERAU. In 2023, MdN will create for Scapino Ballet Rotterdam.



# LOCA

Choreographer Albert Hernández  
Performers Irene Tena & Andrea Antó

"Dance is a universal language that unites us all and I love the idea of being able to share Spanish dance with colleagues and artists from other cultures."

## Choreography

*LOCA* is a duet where the performers are in dialogue about madness. The piece, one of his first works with his dance company La Venidera, is based on contemporary Spanish dance movement, rooted in the earth, purely honest and free of prejudice. Visceral, intuitive and active listening responses were the three core concepts we worked on during the creative process of the piece, based on the music and the voice of Silvia Pérez Cruz. "Finding the ecstasy of two bodies that feed into each other in the pure desire to free themselves."

## Choreographer

Albert Hernández graduated from Conservatorio IT Dansa. In 2014 he expanded his studies in New York after winning a scholarship at the Peridance Contemporary Dance Center and in 2015 he received a scholarship at the Real Conservatorio Profesional de Danza Mariemma. In 2016 Albert joined Ballet Nacional de España and in 2022 he was promoted to Principal Dancer. In 2019 he premiered his first show and that same year he won the Choreography First Prize at the Madrid Choreography Contest with *LOCA*. He is currently artistic director and choreographer of his own dance company La Venidera.



## Aura

Choreographer Tang Chenglong  
Performers Shi Renqi & Bai Yuhao

““We hope that by attending a world-class cultural event such as RIDCC, we can communicate with artists from all around the world and share our artistic visions with each other.”

### Choreography

To see. To sense. To feel. To live. And finally, to be. A new experimental duet by Tang Chenglong, *Aura* features two of the most talented young Chinese artists of this generation – Shi Renqi and Bai Yuhao. Shot originally as a dance film, the piece was created deliberately half in a completely black studio and half by open ocean. *Aura* hopes to ask the fundamental question of existentialism: who are we? Why are we here? Can you see us?

### Choreographer

Tang Chenglong is a professional choreographer and director based in China. His past experience ranges from large-scale stage productions to experimental films. His dance films, *Gatha* and *L'Appat*

were awarded at many festivals around the world, including San Francisco Dance Film Festival, DesArts//DesCinés in France and the Academy-qualifying, Flatpack film festival. *Aura* is Tang's most recent work.

## AMAE

Choreographers Borna Babić & Eliana Stragapede  
Performers Borna Babić & Eliana Stragapede

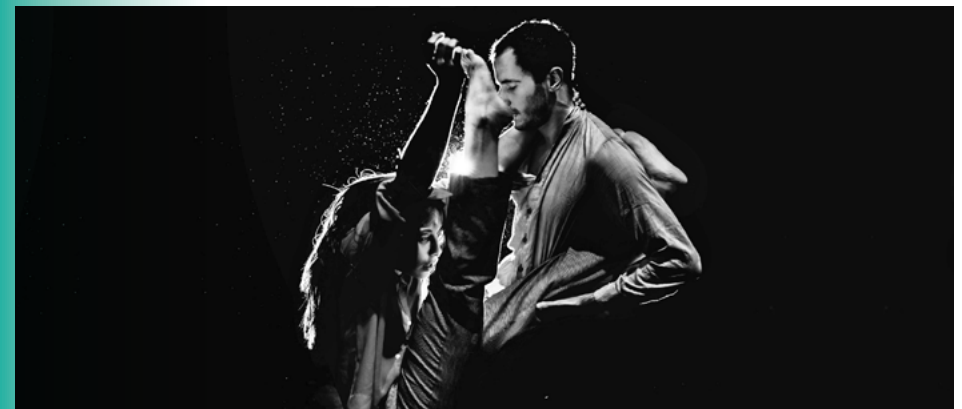
“This event is an opportunity for us to get inspired by other participants, expand our network and get feedback about our work.”

