



ZFINMALTA, NATIONAL DANCE COMPANY,
UNDER THE ARTISTIC DIRECTION OF
PAOLO MANGIOLA, IS A TALENTED
AND ADAPTABLE DANCE ENSEMBLE
WITH A DIVERSITY OF CREATIVE VOICES
REFLECTING THE MANY INFLUENCES
THAT FORM TODAY'S MALTA.

Every season programme brings audiences a new experience of dance. All our productions, education and participation programmes, and online activities, push boundaries and engage the best local and international choreographers, dancers, and artists.

Established in 2014, the Company is one of the country's leading public cultural organisations, at the forefront of Malta's contemporary art scene. ŻfinMalta provides a space for artists to develop and take risks, contributing to an open and expansive dance ecology in Malta and internationally, and providing opportunities for aspiring, emerging and established dance professionals to realise their potential.

Our work invites audiences to contemplate and question our contemporary world, with the ambition to enrich the lives of all who interact with the company – audiences, collaborators and participants alike.







ZFINALTA

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DANCES FOR GOZO / **Kalypso**, choreography by Jacob Piccinino, and **Nuova Figura**, choreography by Paolo Mangiola

FILM: A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM / Choreography by Sergiu Matis

WEAVING CHAOS / Choreography by Tânia Carvalho

ŻFINDAYS DOUBLE BILL / Ochre, choreography by Georgia Tegou, and How to destroy your dance, choreography by Francesca Pennini, CollettivO CineticO

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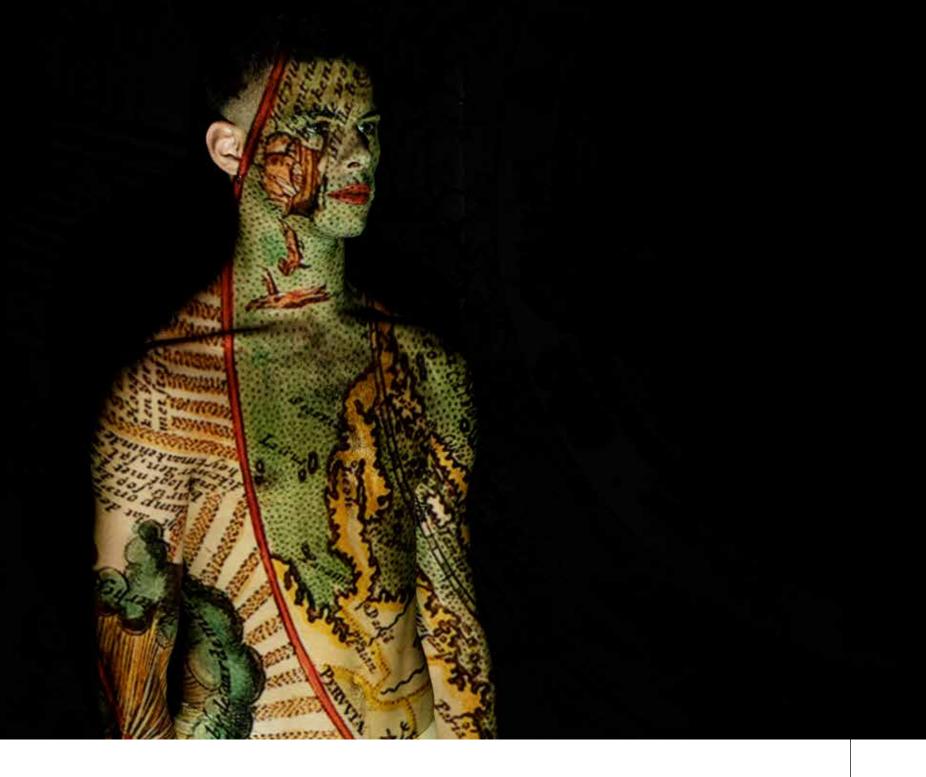
DEVELOPING DRAMATURGICAL SKILLS / A course for cultivating dramaturgical practice in dance and movement in Malta

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DANCES FOR GOZO

DATES & TIME: 2 OCTOBER 2021, 20:00 VENUE: AURORA THEATRE, GOZO

The season kicks off in Gozo with an evening of dance featuring two works – the re-staging of Jacob Piccinino's *Kalypso*, and *Nuova Figura*, by Artistic Director Paolo Mangiola, both with strong artistic links to the island's cultural heritage and mythology.

