

NEW
PRODUCTION

THE REAL YOU

SPELLBOUND 
CONTEMPORARY BALLET

Choreographer Mauro Astolfi

Performers Anita Bonavida, Lorenzo Capozzi, Maria Cossu, Mario Laterza, Giuliana Mele, Mateo Mirdita, Alessandro Piergentili, Miriam Raffone, Martina Staltari

Music Various Authors

Light Design Marco Policastro

Costumes Anna Coluccia

A Spellbound production

supported by the Ministry of Culture

in collaboration with Dap Festival, Fuori Programma Festival and Civitanova Danza Festival.

National preview June 30th Dap Festival, July 5th Fuori Programma Festival

Premiere July 28th Civitanova Danza Festival

Duration 30'

PHOTOS

VIDEO

The real you is the construction of a space in which one can find an essential value, an immortal ideal reality. What can we put ahead of everything in our life to find out what we are or what we are not? Is it established that we exist as a scientific outcome universally accepted or maybe we can find an identity beyond the model constructed by those who have already planned our life? We study the community in which we live and we know better, trying not to get old surrounded by a multitude of theoretical perspectives. Deep inside, we look for the will to elude the rules establishing the way in which we should interpret our social life. We work hard to find our own order and our favourite conflict.

Mauro Astolfi

“Have you found out what you are? You are the house, the property, the bank account, the furniture, the carpet, the ideas, the quarrels, the pleasures, the despairs, the agony of one's own life, the contradictions, the revolt, the discontent, the lawn for something beautiful to happen. A life so lonely, isolated in which there is no relationship at all, in which there is no love, no beauty, no vastness, no space. That's what you are, and you want that to go on, and probably when you want to go on you will go on if you think it's worth it. And what is immortality, then? Then what is innocence? Can the mind that goes on in the routine, in weariness, in despair, in loneliness, with all the misery and confusion, can such a mind be innocent? Can such a mind be immortal? To die everyday to everything - and we mean to everything, to every pleasure, to every pain, to all the bitterness and cynicism - to die freely, happily to the past everyday which means never to accumulate. And the mind which is free, such a mind then is aware.”

- From a Krishnamurti public speech in Amsterdam on May 5th, 1969 -

Spellbound Contemporary Ballet was founded in 1994 by Artistic Director Mauro Astolfi and later joined by General Manager Valentina Marini. Together with Astolfi's unique artistic vision and Marini's expert drive of internationalization, the company is thriving as a maverick cornerstone of the global art community. With an unmistakable style, Spellbound is defined by a distinctly original language underpinned by an ensemble of technically and artistically excellent dancers. Spellbound Contemporary Ballet is the leading pillar of Italian Contemporary dance and has quickly become an international force touring intensively in Europe, Asia and America. Spellbound Contemporary Ballet forges the truss between audience, pre-professional and artist with a spine of 25 years of seminars, workshops and a creative legacy that has united thousands of dancers and spectators. It's multigenerational presence has grown a harmonious team of professionals capable of hosting large scale productions and project management with a strong vocation for internationalization. Spellbound's legacy, along with Astolfi's creations who play as resident choreographer, has given birth to a series of networked projects with today's leading international artists and institutions including: "Pa|Ethos" the cross cultural co-production by Tibetan choreographer Sang Jijia and Fabbrica Europa, Scuole Civiche Paolo Grassi, Marche Teatro, Beijing Dance Festival, "La Mode", installation by Tomoko Mukayama and Tojo Ito who inaugurated the National Taichung Theater in Taiwan in October 2016, the performance installation "Re-Mark" by choreographer Sang Jijia in a production network with Fondazione Fabbrica Europa, City Contemporary Dance Company Hong Kong, Versilia Danza, "Collapse" by Francesco Sgrò, the co-production in partnership with Grand Theater de Luxembourg in 2019 in collaboration with Jean Guillaume Weis, former artist at Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Baush, Spellbound 25 by Astolfi, Marcos Morau, Marco Goecke on the occasion of its 25th anniversary in 2020 and the recent "We, us and other games" by Dunja Jovic in collaboration with Bolzano Danza. Spellbound's activities have been supported by the Ministry of Culture for more than 25 years yet since 2022 it is proudly featured amongst the few accredited in the role of National Dance Production Centre with the larger project ORBITA|Spellbound co-directed by the two Astolfi and Marini. The vision towards becoming a Production Centre comes from the desire of Spellbound, which has been engaged in the production, training and seasoning of dance for over 25 years, to make this heritage available to a wider community: a production house that acts as a hinge between the creative resources existing in the Roman territory and the production chain on both national and international level. Conceived on the scale of a metropolitan city, Orbita finds its heart at the Palladium Theatre and branches out to other satellite spaces in the city, different in function and identity, such as the Teatro Biblioteca Quarticciolo and the Teatro Rossellini. The different functions of the Centre converge in the commitment to promote performance languages and dance that find in the dimension of the body, of the political, cultural and health subjectivities embodied in it, a field of exchange of practices, knowledge and skills with a social and political impact.

"An artfully evening of extraordinary dancing"

by Susan Fulks, Palm Beach Daily News U.S.A.

"If Spellbound were a car, it would be a Ferrari"

The Annenberg center of Performing Arts-Philadelphia U.S.A.

"...spellbinding."

By Donald Rosenberg, The Plain Dealer, Cleveland U.S.A.

"60 minutes of breath taking art of dance ..."

Sabine Rother, Letzte Aktualisierung, Germany

"Astolfi exhilarating choreography is a model of invention"

Janet Soares, Ballet Review U.S.A

"The troupe has an alien beauty to its movement that has become the touchstone of reputable contemporary dance. The performers are magnificent in appearance, and their technique is remarkable."

Susan Fulks, Palm Beach Daily News

"Dancers of such chameleon-like suppleness, they were not only spellbinding, but breathtaking."

Merilyn Jackson, The Philadelphia Inquirer

ORBITA
SPELLBOUND

Centro di Produzione Nazionale della Danza

SPELLBOUND CONTEMPORARY BALLET 

www.spellboundance.com

Pictures
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