L’Heure Bleue
L’heure bleue… *

*the grey-blue time just before dawn or nightfall

This hour when the day is turning to night, at twilight, when the ordinary turns into mysterious.

Time stands still; nature turns into silence, excites senses and opens up dreamlike moments. It is a short moment that disappears in a blink except if we focus on the birds’ song.

First of all, there is silence. A surprising silence. It is only when the animals stay quiet that we become aware of their presence. And then, we wait...

The waiting for other sounds, the ones of the night time which should appear in one moment...
...We are there.

The imagination overrode the reason.

The audience, disconnected from now on of its everyday life, perceives a melody. A soft, sensitive and captivating music.

The sound’s atmosphere hands over to trees and now the eyes act up: in the dancing shadows and in the transformed shapes, extraordinary creatures are appearing.
The audience is sitting down not around but in the centre of the scene under the canopy.

The audience is invited to curl up into straw nests and is invited to gazed at the dance that the creatures seem to repeat since the early days of the world.

The unusual characters with ethereal and celebrating bodies in motion are exalting the welcoming nature through circus’ arts.

The Smart Cie is offering an authentic travel between the reason’s and the imagination’s delight at the heart of nature during the grey-blue time.
At the beginning, the gathered audience is invited to a quick walk on an lightened path with solar lights in order to put up a smokescreen and to open their mind, senses and imagination.

Creation in situ, every performance is unique.

In order to make the audience travels away, we exalts Mother Nature and its shapes and contours...

The imageries : flying trapeze, duo dance lifts, juggling, aerial rig, hand to hand, climbing rope, static trapeze, balancing act, aerial rope.
Original idea and directing by: Pascale Lejeune

Artistic team:
Coretta Assié
Sebastien Brun
Christophe Carrasco
Damien Caufepé
Thibault Clerc
Emmanuel Dariès
Jérôme Martin
Sylvain Mège
Marc Pareti
Angelique Rebolledo
Sylvie Remond
Alexandra Schmitz
Nina Couillerot and Etienne Revenu or
Laure Sérié and Stéphane Dutournier
The Smart Cie has been founded in 1996 by Pascale Lejeune and Patrice Chatelier, circassian artists who came back from a training course of the Circus school of Montréal.
The creation and broadcasting of performances of new circus, the artistic and cultural education, the cultural coordination, the artistic design and technical direction of event of Circus are the fields of actions of the Cie.
Through its performances and since 20 years, the Smart Cie is examining forms and formats in order to maintain its space of liberty linked to the arts of circus. Since 2011, the face of the Cie is changing: around ten artists has joined it and has brought new energy in it.
The Smart Cie is committed to the issue of artistic and cultural education. It brings answers to it through cultural coordination and awareness and cultural projects in schools. It interrogates the meaning and the consistency of the creation and artistic and cultural education.
As designer, it creates and lead events linked to the circus. For example "Queyries fait son Cirque" with the Centre d'Animation Bastide Queyries from 2003 to 2007 and since 2017 and "Un Chapiteau en Hiver" in collaboration with the CREAC of Bègles since 2012.
The Smart cie is falling within an approach of artistic and cultural development while sustaining the professional and the amateur practice, within an approach of cultural democracy guaranteeing the access of audiences to the performances and cultural democratisation by facilitating the access to the performances to an large audience.

The Cie is sustained by DRAC Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Region Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Oara, the departement of Gironde, iddac, the city of Bordeaux and the city of Bègles.

Performances
Complice(s), creation 2019
La balade circassienne, creation 2017
Il N’est Pas Trop Tard, creation 2017
Ay-Roop ! Conversations circassiennes, creation 2011
Custom made performance with aerials
Fixed format
Duration: 105 min

Performance by the end of the day. In parks, forests...

The aerial structures and natural and hook are set in the respect of the environment and guarantee the security of the audience and of the artists. The aerial moments allow a perfect visibility.

Arrival J-1
Setting /rehearsals : 8h
Disassembly : 3h

Equipment brought by the compagnie :
Setting of the structures adapted to the space
1 crossbar, 2 shroud poles (6 pliers 1m) ; H 8m, spaces of anchorage 16x16m
2 crossbar autonomous tripods ; H 7m, space at the ground 6x6m
1 crossbar aerial quadripod autonomous ; H 4,50m, space at the ground 3x4m
1 trailer for the set 7m x 5m
Sound Table
Speakers

Technical manager Patrice CHATELIER  +336 28 49 67 58
Technical needs:
Speakers for the audience
Lights: LED

- 6 HORIZIODES/CYCLIODES
- 6 PC 1000W+PF
- 2 PC 650W+PF
- 20 PAR64 CP62+PF (Led)
- 10 PAR56 +PF
- 11 mounting plates
- 1 length DMX 50
- 2 blocs 32A
- 1 light rack of 24 memories
- 1 P17 63A tri
- Dimmers 6 circuits 32A
- Extension cables
- Pods for lights...

This technical needs has to be confirmed after seeing the space where the performance will be set.

Reception:
Dressing rooms in the area with catering (water, fruits, snacks...)
Toilets, showers near by the area of the performance.
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Photos : Benoît Martrenchar