

Culture for Friends

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THE INTERNATIONAAL DANSTHEATER, AMSTERDAM, CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF UNIQUE PERFORMANCES



Photo by: Anna van Kooij.

International repertoire of world class music and dance

The Internationaal Danstheater, Amsterdam, the Netherlands, celebrates its 50th anniversary this year with the jubilee performance *Puur-Barbaars* (Purely-Barbaric). A fitting moment to pause for reflection on the company's past achievements, but above all on its future prospects. The Internationaal Danstheater celebrates its golden jubilee in the 2011/2012 season. The company has amassed a wealth of choreographies, musical instruments, costumes and other dance-related collectibles from all over the globe in the course of the past 50 years. It will be opening this treasure-house to the public for the first time on 13 December 2011, during the premiere of the jubilee performance *Puur-Barbaars*, at the Lucent Danstheater, The Hague. The Internationaal Danstheater in Amsterdam is a global phenomenon in the field of dance. It is the only professional dance company in the world to offer an international repertoire of music and dance from all corners of the globe. Many professional dancers and renowned choreographers have contributed to fascinating performances on the stage of the Internationaal Danstheater during the past 50 years. Names like Koen Brouwers, Roemjana de Haan, Harry Piekema and Muhanad Rasheed have left an unforgettable impression on audiences. The Internationaal Danstheater introduces audiences to the cultural richness of different peoples in an appealing way. While respecting the heritage of the past, the theatre aims at creating innovative art by working together with contemporary, renowned artists with a wide range of experience and

The home of the Internationaal Danstheater at Kloveniersburgwal 87 in Amsterdam has been transformed into a vibrant centre for world-wide dance. The company started the jubilee season on 28 August 2011 on a festive note, by opening an in-house exhibition. A variety of artists will be given the opportunity of displaying their work. The first of the planned series of exhibitions will include photos, textile paintings, sculptures and paintings by Theo de Feyter, Nicole Ladrak, Olaf Zalcman, Marleen van Dijk, Frank Verhagen and



Adelaarsdans (Eagle's dance) from the performance Niëllo.
Photo by: Robert Benschop.

50 dancers rehearsing for the 2011/2012 jubilee season



2011 - Lucent Danstheater, The Hague, Netherlands

Puur-Barbaars in World Premiere on 13 December

In order to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Internationaal Danstheater, Jos Groenier, winner of the Fentener van Vlissingen Award 2007 (and director of the production *Niëllo* put on to mark the company's 45th anniversary), was invited to put together an energetic production linking past and present. The result was *Puur-Barbaars* (Purely-Barbaric), in which the Internationaal Danstheater embodies the confrontation between young and old, between innovation and tradition. Young dancers react to renewal and tradition on the basis of their own cultural background.

Why does dance move us? Dance is pure, dance is emotion, dance is culture. Dance is speech without words. *Puur-Barbaars* is a voyage of discovery, an attempt to trace the essence of movement and rhythm. Rhythm is age-old and yet eternally new. Rhythm is pure. Rhythm is barbaric. *Puur-Barbaars* is a colourful mix of motifs from fifty years of the Internationaal Danstheater, translated to the present day. Group numbers, traditional folk dance and contemporary choreography.

Choreographers: Lonneke van Leth, Alida Dors, Ezequiel Sanucci. Directed by: Jos Groenier. Concept: Jos Groenier. Idea: Maurits van Geel and Jos Groenier. Music: Hans Visser. Photo by: Anna van Kooij/Frank Verhagen.

Henna - Tot de dood ons scheidt - Till death do us part World Premiere 17 March 2012 - Theater Bellevue, Amsterdam, Netherlands

After the success of *Mourning*, which won the Zwaan award for the most impressive dance production of 2010, Muhanad Rasheed is working with the Internationaal Danstheater in the 2011/2012 season. Just as in *Mourning* the choreographer stays close to home, and his personal emotions and experiences from his home country of Iraq form the source of inspiration for this performance. *Henna* displays the rituals of life and marriage. *Henna* shows the positive side of life, but points out that these happy moments can have consequences too. *Henna* is all about choices and their impact on our life. These effects are inevitable, because they are rooted in the traditions of the culture in which you grew up. The rituals of Iraqi marriage are not simply reproduced in the performance. Instead, Rasheed uses movement, traditions and ideas to create a dreamlike mood, allowing the audience as it were to get inside the head of the wedding guests. What is shown, is a memory of the event, in which emotions are processed through the medium of dance. Choreography and lighting: Muhanad Rasheed. Photograph: Henk Jan Kamerbeek. Concept: Muhanad Rasheed and Duraid Abbas.





INTERNATIONAAL DANSTHEATER

50 JAAR WWW.INTDANSTHEATER.NL



Corine Akkermans, costumes coordinator:



"The special thing about the Danstheater in my eyes is the wealth of fantastic costumes it has collected. These costumes all tell a story about different cultures from all over the world. I love seeing all those wonderful materials from close up, and running my hands over them. You never stop learning."

The Internationaal Danstheater in Amsterdam does not live in an ivory tower. It is true to its origins and works with passion to interpret the ideas of inspiring dance-makers.

EDUCATION

Ever since it was founded in 1961, the Internationaal Danstheater has regarded it as one of its most important tasks to develop educational activities and to introduce as many young people as possible to world dance. The company puts on school performances at all kinds of venues such as school halls, gymnasiums and cultural centres. The dancers of the Internationaal Danstheater come from many different countries. They communicate with their young audiences through the universal medium of dance. The performances are based on dance material from all corners of the globe and are designed to appeal to audiences from the age of 8 years, giving the young spectators an impression of the rich cultural (and dance) heritage of different peoples in an easily accessible way that is tailored to their own knowledge of the world. For many of the children concerned, a performance by the Internationaal Danstheater is their first introduction to the world of the theatre in general and of dance in particular.

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Sophie Lambo, general director:



"What makes the Internationaal Danstheater special for me is the openness to other peoples and their culture

that you experience here. The dance repertoire is as diverse and colourful as the world itself. Every member of the company is fully committed, and works with heart and soul on the performances we present."

A GOOD TRANSLATION ADDS A TOUCH OF CLASS!

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