KALYPSO JACOB PICCININO

Kalypso seeks refuge after being exiled by her own people. Lost at sea, the waves bring her adrift to an uncharted peninsula inhabited by mythical dwellers. Her presence becomes a colonizing force on the islet and its inhabitants. She promises fertility in return for their servitude and devotion. Tampering with the harmony of this clan, Kalypso triggers a string of accidents that imperil the fate of this land.

Created by Maltese choreographer Jacob Piccinino, for ŻfinMalta, *Kalypso* is a performance about human shame and how its associated guilt drives people to act out in unimaginable ways. It is also about compassion (or the lack thereof) between men and women, and the power struggles that can lead to brutal tension within societies.

NUOVA FIGURA PAOLO MANGIOLA

A work inspired by Antonio Saliba's celestial map of the universe, held in the collection of Heritage Malta.

Paolo Mangiola is a choreographer, dance educator and performer working within ballet and contemporary dance practices. Operating in the interstices between codified dance and ordinary movement, Paolo is interested in exploring this relationship in the context of our interconnected society, drawing inspiration from various artistic sources, the web, and emerging movements. Paolo has created works for the Royal Ballet, Tanztheater Nürnberg, Aterballetto, Szczecin Opera Ballet and Balletto di Roma. He was appointed Artistic Director of ŻfinMalta, Malta's national dance company in 2017.

 $This\ dynamic\ double-bill\ has\ been\ specially\ commissioned\ and\ funded\ by\ the\ Ministry\ for\ Gozo.$

BOOKINGS: showshappening.com / **DURATION:** 1 hour with interval / **AGE:** 5+





PRODUCTION TEAMS

Choreography: Jacob Piccinino
Original score: Alex Vella Gregory
Sound design: Kristopher Chahda
Light design: Moritz Zavan Stoeckle
Costumes & mask maker: Julien Cassou

Choreography: Paolo Mangiola in collaboration with the dancers Set design: Jacob Saliba Original score: INSYK Collective Dramaturg: Thomas Schaupp Light design: Moritz Zavan Stoeckle Costumes: Jeandor Farrugia





Created by choreographer Sergiu Matis for ŻfinMalta, A Midsummer Night's Dream is ŻfinMalta's first cinema release. When you are looking for more indoor activities this October, don't miss the experience of ŻfinMalta National Dance Company on the big screen.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2021, 19.30 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2021, 17.30 TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2021, 19.30

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2021, 18.30

Matis's rendition of Shakespeare's play adapts its principal themes of obsessive love, nature, and the mystical to our time, bringing in the new themes of climate change, feminism, and the colonialist, capitalist west. In this Midsummer Night's Dream no one laughs at trivial erotic turbulences anymore. What do we laugh at in the post- apocalypse? As another midsummer is approaching and the heatwave ignites random bonfires, the wind scatters the ashes on the remaining tree stumps, and in the glaring flames the charred forests magically sparkle, as if enchanted. During the night, the heat is bearable. But no one sleeps, they venture out of their bunkers to admire the spectacle of flames. Walking on fire is an old ritual for cleansing – now

Sergiu Matis is a Romanian choreographer living and working in Berlin. He often uses science-fiction or dystopian scenarios as points of departure for his movement scores. They enable reimagining and reorganising the body towards new intensities and extremes, making visible an exaggerated version of the bodies of the present.

TICKETS: www.kreattivita.org / DURATION: 90 minutes / AGE: 10+

Props: Claudio Apap Light design: Andrew Schembri, Late Interactive Videography: Eusebio Aquilina



WEAVING CHAOS

DATES & TIME: 3/4/5 DECEMBER 2021, 20:00

VENUE: TEATRU MANOEL

Working with the Portuguese choreographer Tânia Carvalho, one of Europe's most important choreographers today, ŻfinMalta's company dancers perform the highly acclaimed work *Weaving Chaos*. Homer's *Odyssey* is the driving force behind this piece, which summons its dancers to interpret the stubbornness, the pain, and the will of the epic hero returning home. Between the show of individuality of a character and their presence or dissolution in a collective, the tireless search for movement remains, and they fall, in order to rise again.

Tânia Carvalho's career as a choreographer spans over 20 years and includes works for the Lyon Opera Ballet, the Company of Elders in London, the National Ballet of Portugal, the Paulo Ribeiro Company, Dançando com a Diferença, and Ballet National de Marseille, among many others. Her work also encompasses music, drawing and film.

Supported by the Embassy of Portugal in Rome and Camões I.P.