### Choreography

*AMAE* questions and investigates the boundaries between care and obsession, love and hurt, support and control. Where is the line between those extremes? How far can one go before it turns into the contrary effect? Is there room for compromise and understanding or is this meant to be an endless loop?

### Choreographers

Eliana Stragapede and Borna Babić are freelance makers, dancers and teachers, based in Brussels. Eliana is currently performing with Peeping Tom and Club Guy & Roni while Borna is collaborating with Ultima Vez / Wim Vandekeybus and Olivier de Sagazan.





# Self-hate

Choreographer Chen Yi En

Performers Hung Pei Yu & Lin Hsiu Yu

“This piece challenges the performers to balance dance technique and emotional expression, and we aim to share this with European audiences through our unique ‘Pop and Hold’ technique.”

## Choreography

*Self-hate* is a dance creation that draws inspiration from depression, depicting the emotional lows that everyone may experience, and it is also linked to the life experiences of the choreographer's mother. We have developed the dance method of ‘Pop and Hold’ to challenge the skillful transformation of body posture and emotions, evoking profound imagery and dialogues through the work in space. Against the backdrop of the increasing focus on mental and physical well-being in the international arts and culture industry, we hope that with this piece, we can care for the world and continue to explore the authentic relationship between creation, dance, and performers.

## Choreographer

Choreographer and performer Chen Yi En completed his dance partnership with Cloud Gate 2 in 2018. Supported by Taiwan Ministry of Culture, he resided in Paris at Cité internationale des arts, and won the third place at Poland's Gdański Festiwal Tańca solo dance contest. In 2019, he was honored with the Yokohama Dance Collection Judge's Encouragement Prize and began promoting contemporary dance with Les Petites Choses Production. Chen embraces interdisciplinary collaborations, believing dance transcends boundaries and impacts lives.



# KEVIN

Choreographer Charlie Skuy

Performers Charlie Skuy & Emmitt Cawley

“RIDCC sounded like a deep dive for inspired makers, and being a young choreographer living in the Netherlands, this competition is a dream to be a part of.”

## Choreography

*KEVIN* is a place where there is nothing but Kevins. Kevin is my vision of a dissonant human form, moving neither from nor towards, made of neither hope nor despair. A Kevin is something you become to leave our world, to join other Kevins - where nothing can hurt you and everything is fine. It is perfect and quiet. Kevin is not one person, but a universe.

## Choreographer

Charlie Skuy is a choreographer, dancer, and performer from Toronto, Canada. He began working in choreography in 2014 and has continued creating while dancing with Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT) since 2018, where he has choreographed five works for SWITCH by NDT. In his artistic practice, Charlie has also self-directed and produced numerous dance films and has recently been awarded in CINEDANS '23. He was commissioned to create for Assemblée Internationale '17, was a finalist in the Copenhagen International Choreography Competition 2021, and is currently working on a full-length work for Origen Festival (Switzerland).





## RE.

Choreographers Nadine Gerspacher & Arias Fernandez

Performers Nadine Gerspacher & Arias Fernandez

“It was always a dream to be part of RIDCC one day.  
We are super happy, curious and excited  
to be selected this year!”

### Choreography

The duett *RE.* presses the RE-Set button and offers the possibility of a new beginning. A heavily minimalistic composition and imagery drawing attention to detail, which brings emotional expression to the fore. “En la vida, cada final es sólo el principio de otra historia.” This duet mixes Krump with contemporary dance.

### Choreographers

Nadine Gerspacher is a freelance dancer, choreographer & artistic director of her own company, as well as from Freezone Barcelona alongside Nico Ricchini. She’s been working internationally for the past twenty years, for instance alongside Dave St. Pierre Company Montréal & Cirque du Soleil. She has been a guest choreographer in many companies and universities and

received the Isadora Award in 2016 for her exceptional achievements in contemporary dance.

