



# overall project: @

Le Clair Obscur (Chiaroscuro) explore the questions revolving around the connection between Man and Machine. It focuses on the way information technologies and the Internet can alter Man's thoughts, social behavior, interactions and organization. Those changes manifest themselves in different ways, from a worldwide to a social level. They alter Man's intimacy as well as his biological and neuronal patterns.

\_@ attempts to question our own addictive relationship to the WEB and to technology :

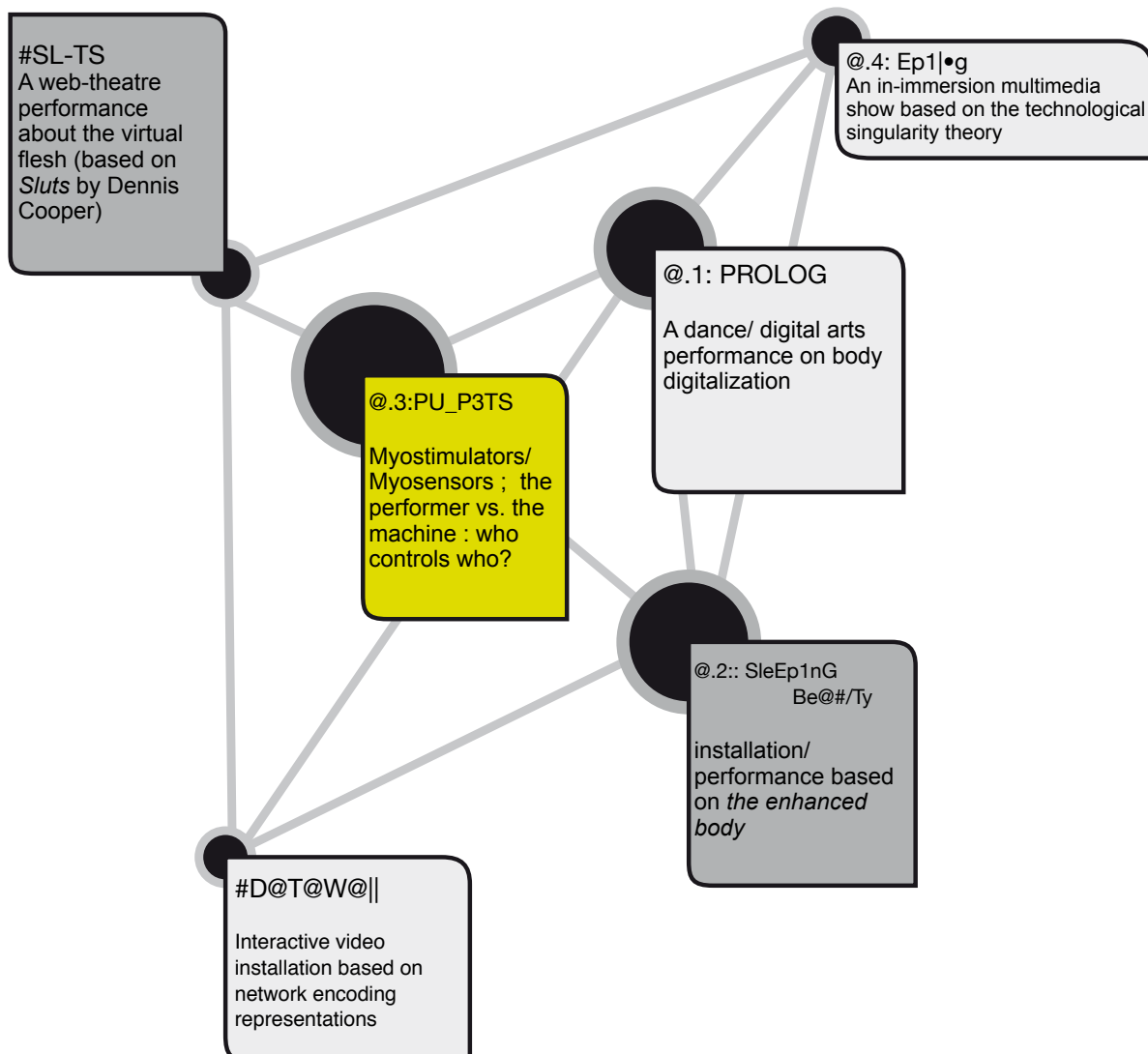
- what kind of social mutations does the WEB generate?
- what kind of mutations in our own bodies, our own brains?