BOOKINGS: booking.teatrumanoel.com.mt / **DURATION:** 1 hour / **AGE:** 12+





PRODUCTION TEAM

Choreography: Tânia Carvalho
Assistant choreographer: Luís Guerra
Music: Ulrich Estreich
Original light design: Zeca Iglésias
Light design in Malta: Moritz Zavan Stoeckle
Light Scenography: Jorge Santos
Costumes: Aleksandar Protic
Photography: Margarida Dias



ŻFINDAYS – DOUBLE BILL

DATES & TIME: 18/19/20 FEBRUARY 2022, 20:00

VENUE: VALLETTA CAMPUS THEATRE

An annual programme of short works by choreographers currently in the spotlight on the international dance stage.

OCHRE GEORGIA TEGOU (Athens/London)

Choreographer Georgia Tegou meets ŻfinMalta National Dance Company to create a new work traversing history and memory, ancient wisdom and mysticism. *Ochre* is an ode to the Venus of Malta and the catacombs in which she was found, and an attempt to unveil the mystery surrounding her ascension to light. The work follows the Sleeping Lady's journey from the moment she was unearthed, taken from her underground home, put through the conservation process, and finally placed on display in a dark gallery on her own. It traces the steps of a female figure coming to life, leading us through her movement in a transitory, in-between space.

Georgia Tegou is a choreographer, creative director, and performer. She approaches dance as design, blurring the boundaries of dance and movement with other visual and spatial arts including architecture, sculpture, fashion and visual art. Her work has been presented by Arts Council England, Onassis Stegi, Dance Umbrella Festival, and The Whitechapel Gallery, among others. She has choreographed two music videos for Róisín Murphy. Georgia is currently an artist in residence at Somerset House Exchange and works as a lecturer in dance at University of Roehampton in London.

HOW TO DESTROY YOUR DANCE

FRANCESCA PENNINI / COLLETTIVO CINETICO (Italy)

Francesca Pennini's *How to destroy your dance* is firmly rooted in the present. Both a choreography and a game, it sets out to explore the limits of the body and create a handbook for the boycott of every choreographic decorum, through impossible acceleration and extreme slow-motion.

How long is one minute? What are the limits of the body? How much can it slow down to reach the most cosmic stillness, or lose its definition and then turn into an ultra-fast wake? How to destroy your dance is a challenge against time with pulp tones and ludic taste. A massacre game with no fiction and no sparing, where dancers become wrestlers of relativity and the show gets stripped down by the intimate rituals of preparation and the destruction of any form of formal artifice. ColletivO CineticO is an experimental performing arts group founded in 2007 by the choreographer Francesca Pennini. Their work crosses genders and codes, bends the rules of the performative event, challenges the relationship with audiences, and occupies the interstices between dance, theatre and the visual arts. The group has been presented in Austria, Belgium, Bosnia, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, United Kingdom, Czech Republic, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, and Taiwan.

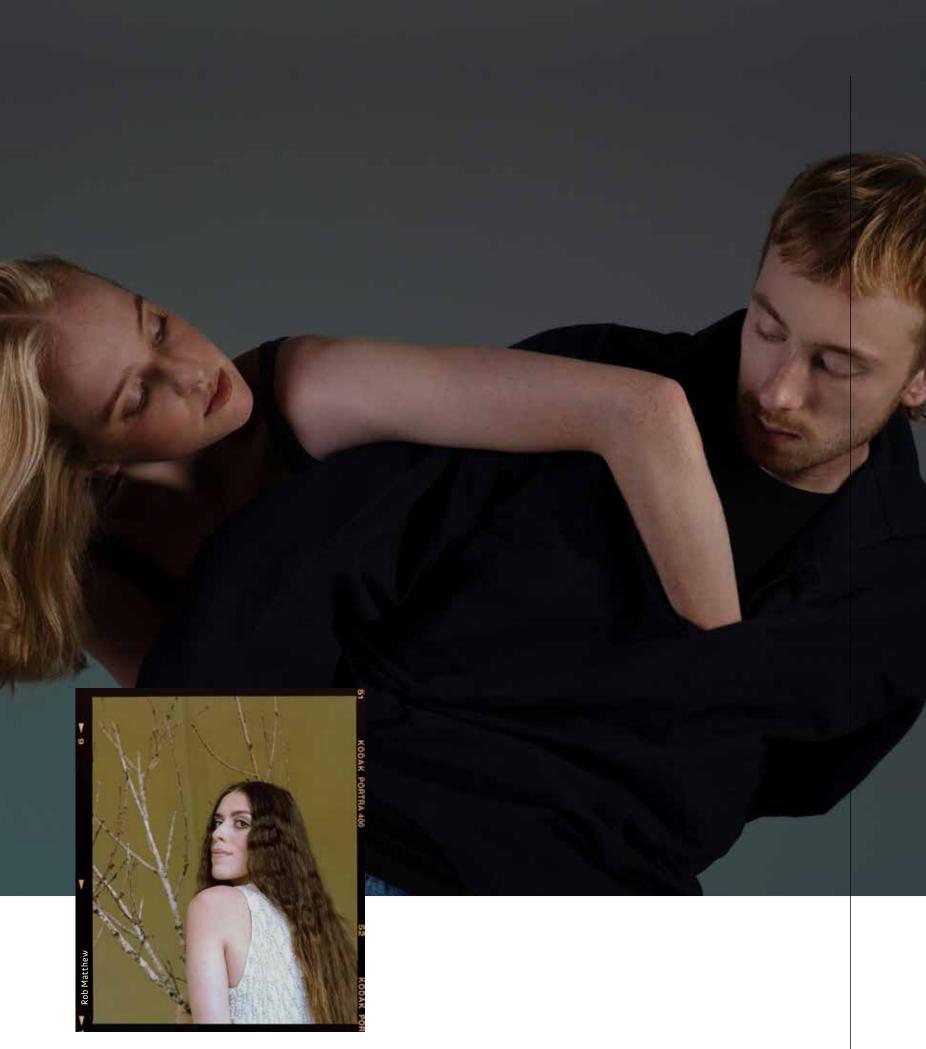
Supported by the Italian Institute of Culture in Malta.