Arias Fernández is a freelance dancer, teacher and choreographer specializing in the Krump dance style. In 2015 he danced in the Cirque du Soleil project HEART under the choreographic direction of Nadine Gerspacher. He is co-founder of the projects Aina & Arias, Bioshock and The Jokerz Company as well as founder and leader of the project OM RASA, a training method based on several disciplines. His main focus is on connecting different disciplines: krump, parkour, contemporary dance, partnering and dance theater. Arias is an international figure in the krump community, judge, organizer and lecturer at international workshops worldwide.

# Breath with Me a Moment

Choreographer Or Marin

Performers Uri Dicker & Tomer Giat

“I hope that my work will be able to reach and touch the hearts and minds of the viewer, with the desire to strive for soft and simple, intimate communication.”

### Choreography

*Breathe with Me a Moment* is a glimpse in which a window opens for intimate dialogue between two dancers. What do we mean when we speak about true intimacy. How fragile closeness is. Is it what we call love, passion, honest conversation, in-depth knowledge? The duet proposes intimacy, a shared breathing, a moment of close connection that encompasses the various colors of intimacy. The meeting of two bodies through shared breath into a harmonica, produces a note to the concept of intimacy, vocalizes the closeness, the love, the passion. It connects the two bodies and turns them into one musical instrument with two lung spaces and one note that emerges from their bond. Union. The sound of intimacy that is revealed to us in a unified musical layer serves as

a soundtrack to the bodies in their release into one another in a human, abstract, sensory way.

### Choreographer

Or Marin is a choreographer, designer, teacher, and founder of Or Marin Dance Theater Company (2005), and RE-SEARCH, a three-year professional program for creative dancers. She graduated from Habbostan school of dance, Thelma Yellin High School for the Arts, the Place, LCD, London. Her work is known for its visual aesthetics, use of vocal and textual work, contemporary dance and performance. Over the years, her creations have been performed in many festivals and venues, such as Quinzena de Dança de Almada, MASDANZA de Gran Canaria, Tanzmasse NRW.





# Should life be busy?

Choreographers Li Chen & Shi Feiyang

Performers Li Chen & Shi Feiyang

“RIDCC is an internationally renowned duet dance competition, and we hope to share and exchange Chinese choreography works with the world.”

## Choreography

This dance piece depicts the true emotions of Li Chen and Shi Feiyang. It portrays how these two individuals meet, strive towards their ideal, and support each other when faced with pressure. In a moment of realisation, they discover the beauty in cherishing the present joy, rendering the notion of success unimportant.

## Choreographers

Li Chen and Shi Feiyang, both natives of Hubei Province, met in Beijing in 2017. Li was admitted to the Beijing Dance Academy, while Shi joined the Beijing Modern Dance Company after graduating from Minzu University of China. The two pursue their dreams together in Beijing. Recently, they have created dance theater productions and dance film productions in China, which have won several awards. Currently, Li is developing a physical movement technology and he is guiding other dancers to set up a company for themselves.



# Clay

Choreographers Rebecca Laufer & Mats van Rossum

Performers Rebecca Laufer & Mats van Rossum

“Joining this competition gives us the opportunity to share art in a respectful and dynamic environment.”

## Choreography

*Clay* is a dance theater piece that was born from personal discord. With a focus on breaking conventional roles and challenging what it means to coexist. Dealing with the many forms of oppression, including physical, emotional, and psychological turmoil, as well as exploitation and isolation. The mental aspect of feeling trapped, powerless, and alone, unable to escape – specifically in the confines of a familiar setting. This work draws inspiration from myth and folklore, presenting the tale through the lens of another world. *Clay* portrays two beings set in a grim situation, trying to bring light to the darkening world around them. A piece born out of physical limitation. *Clay* is a bittersweet escape into imagination, beyond logic and reason, unbound by time.

## Choreographers

Rebecca Laufer was born in the United States and received her Bachelor's degree from Point Park Conservatory. Next to performing her own works, she performed with the Israeli Opera under the direction and choreography of Itzik Galili, the Cameri Theatre with Andrea Martini, Olivier Fredj at La Monnaie de Munt and she is currently dancing with Avshalom Pollak dance theater.

