

NEW
PRODUCTION

IF YOU WERE A MAN

SPELLBOUND 
CONTEMPORARY BALLET



Choreographer Mauro Astolfi

Performers Lorenzo Capozzi, Mario Laterza, Mateo Mirdita, Alessandro Piergentili

Music AAVV

Lighting design Marco Policastro

Costumes Anna Coluccia

A Spellbound production

Supported by the Ministry of Culture
co-production Attraversamenti multipli
and Armonie d'Arte Festival

Duration 21'

[VIDEO](#)

[PHOTOS](#)

If you were a man is a study for four men concerning a profound reprogramming of listening. If sounds produced by movements and breaths were decrypted in good time, so many things could be avoided, things could not happen and one could learn to listen properly to a silent body. The beauty of a silent conversation brings unexpected outcomes... even little noises or body strategies can be an early announcement of a coming conflict.

Spellbound Contemporary Ballet, produced by the Spellbound Association, was founded in 1994 specifically by the choreographer Mauro Astolfi who was joined two years later by Valentina Marini to help in management and under whose direction the company has begun a widespread international activity. Spellbound is today among the chosen Italian groups who are most competitive in an international context, acclaimed by the audiences of the most important European, Asian and American Festivals. Almost 30 years of professional experience has strengthened the knowhow of a consolidated team of professionals able to embrace projects they can produce and manage with an evident international vocation. Since 2015 the company has broadened its activities co-operating with other artists in production in a renewed pluralistic vision. Spellbound's activities in fact besides the core creations by the choreographer Mauro Astolfi, principle resident choreographer, include a series of online projects with other artists and institutions on an international level, such as the international co-production "Pa|Ethos" authored by the Tibetan choreographer Sang Jijia in collaboration with Fabbrica Europa, Scuola Civica Paolo Grassi, Marche Teatro, Beijing Dance Festival, "La Mode", an installation by Tomoko Mukayama and Tojo Ito which inaugurated the National Taichung Theater in Taiwan in October 2016, the installation performance "R e Mark" created by the choreographer Sang Jijia with Fondazione Fabbrica Europa, City Contemporary Dance Company Hong Kong, Versilia Danza, the project "Collapse" by Francesco Sgrò, the co-production in partnership with the Grand Theater de Luxembourg in 2019 in collaboration with Jean Guillaume Weis, previously an artist working with Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Baush, Spellbound 25 by Astolfi, Marcos Morau, Marco Goecke for the event of the 25th anniversary in 2020 and the recent "We, us and other games" by Dunja Jovic in collaboration with Bolzano Dance. Spellbound's work has been subsidized by the Ministry of Culture since 2000 and from 2022 it has been recognised for its role in National Production Center for Dance within the wider Project ORBITA|Spellbound co-directed by Astolfi and Marini. Spellbound, that for over 25 years has been involved in the areas of production, training, programming and circulation of dance conceived the idea of the Centre of Production due to their desire to make available their work experience to a wider community: a production centre that works as a link between the creative resources existing in the area of Rome and their productions on a national and international level. Designed for a metropolitan city Orbita has found its home in the Palladium theatre in Rome and extends its activities to other satellite venues in the city, diverse in function and identity, such as the Teatro Biblioteca Quarticciolo and the Spazio Rossellini. The different functions of the Centre come together in their commitment to promote the language of performance and dance which can be found in the body, in political, cultural and health issues that are embodied in them, an exchange of practises, knowledge and competences with effects on a social and political level.

"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

SPELLBOUND CONTEMPORARY BALLET

Artistic Director **Mauro Astolfi** - General Manager **Valentina Marini**

Technical director, lighting designer **Marco Policastro**

Coordinator and organizer **Mariagiovanna Esposito**

Administration office **Letizia Coppotelli, Noemi Massari**

Choreography assistant **Alessandra Chirulli**

Administrative and fiscal consultancy **Studio PMC**

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Centro di Produzione Nazionale della Danza

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CONTEMPORARY BALLET



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