\_@ is a work in progress, which is going on for several years and has generated different forms and modules : audiovisual shows, dance/virtual arts, web-theatre, performances, installations, labs, workshops, conferences, etc.

All those modules are part of the project's global architecture, as open questions answering one another.

\_in fine, the whole @ structure is going to be the audience's journey through all those different forms put together.

\_Each module explores a level of interaction between Man and Machine. Each of them has its own life and can be shown independently from each other.



**@.3:PU\_P3TS**

**Team :**

**Director :**

Frédéric DESLIAS

**Audio-Visual Conception :**

Fabrice PLANQUETTE

**Vidéo :**

NOHISTA

**Choregraphy :**

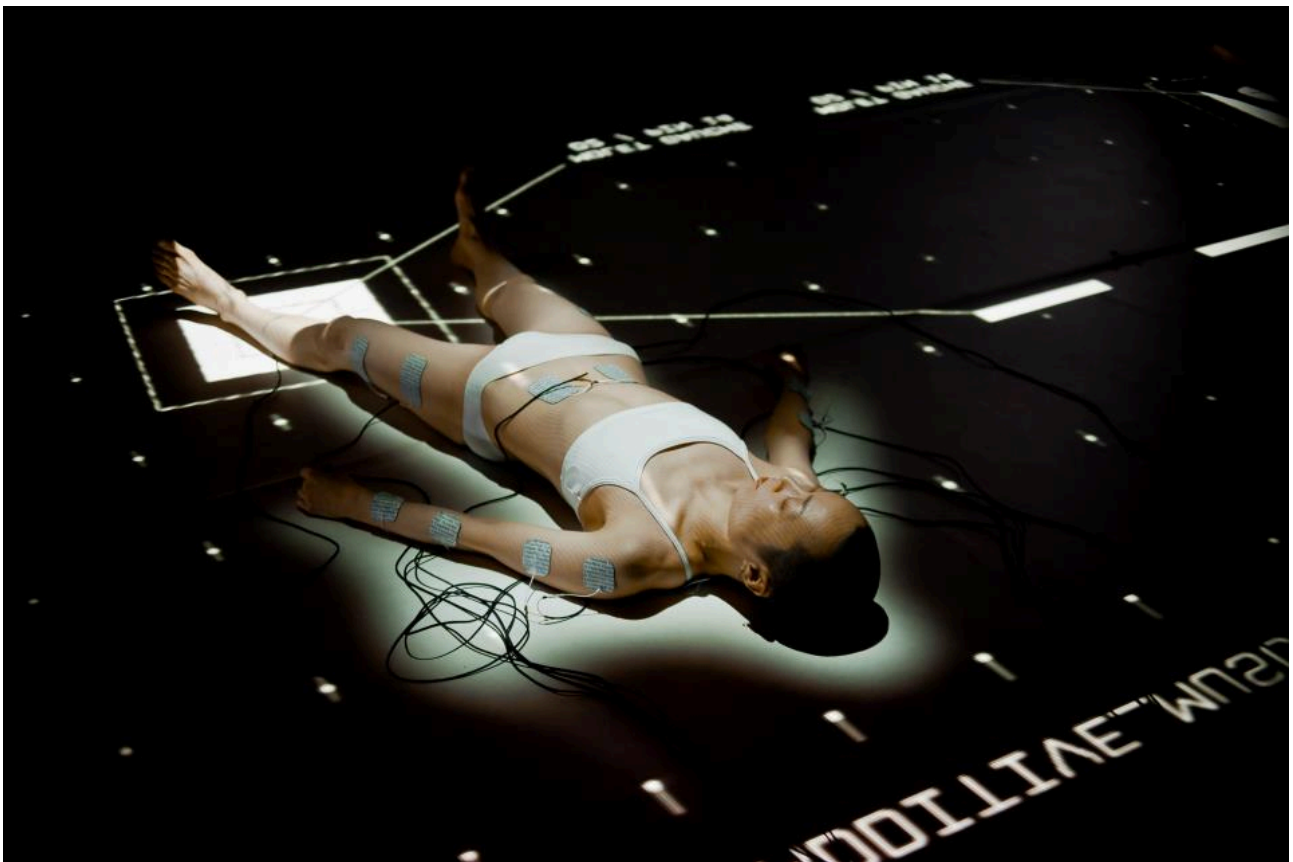
‘YUM’ KEIKO TAKAYAMA & JULIEN BÉZY

**Software / Hardware Developpement :**

Olivier GUILLERMINET // Fabrice PLANQUETTE // Armand AHMADI



Yum Keiko Takayama & Julien Bézy in @.3:Pu\_p3ts (prototype) at ésam Caen/Cherbourg nov.12\_ photo ©A.V.Wasselhove



Yum Keiko Takayama in @.3:Pu\_p3ts (prototype) at ésam Caen/Cherbourg nov.12\_ photo ©A.V.Wasselhove

## **@.3:PU P3TS**

a dance/digital art performance about the body connected

Le Clair Obscur continue its study of synaesthesia and cognitive fields in the living art, by the interaction / synchronization of multimedia tools to query on stage the place of being human in its environment, especially a digital environment that can surpasses it.

To go further, we are looking for unprecedented methods of communication between the computer and the dancer, which relay hearing and sight in the fields of sensitive feelings, to approach the tangible.

The myo-stimulators\* could open a new field of experimentation to relations between bodies / dance & technology: Bodies could literally be connected through by the sound...

The myo-stimulators (\* electro-muscular stimulators like Sportelec©) may increase the precision of interaction between the dancer and his environment, by a way that does not require necessarily passage by the brain to the movement: direct data to muscle . This principle does is not thereby exclusive... And do not impose liability to the body.

In return, EMG (electromyogram) may send us electrical activity of muscles in a way to control the device or to propagate, communicate in cascade, for example, between several dancers ...

This is our starting point.

Here we have the staging of a nervous system increased, a show like a muscle machine, all intrinsic, organic and digital The aesthetic frame of the performance is here : impulses, nerve, and still need to push the limits of cognitive fields. We implicitly questioning the limits of our own perception , and the ambiguous relationship between being contemporary with the digital environment, human-machine interfaces. Are we exponential bodies? Are we slaves?

After @.1:Prolog when the machine force to scan and disappear a body.

After @.2:SleepingBeauty, when in a absolute statism, we critically move the role of the bodies to a simple sensitive interface in the heart of Web 2.0 device.