BOOKINGS: www.zfinmalta.org / DURATION: 1 hour with interval / AGE: 5+



PRODUCTION TEAMS
Choreography:
Georgia Tegou
Set & costume design:
Andrew Borg Wirth
Original score: Liran Donin
Light design:
Moritz Zavan Stoeckle

Choreography:
Francesca Pennini
Dramaturg & technical
manager: Angelo Pedroni
Production manager:
Carmine Parise
Music:
Wolfgang Amadeus
Mozart reloaded
Light design:
Moritz Zavan Stoeckle
Costumes: Holly Knowles



INTIMATE ŻFIN

DATES & TIME: 26/27 MARCH 2022, 20:00

VENUE: PALAZZO PARISIO

Intimate Żfin is a new initiative of ŻfinMalta where music meets dance in one of Malta's beautiful and historically resonant spaces. Intimate Żfin is an opportunity to see the company's extraordinary dancers up close in a series of choreographic miniatures created by ŻfinMalta's artistic director Paolo Mangiola. For this inaugural event ŻfinMalta partners with Malta's celebrated singer and musician Alexandra Alden and her band from Rotterdam. In a collaboration with Palazzo Parisio, Intimate Żfin unfolds through a series of dance sketches, creating a dialogue between the choreography, music, and lavish surrounds of the Palazzo Parisio ballroom.

Supported by Palazzo Parisio.

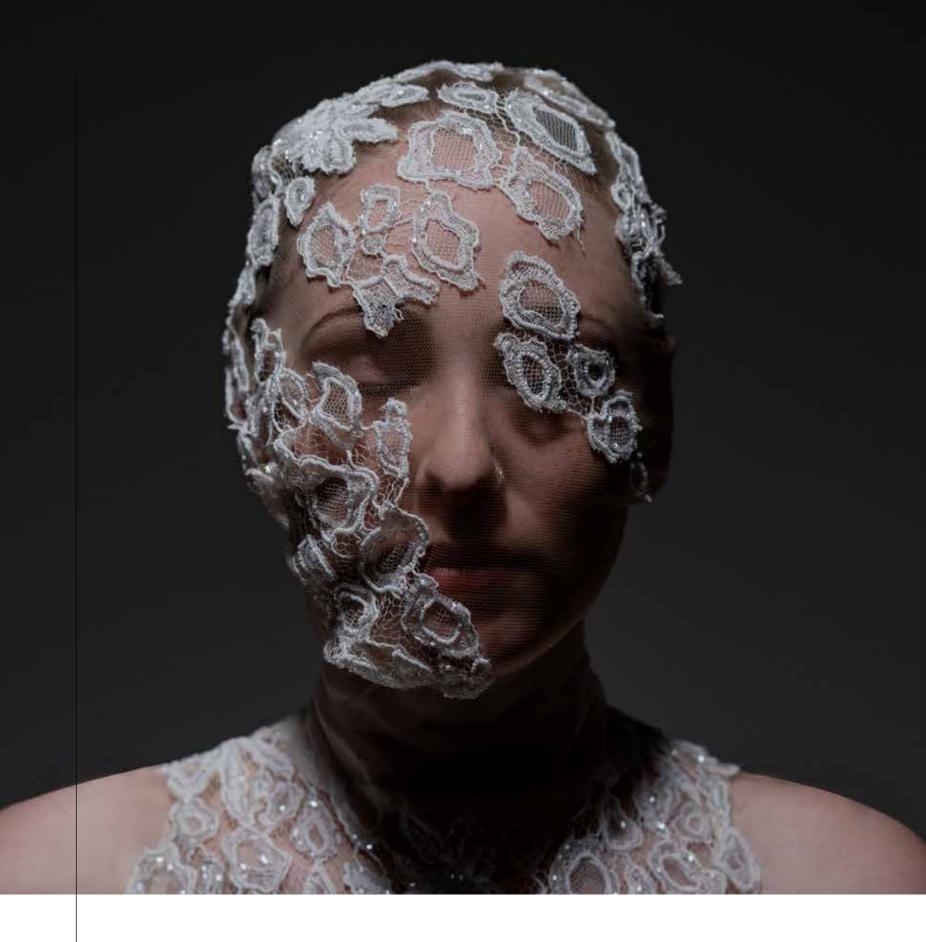
BOOKINGS: www.zfinmalta.org / **DURATION:** 1 hour / **AGE:** 5+