Mats van Rossum, born in the Netherlands, received his Bachelors at the Amsterdam School of Arts. Working as a dancer he worked and performed the works of choreographers and theater makers such as Inbal Pinto and Avshalom Pollak, Itzik Galili, and Jason Danino Holt. Rebecca Laufer and Mats van Rossum founded their artistic collaboration in 2018, in Tel Aviv.





# Mercury

Choreographer Fan Xiaoyun  
Performers Fan Xiaoyun & Siyun Ma

"I have always been seeking innovative and unique ways of expression, hoping to bring freshness and surprise to the audience."

## Choreography

*Mercury* is a liquid metal with the 'counter-intuitive' properties of high hardness, high elasticity, and high corrosion resistance, making it as strong as stone. However, it can also be deformed, spun, fused, and fractured on a large scale under different environmental effects. On the contrary however, as with mercury and external chemistry, for most men and women in social relationships, women face various changes in circumstances. Society, gender, and dogmatic responsibilities are intertwined and dominate women. The 'rigidity' inside women is like liquid metal, with tenacity and hardness. Please discover her...

## Choreographer

Fan Xiaoyun is rehearsal director at Xie Xin Dance Theater. Graduated from

Shanghai Institute of Physical Education, she joined Xie Xin Dance Theater in October 2017 and participated in the company's productions and Xie Xin's works. She has also performed in the Sino-Portuguese collaboration *Spring Ritual*, Hu Shen-yuan's *Dark Rainbow*, and Liu Jia's *00:00*. In 2019, she participated in of the music dance drama *Shui Qiang* produced by Shanghai Concert Hall and directed by Peng Zhang. In 2019, she performed in the stage play *Lady of the Sea*, a Sino-Norwegian joint creation by Wang Yabin. Her choreography work *Echo* won the Second Prize in the Modern Dance Youth Female Group at the 19th Seoul International Dance Competition. Her dance video *Form-Qi-Recognition* was selected for the 2023 Arte Laguna Prize and was exhibited at the Arsenale in Venice, Italy.

# Pre-jury & Jury

While the pre-jury had the challenging task of choosing the 16 most remarkable duets out of 431 registrations, the internationally renowned jury will select the choreographers from the semi-finals, who will proceed to the grand finale.

## Pre-jury



**Shailesh Bahoran**  
 Theatre maker, urban dancer, choreographer and artistic director of IRCompany



**Astrid Boons**  
 Performer and choreographer



**Angela Herenda**  
 Choreographer, dance teacher, dancer



**Mischa van Leeuwen (chairman)**  
 Founder & artistic director of RIDCC, dancer at Scapino Ballet Rotterdam and choreographer

## Jury



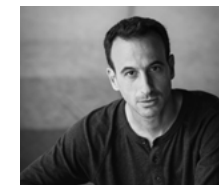
**Tony Adigun**  
 Creative director of Avant Garde Dance, curator, urban choreographer, and mentor



**Katrín Hall**  
 Artistic director of GöteborgsOperans Danskompani



**Eve Hopkins**  
 Artistic director of Theater Bellevue



**Hofesh Shechter**  
 Choreographer, composer and artistic director of Hofesh Shechter Company



**Samuel Wuersten (chairman)**  
 Artistic director of Holland Dance Festival





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# RIDCC Awards

In RIDCC's vibrant and unique event sixteen choreographers compete for outstanding awards, by presenting their remarkable, innovative and multi-styled duets.

## Audience Award

On Saturday June the 24th we conclude the festival with the grand finale, showing the duets selected by a renowned jury. From these selected duets, the jury will determine the winner of the XL Production Award, while RIDCC's partners choose the winners of the Partner Awards from all contestants. On top of that, one of the choreographers will have the honour of returning home with the Audience Award; chosen by none other than you, the public!