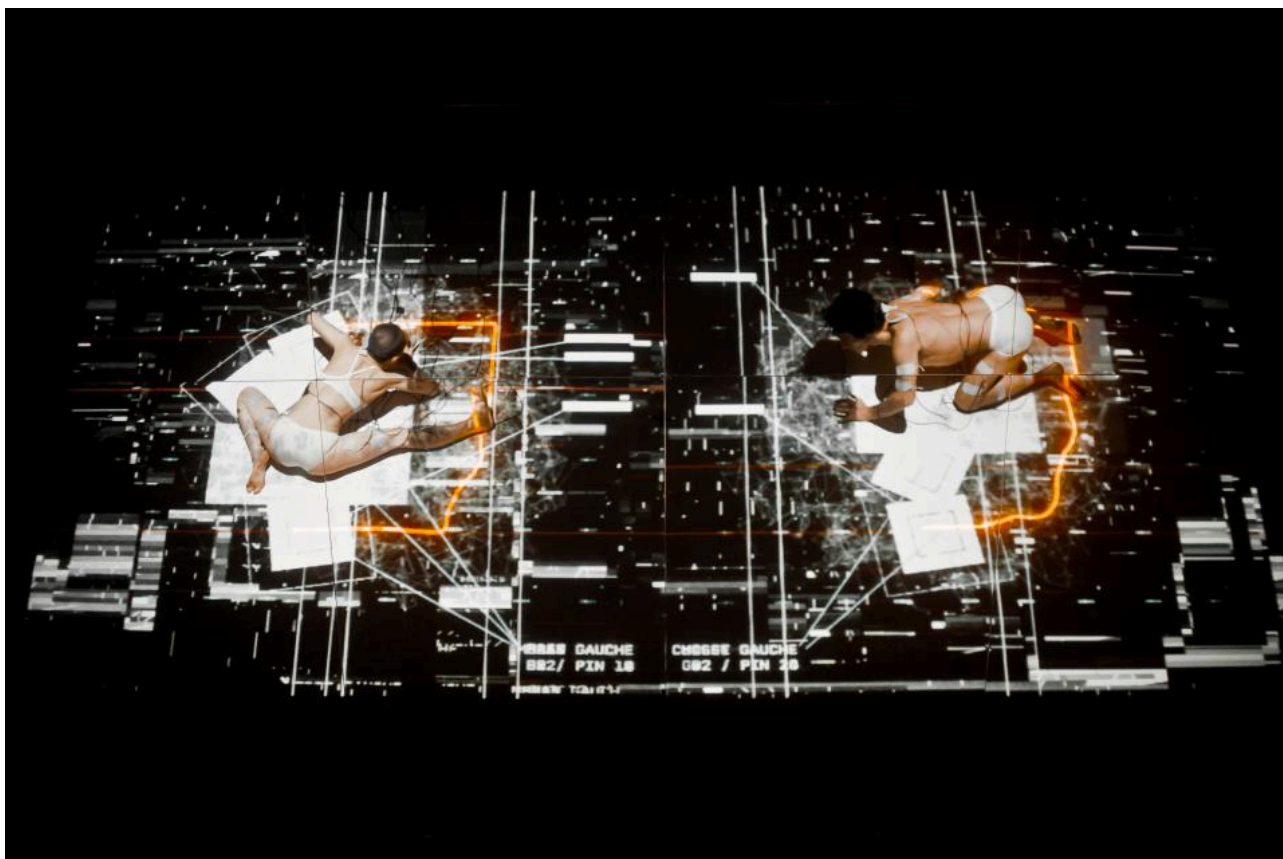
Here is the body, awoken, electrified, back to life, another kind of life.

### **\*Step\_uP // Pu\_petS\* :**

Here is captured, it always sends the signal, but to as, we do not know very well who is controlling whom. If the dancer is the puppet stimulated by the machine, or if it even takes the control of the device to interpret the signal. @.3, step by step, will come and go, and gradually seek to outwit this duality.

### **System :**

The dancers are lying on the floor on a video screen relayed to the public by a suspended mirror, so we see in the mirror bodies which evolve outside the laws of gravity, in a 3D video system, inside the interface. This is a dance/multimedia performance, but we are also working in a laboratory where most unlikely and disturbing we experiment on the body of human guinea pigs.