PALAZZO PARISIO

PRODUCTION TEAM

Choreography: Paolo Mangiola in collaboration with the dancers Music: Alexandra Alden - vocals and acoustic guitar; Daniel Van Der Duim - keyboards, backing vocals and samples; Mees Siderius - drums; Jurriaan De Kok - acoustic and electric bass; Jimmy Bartolo - electric guitar and effects Light design: Moritz Zavan Stoeckle Costumes: Julia Boikova



REQUIEM FOR JULIET

DATES & TIME: 27/28/29 MAY 2022, 20:00 VENUE: VALLETTA CAMPUS THEATRE

O me! This sight of death is as a bell, That warns my old age to a sepulchre. (Lady Capulet)

Requiem for Juliet is Riccardo Buscarini's take on William Shakespeare's 1597 play, Romeo and Juliet. Commissioned for ŻfinMalta, Requiem for Juliet stands as a sequel to the story narrated in Shakespeare's most famous tragedy. In this work, the narrative is relived as an imaginary letter to the deceased Juliet from her bereaved mother, who is represented by an actress on stage throughout. Love and grief, gender roles, religion and power, are central themes in the play and in this adaptation. Buscarini's choreography is intertwined with voice-over text written for this work and inspired by the original play.

Riccardo Buscarini is an award-winning choreographer and artist with an interdisciplinary approach to choreography. Highlights of his career include The Place Prize 2013, MAM-Maroc Artist Meeting in Marrakech, collaborations at Summerhall (Edinburgh) and the London Festival of Architecture (2016 and 2019). Silk, re-staged by ŻfinMalta in 2019, was created for Chelyabinsk Contemporary Dance Theater (Russia) and awarded a Golden Mask 2018. He regularly teaches and mentors in dance in Italy, the UK, Malta, Spain, Croatia, Sweden, Cyprus and Russia.

Supported by the Italian Institute of Culture in Malta.

BOOKINGS: www.zfinmalta.org / **DURATION:** 70 minutes / **AGE:** 5+



PRODUCTION TEAM

Choreography: Riccardo Buscarini
Dramaturg: Mauro Barbiero
Original score: Alessandro Baldessari
Light design: Moritz Zavan Stoeckle
Costumes & set design: Luke Azzopardi



SUNRISE MASS DATES & TIME: 19 JUNE, 05:15 VENUE: MNAJDRA TEMPLES, QRENDI

Sunrise Mass is a collaboration between ŻfinMalta, KorMalta, and Heritage Malta in a site-specific work at the Mnajdra Temples in Malta. The work centres around Ola Gjeilo's renowned 'Sunrise Mass', written for a chorus and string orchestra.

BOOKINGS: www.zfinmalta.org / DURATION: 1 hour / AGE: 5+





PRODUCTION TEAM

Choreography: Paolo Mangiola in collaboration with the dancers Choir Ensemble: KorMalta Original score: Sunrise Mass by Ola Gjeilo **Live musicians:** String Orchestra & SATB a cappella choir







CREATIVE MOVEMENT RESIDENCIES

ZfinMalta's education and participation programme aims to enthuse and motivate children in the classroom by providing tailor-made, week-long workshops for students of all ages and backgrounds, which draw from the company's current season repertoire and one-off creative movement workshops.