For choreographers,  
the audience's opinion is  
incredibly valuable

While enjoying drinks and a bite to eat, you will vote for your favourite choreographer of the evening by simply following an online link on your phone. You will be able to decide how much money to donate to the Award, which is possible via pin, cash or via the website. In the meantime, our host for the evening Jan Kooijman will count down the remaining voting time. The winner will be awarded the prize, consisting of the total sum of money raised. More importantly, the Audience Award can be seen as a prize of honour; for choreographers, the audience's opinion is incredibly valuable as they are the spectators and recipients of their creativity. Towards the end of the

evening, during the award ceremony in the hall downstairs, all the winners will be announced and celebrated.

## XL Production Award

The XL Production Award is a unique and truly unprecedented prize in the international dance world with a value of 100,000 euro. The prize enables the winning choreographer to create a complete professional production, co-produced by Scapino Ballet Rotterdam and RIDCC. Made possible by the Droom en Daad Foundation.

RIDCC aims to offer  
its contestants more visibility  
and an extensive network

## Partner Awards

RIDCC has partnerships with (inter)national dance companies and institutions. From the sixteen participants, the partners choose the winner of the Partner Award, in order to stimulate new work. This way, RIDCC aims to offer its contestants more visibility and an extensive network.

# RIDCC Brings Back Lunatics and Poets

This fifth edition, RIDCC again presents the guest programme *RIDCC Brings Back*: former participants who have developed strongly in recent years and with whom RIDCC feels a strong affinity, are given a platform at the event.

In 2018, the choreographer duo Anna Jacobs and Hanna Van Der Meer, aka Lunatics and Poets, won the Club Guy & Roni Partner Award with their duet *I am a poem, there is no way out*. Since then, Lunatics and Poets have developed into one of the most eye-catching and successful young choreographers of our time. Especially for RIDCC 2023 they present their beautiful work *The People Look Like Flowers At Last*; a visual, multidisciplinary, strong work that was created specifically for Club Guy & Roni.

*"The People Look Like Flowers At Last* is a performance about not wanting to define The End. We follow different people who are situated in the way-station before the next stage of their experience.

Some materialize from the dark and end up in a new indistinct space, others magically transform and are pulled into the next chapter of life." – Lunatics and Poets

Anna Jacobs and Hanna van der Meer create work for theatre, film and installation, in which choreography, visual art and fashion merge. Through movement and fashion, they give form to impermanent identities, emotions and beliefs. They speak a new universal language of gestures, movements and visuals, directly taken from daily life. It is poetic and absurd, light and dark at the same time.

**21 JUNE, 20.15 PM | 24 JUNE, 19.00 PM**  
**Theater Rotterdam**



© Jéssica Toussaint Visser



© Modestas Endriuska

# RIDCC Brings Back Maciej Kuzminski

In 2021, Polish choreographer Maciej Kuźmiński won the Codarts Partner Award with his duet *event horizon*, a work that portrays the socio-political conflict in Poland and at the same time connects to the personal experience of the spectator.

Especially for RIDCC 2023 Maciej is bringing his impressive installation *transience* to Rotterdam, where a route through the city ends in the theatre.

*Transience* is a site-specific live installation: visitors from the future or from another world occupy the contemporary urban environment. Their intervention in contemporary reality creates a dissonance and invites the public to engage in a situation where the familiar suddenly becomes strange. The concept of transience is central: we live in uncertain times, and the idea that everything can change profoundly and quickly, without warning, is one of the central features of our current zeitgeist.

The choreographic work of Maciej Kuźmiński includes, on one hand, the critical, politically engaged and feminist performances, using the language of physical theater and dance. The second area of the choreographer's interests is metaphysics, philosophy, and existentialism, expressed in more formal performances.