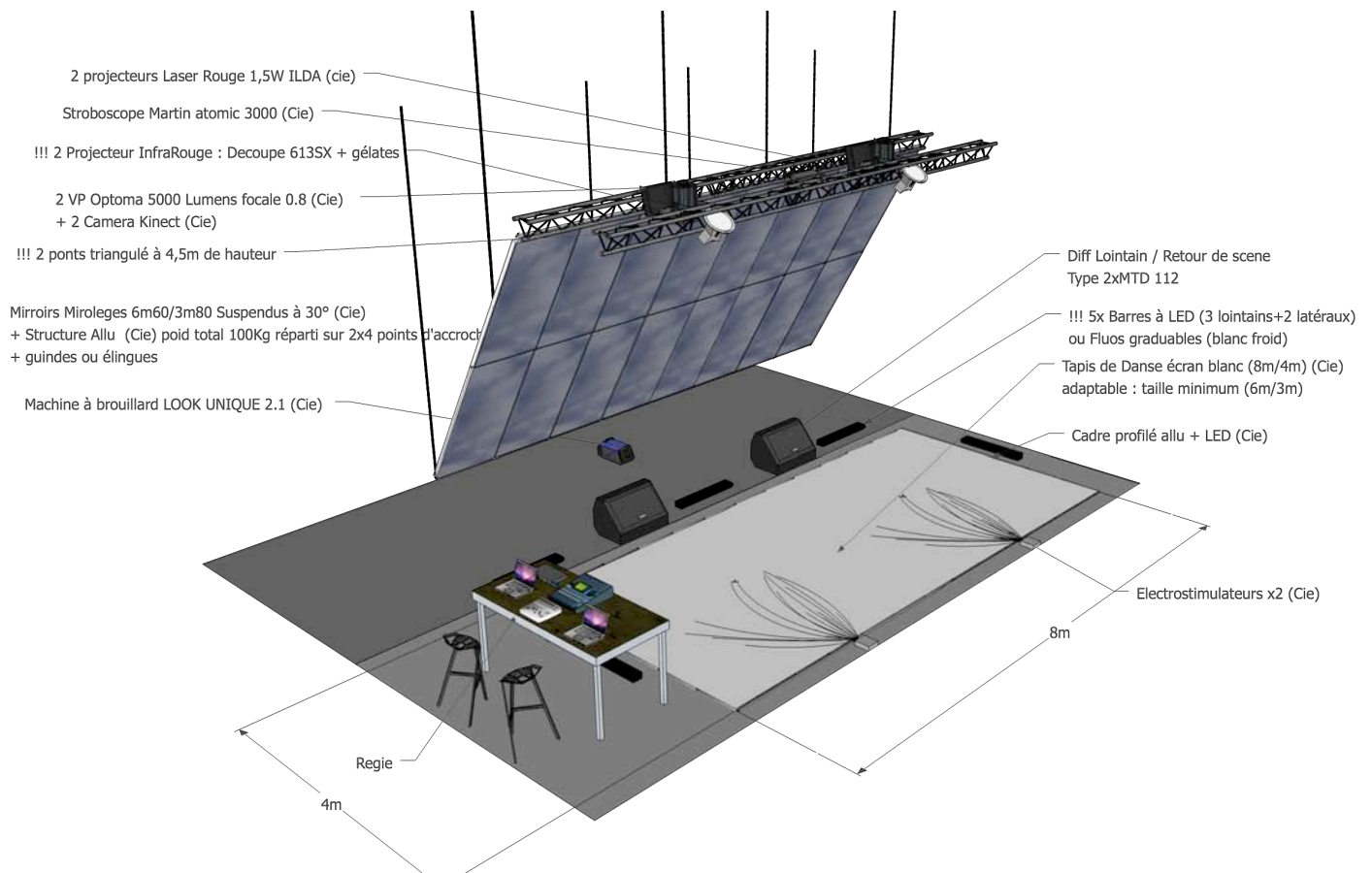


Yum Keiko Takayama & Julien Bezy in @.3:Pu\_p3ts (prototype) at ésam Caen/Cherbourg nov.2012\_ photo ©A.V.Wasselhove