Led by ŻfinMalta's professional, highly skilled, and versatile company dancers, these residencies reflect the National Dance Company's unique approach to the choreographic process and provide a platform to teach the fundamentals of creating movement. Participants also get to experience what it means to work with dance professionals through participation in a final presentation.

Creative Movement Workshops are conducted in schools by ŻfinMalta's Education and Outreach Artist together with the company dancers, under the guidance of the Artistic Director Paolo Mangiola.

Send proposals and requests to collaborate with ŻfinMalta on a Creative Movement Residency to: Martina Zammit, Education & Outreach Artist: martina.d.zammit@zfinmalta.mt



3Ws

DATES: JANUARY TO MARCH 2022

The 3Ws is a roadshow promoting the safe use of Internet, through dance. Presented in three chapters, this full-length dance theatre performance promotes awareness of certain dangers which have become pervasive in Internet usage today.

Addressing issues such as Privacy and the Digital Footprint, Grooming, and Cyber Bullying, The 3Ws, choreographed by Jacob Piccinino with the ŻfinMalta dancers, combines seriousness and comedy to highlight these very current cyber situations and threats. A collaboration between BeSmartOnline! and ŻfinMalta, this roadshow promotes dance as an educational tool, while opening up sensitive discussions about the everyday online world that are often avoided.

3Ws is available for booking in all types of educational contexts by contacting Martina Zammit, Education & Outreach Artist: martina.d.zammit@zfinmalta.mt

DURATION: 1 hour / AGE: 5+

PRODUCTION TEAM

Choreography: Jacob Piccinino
Production Manager: Martina Zammit

Music: Dimitri Shostakovich - Waltz no.2, The Blue Danube Waltz - Johann Strauss Jr, Wake up - FX, Ilya Alekseevich Shatrov - On the Hills Manchuria Offenbach - Can Can Music, Interstate - Karl-Löwe-St. Groove (ft Birol) Nto - La Clé Des Champs

Set Design: Adrian Mamo Costumes: Adelina Delia









MOVIMENTO

DATES & TIME: TO BE ANNOUNCED **VENUE: VALLETTA DESIGN CLUSTER**

Movimento is a series of public, interactive talks presented from the perspective of artists outside of dance, looking in. Movimento takes a fresh and innovative approach to audience engagement, where invited guests share their take and their experience of dance or movement, demystifying and making accessible this rich and beautiful art form.

Now in its third season, Movimento 2021/22 is five appointments with five artists, from Malta and abroad, who use their practice as a lens to explore dance and the process of choreography. See dance come to life through the stories of these five diverse thinkers whose work intersects with movement. Movimento offers a unique experience that delves into its subject and invites the audience to become active spectators. Our Movimento experts will take you on a journey of discovery that reveals how patterns of choreography can be found all around us.

REGISTRATION: www.zfinmalta.org / COST: €5 / DURATION: 1hr/1.5hrs

COMPANY OPEN CLASSES

DATES & TIME: TO BE ANNOUNCED

CLASSES ARE OPEN FOR 1 WEEK OF EVERY MONTH TO LIMITED PARTICIPANTS DURING THE 2021 - 2022 SEASON

VENUE: ŻFINMALTA STUDIOS, VALLETTA

ŻfinMalta opens its company classes to local and international professional dance artists. This is a unique opportunity to join the ŻfinMalta company dancers during their morning practice, which is always varied and led by international guest teachers. The techniques explored are ballet, contemporary, and somatic practice. For young dancers and established practitioners alike, ŻfinMalta provides an open and inclusive space to further develop a professional practice and to connect with the company.

LED BY Guest artists including ŻfinMalta's Artistic Director Paolo Mangiola & Artistic Coordinator Anna Nowak REGISTRATION: www.zfinmalta.org / COST: €8 / AGE: 18+

O5 / ARTIST DEVELOPMENT

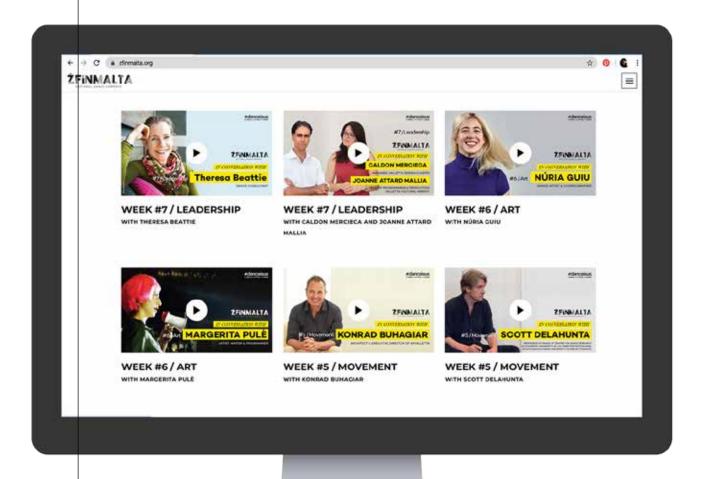
ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