**24 JUNE, 17.00 - 23.00 PM**  
**Tour through the city, which ends in Theater Rotterdam.**



# Donate & Vote

Use your phone or tablet to scan the QR codes below and follow the instructions on the screen to make your vote and donation count.



## Donate for the livestream

Via this code you're supporting our livestream. With your donation RIDCC can continue its mission to support choreographic talent worldwide by creating opportunities for upcoming choreographers and by innovating the art of dance.



## Donate for the Audience Award

Use this code to contribute to the Audience Award. Or donate via pin or cash in Theater Rotterdam. The winner will be awarded the prize, consisting of the total sum of money raised.



## Vote for the Audience Award

Please vote for your favourite choreographer after the grand finale on Saturday the 24th. The Audience Award can be seen as a prize of honour, because for choreographers the audience's opinion is incredibly valuable.

# Team

## Founders/Artistic Directors

Maya Roest and Mischa van Leeuwen

## Business Director

Lobke Nabuurs

## Production

Annick Beukers  
Delta Lowe

## Coordinator Talent Development Programme

Delta Lowe & Marta Pinto

## Press & Marketing

Sanne Groeneboer  
Martijn Schipper

## Technical Event Producer

Dennis van Driel

## Text

Sanne Groeneboer

## Design

Marleen van den End

## Photography

Christoffer Brekne  
Mark David (cover)  
Modestas Endriuska  
Anna van Kooij  
Ton van Til  
Marco de Swart  
Jésula Toussaint Visser

## Board

Marijke van Velzen (chairman)  
Willem Velthuisen  
Michael Vogel  
Wim Pijbes  
Lloyd Marengo

## Advisory group

Mildred Trouerbach (chairman)  
Dalton Jansen  
Kim-Jomi Fischer



Dualism by Ido Gidron (2018) | © Ton van Til

# Partners about RIDCC

All RIDCC's partners underline the collective importance of talent development and each contribute in their own way. By granting Partner Awards, RIDCC offers the choreographers the opportunity to develop professionally under the guidance of a renowned (international) dance company or institution.

"Besides the generous prize of this competition, RIDCC also gives new makers the opportunity to expose their work and talent to a wide network, which contributes to their career in a sustainable way. Club Guy & Roni is a close partner of RIDCC. Every year we scout new talent together that we co-support for future development. This joint effort brings the voice of talented makers to a new audience and ensures continuity and innovation in the dance sector."

Roni Haver  
Club Guy & Roni

"The partnership with RIDCC is very inspiring and offers a great opportunity to experience works by emerging talent. It is wonderful to be able to support an artist with a production prize and promote their work for our network and fans. The competition and the activities included provide an amazing window and exposure for many artists. Knowledge, network, reflections, and craft of the artists develop simultaneously with a rich artistic programme being offered to the audience. RIDCC has succeeded very quickly to establish an important event for the whole dance world."

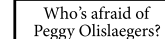
Mira Helenius Martinsson  
Skånes Dansteater

"Investing in talent, researching new ideas and supporting new voices lies at the core of Nederlands Dans Theater (NDT), which is why we are very proud to be a partner of RIDCC. The competition provides a wonderful platform for emerging choreographers to introduce their work to a larger audience. In return, RIDCC offers NDT the perfect opportunity to get acquainted with upcoming creators. As artistic director of NDT, I look forward to new artistic exchanges during RIDCC 2023 and the creative collaborations that may follow."

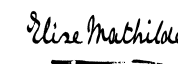
Emily Molnar  
Nederlands Dans Theater

# Many thanks to

## Partners



## Support





R D  
C C

A woman and a man are shown in dynamic, athletic poses. The woman is on the left, wearing a dark top and pants, in a crouched position. The man is on the right, shirtless and wearing dark pants, in a similar crouched position. They are positioned against a background that is split vertically by a color gradient: pink on the left and green on the right. The text 'see you next year? our sixth editon' is overlaid in white, lowercase letters.

see you  
next year?  
our sixth  
editon

20-22 june 2024