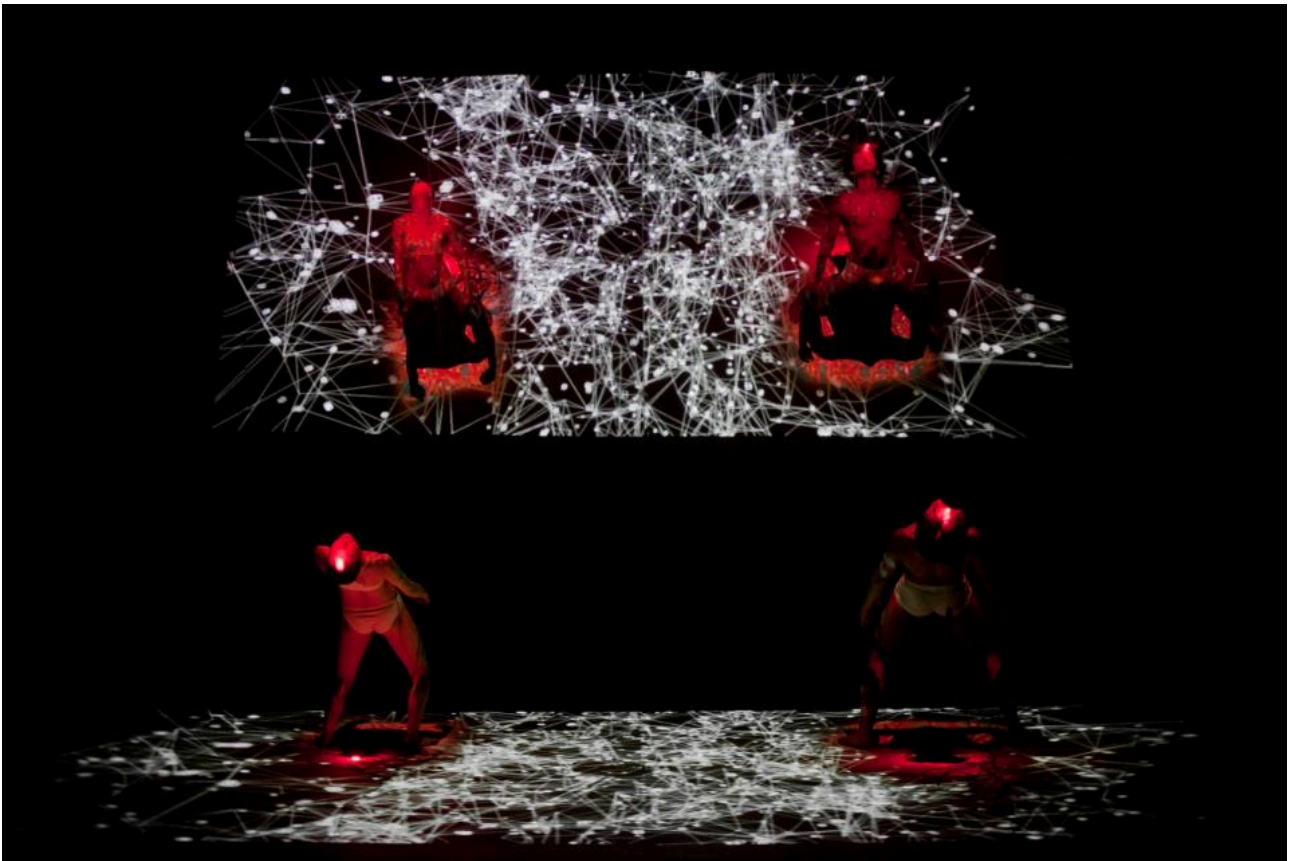


Julien Bezy in @.3:Pu\_p3ts (prototype) at ésam Caen/Cherbourg nov.2012\_ photo ©A.V.Wasselhove

## Scenography :







Yum Keiko Takayama & Julien Bezy in @.3:Pu\_p3ts (prototype) at ésam Caen/Cherbourg nov.2012\_ photo ©A.V.Wasselhove



Yum Keiko Takayama in @.3:Pu\_p3ts (prototype) at ésam Caen/Cherbourg nov.2012\_ photo ©A.V.Wasselhove



## LE CLAIR OBSCUR:

The multidisciplinary company is based in the “*Ateliers Intermédiaires*” in Caen, France. It brings together a group of artists working in visual and digital arts, sound artists, dancers, and actors. Together, they face the adversity of the stage experience. The company’s goal is to free itself of all labels attached to the “performing arts” world. One could define this venture as Total Art.

This experience started in 2001 in the art department of the university of Caen with a first creation “**Entre Intérieurs**” inspired by “Les Aveugles” (“The Blind”) by M.Maeterlink. It was noticed by the Normandy National Theater (CDN) then by the Jerzy Grotowski workcenter (Pontedera -Italie). From 2004 to 2006 the CDN supports the company both in training and in experimentation. This gave birth to **Panser/Agir – 1re tentative – 12 sorts des rams**. This lab sets up a collaboration between users of «la Boussole» (a homeless shelter in Caen) and the rest of the company through writing, video reports and active collective work on stage on a multi-media/theatrical set. Two of the homeless people employed by the company were then monitored by the group until their reintegration into society.

Since 2006 The Clair-Obscur devotes its time to small stage experimental and multimedia forms. 3 distinct *Prototypes* were created this way, around the text “Crave” by Sarah Kane: **ORATORIO, FAKE, HERMSELF**.