LOCATION: ŻFINMALTA STUDIOS, VALLETTA

Open to artists based in Malta who are engaged in dance making and choreography, ŻfinMalta's Artist in Residence Programme (AiR) provides the opportunity for local and international artists to explore their ideas in a new context and offers a space to experiment and develop new work. As part of ŻfinMalta's Artist Development programme, AiR2021 provides a platform for locally based dance makers who are interested in expanding their skills and taking more risks in the development and presentation of their ideas. Specifically aimed at supporting choreographic research, ŻfinMalta will be launching its fourth AiR programme, offering another three residencies in 2022. ŻfinMalta launches its fourth AiR programme with three residencies in 2022, specifically aimed at supporting choreographic research. Recipients receive €1000 for a 7-day residency hosted by the National Dance Company.

REGISTRATION: By open call. Follow ŻfinMalta social media and subscribe to our newsletter for more information.





GET AN INSIGHT INTO THE LIVES AND
MINDS OF DANCERS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS,
AS WELL AS ARTISTS WORKING IN OTHER
DISCIPLINES, POLICY MAKERS, CURATORS,
WRITERS, DIRECTORS AND THINKERS

ŻFINMALTA PODCASTS

This series of podcasts, produced and presented by ŻfinMalta, aims to highlight the myriad ways dance features in our lives, reminding us that everyone has a relationship with movement, and everyone has an experience of dance. It's also an opportunity to draw on the opinions, ideas and perspectives of the many voices in our cultural ecology. In these candid interviews by members of the ŻfinMalta team, we get an insight into the lives and minds of dancers and choreographers, as well as artists working in other disciplines, policy makers, curators, writers, directors and thinkers, many of whom are also our collaborators.

WATCH: www.zfinmalta.org/resources/

ŻFIN BLINKS

Designed to give audiences valuable tools for the experience of dance, Żfin Blinks is a series of videos dedicated to the making of dance, and an exploration of how choreography is used to compose dance. Żfin Blinks is an excellent educational resource, providing flashes of inspiration and information on the evolution of dance by unpacking its rich and multi-layered history and delving into the creative process.

Developed by Artistic Director Paolo Mangiola in collaboration with company dancer Emma Walker, and based on ŻfinMalta's ongoing Creative Toolbox research.

WATCH: www.zfinmalta.org/resources/



YOUR GATEWAY TO VALLETTA

The VBL Group is the largest private owner of real estate in Valletta with a diversified portfolio of residential, hospitality, commercial and office space. As the dominant player in Valletta's real estate market, VBL Group combines a comprehensive knowledge of the local market with an innovative business model integrating property acquisition, regeneration, and operations.

The Group's coverage within Valletta is extensive and includes a range of accommodation offerings in the City, as well as regeneration projects such as The Gut, Valletta's premier nightlife destination located in the lower part of Strait Street.

VBL Group has been supporting the local arts and culture scene since its inception. The Group truly believes the arts are core to Valletta and has played a major role in the overall regeneration of the City.

www.vbl.com.mt



VBL Group

For reservations visit www.vallettastay.com or contact: info@vbl.com.mt

Dancers



Axel Agnello was born in Belgium in 2000. His dance studies since 2014 have included the Humanité Chorégraphique de Liège (Académie Gretry, Liège), ENDM (Marseille), PNSD Rosella Hightower (Cannes), Junior Ballet Antwerp (Antwerp) and most recently, EBB Junior company (Madrid). He has worked with artists including David Dawson, Jean-Christophe Maillot, Jérôme Meier & Isabelle Chaffaud, and La Fille Mal Gardée. Axel joined ŻfinMalta in 2021.



Pearl Calleja was born in Malta in 2002. She started dance at the age of five and has since trained in classical ballet, contemporary, and spanish dance, under the direction of Marisha Bonnici. She undertook further studies at Dance Arts Faculty in Rome. Pearl has worked with artists including Mauro Astolfi, Michele Merola, Thomas Noone, Roberto Scafati, Francesca Frassinelli, Shirley Esseboom and Emanuele Soavi. She joined ŻfinMalta as an apprentice in 2020 and as a company dancer in 2021.