These projects have been sponsored by the «DMTDS», the «CDN» of Normandy, the National Theater «La Ferme du Buisson», the «National Choreographic Center of Normandy», the «Tannerie», the Normandy arts council and the «ODIA». these different pieces blend into each other in 2008 for the creation of MANQUE (sarah kane)-ELECTRONIC ORATORIO in the «ferme du buisson» a national stage in Marne la Vallée.

The group’s last creation is HERMSELF. I was shown in the Panta theater in Caen and in the Colombier (Paris ) in october and november 2009. This project was invited as a work in progress in the «Tannerie» in Barjols in 2007, in the CCN of Caen and in the Panta theater in 2009. It was selected in competition in the **LES BAINS NUMÉRIQUES FESTIVAL #5**, where it won the **Dance and New Technologies Grand Prix** in 2010.

HERMSELF was also staged at the Cda in enghien-les-Bains in November 2011.

(more infos on <http://www.leclairobscur.net>)

### Partners :



## Biography :

**Frédéric Deslias :: director :: musician** <http://leclairobscur.net>

Born in 1978 :: Pluri artist formed at Caen University in Performing Arts. He founded Le Clair Obscur he has headed since 2002. He works in the same time for other theatre or dance companies as a composer and sound designer (David Bobée, Eric Lacascade, Hela Fatoumi & Eric Lamoureux...) He also produced several soundtracks for movies and Cine-concert with the collective Purée Noire.

Formed in digital arts and programming in MAX/MSP at IRCAM, his work is progressively directed to interactive installations and sensory experiences.

He won with his last performance, HERMSELF, the *Dance and New Technologies Grand Prix* in Les Bains Numériques Festival 2010.

Also performs musico therapeutic installations participating in the sensory awakening of autisms.

**Fabrice Planquette :: composer :: software developer ::** <http://pan-etc.net/>

FP leads, in addition to its experimental musical projects, collaborations open to arts, poetry, sound, and video installations. He participated in the creation of theater and dance since 1997. He was awarded the villa Kujoyama (Kyoto, Japan) in 2006. Since 2007, he invited other artists in the group A.lter S.essio to create a series of performative works primarily in a close relationship between bodies / image / sound.

**NOHISTA/Bruno Ribeiro :: Audio-Visual Artist ::** <http://www.nohista.org/>

Bruno Ribeiro, aka Nohista is an audio-visual artist. Considering the hearing and sight as one and the same sense, indivisible, it plays images sampler as a musical instrument. In his audio-visual creation, he works on the themes of perception and illusion, creating immersive sensory performance. Director, designer and performer live Nohista is a member of label V-ATAK.

**Yum Keiko Takayama :: choreography :: dancer**

After studying classical ballet, modern and butoh, she developed a solo the performance work while participating in interdisciplinary collaborative projects (dance, theater, photography). As a member of the company Sennichimae Blue Sky Dance Club (neo-Butoh), she has danced in all the rooms on tour from 2000 to 2007 (Japan, Korea, France, USA, Canada, Chile). Her solo performances are also designed in non-theatrical spaces with a capacity of improvisation at galleries including presentations. Since 2007, she is part of A.lter S.essio as a choreographer, performer and costume designer. She conducts workshops for all ages.

**Julien Bézy :: choreography :: dancer**

After studying at the International Academy of Dance, under the supervision of Pierre-Yves Aubin Mey Ling Bisogno, Julien Bézy integrates the Toulouse Conservatory, specializing in contemporary dance. Meanwhile, he studied psychology and philosophy of art at the University of Toulouse Mirail. Subsequently, he learned and perfected the IALS in Rome and at The Place in London. It consolidates today by a regular ballet training under the auspices of Wayne Byars and Andrei Glegolski. As a performer, we have seen particularly in *When I close my eyes* Frédéric Jolivet, *Georgette* Ethnic Jazz Kala-Lobe or *Link* Stéphane Loras. He also worked as a soloist with Jazz Eric Castry, is currently a member of the theater company "Ariel and Fury" directed by Volchitza Cabrini. Professor of Contemporary Dance graduate status at the CND, he taught in various structures such as the Studio Harmonic, Conservatory Gagny or ADASE. Choreographer, he is now working with director and photographer Louis Vignat Berlin Project Sneezing.

## **Contact :**

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