Mathieu Chabaneix-Amor trained at Rudra Béjart in Lausanne, Switzerland, where he studied Graham technique and ballet. He completed studies in 2017 and was accepted into the Ensemble of the Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company, touring with the company in Italy and Germany. Mathieu has participated in masterclasses in contemporary techniques such as Cunningham, with L. Viallefond, Gaga and improvisation, with choreographers such as Uri Ivgi, Vova Zak, Yaniv Abraham and Eyal Dadon. While based in Paris working on his technique and discovering new ways of moving, he created several short dance movies. Mathieu joined ŻfinMalta in 2020.



Tara Dalli was born in 1998. She began gymnastics at the age of three, and trained with the National Gymnastics Team of Malta between the ages of 8 and 13. Tara trained in classical ballet and contemporary dance under the direction of Dorian Mallia. She has participated in numerous projects locally, including '88 Lilies and a Dog' with Cienfuegos Dance Company, as well as productions with Moveo Dance Company. Tara has worked with choreographers Jacopo Godani, Jorge Crecis, Kerry Nicholls, Kristina and Sade Alleyne, Peter Jasko and Oded Ronen. Tara joined ŻfinMalta in 2018.



Félix Deepen was born in Brussels in 1996. He trained in classical ballet and was accepted at the Rudra Béjart School in 2014, where he performed in The Boléro and The 9th Symphony, by Maurice Béjart. In 2016 Felix joined 'Don't Dance Division', based in The Hague, where he danced pieces by the directors Thom Stuart and Rinus Sprong. In 2017, he moved to Barcelona to dance with IT Dansa, under the direction of Catherine Allard, where he performed pieces by Akram Khan, Jiri Kylian, Alexander Ekman, Lorena Nogal, Ohad Naharin, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui and Rafael Bonachella. Félix joined ŻfinMalta in 2019.



Nik Folini was born in Italy in 2000. Nik's early dance training began with Scuola di danza Maria Selvini in Chiasso, in classical and modern dance, from 2006 to 2018. In 2020 he graduated from Rudra Béjart, under the direction of Michel Gascard, where he studied classical ballet, the Béjart repertoire, and Martha Graham technique, as well as percussion, singing and kendo. Nik's other experience includes 9 years of karate and 14 years' professional figure skating. He joined ŻfinMalta in 2021.



Lotte La Haye was born in 2000 in The Netherlands. Since 2009 her dance education at The Royal Conservatoire The Hague, The Netherlands, has included both the School for Young Talent, Dance, and HBO Bachelor Programme, Dance. From 2014-2018 she was part of the Netherland Dance Theatre's (NDT) Young Talent Project, a collaboration between and the NDT and The Royal Conservatoire, The Hague. Lotte became an apprentice with Scapino Ballet Rotterdam in 2018. She joined ŻfinMalta in 2021.



Keith Micallef, born in 1993, began his dance training at age 12 under the tuition of Theresa Lungaro Mifsud at The Dance Workshop. He trained in classical ballet in the Cecchetti Method, achieving a Distinction in Advanced 2 level. He also trained in contemporary and flamenco dance styles. Keith joined ŻfinMalta in 2014, and has since performed works by Paolo Mangiola, Jacopo Godani, Jose Agudo and Iván Pérez Avilés, among others. Prior to joining the company, Keith graduated from the University of Malta with a Degree in Legal Studies.



Simon Riccardi-Zani was born in 1998 in Nice, France. He started classical dance aged eight, and furthered his studies with programmes at Rosella-Hightower Dance School (Cannes), Princess Grace Academy (Monaco), and Lyon National Conservatoire. Simon began professional classical training at the Opera Ballet School of Paris and later trained in contemporary dance at the Paris National Conservatoire (CNSMDP). He has danced repertoire including Kurt Jooss, Olivier Dubois, Rainer Behr and Pina Baush. Workshops have included Anne Teresa De Keersmaker processes, Gaga techniques, and repertoire by Akram Khan, Angelin Preljocaj, and William Forsythe. Simon joined ŻfinMalta in 2019.



Amber Van Veen was born in Amsterdam in 1999. She started her dance education at the Dutch National Ballet Academy in Amsterdam and graduated from the Royal Ballet School Antwerp in Belgium in 2018. During a traineeship at the Royal Ballet Flanders, she had the opportunity to work with Akram Khan, Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Jean-Christophe Maillot and Alexander Ekman. Meanwhile she toured throughout The Netherlands and Belgium as an apprentice of the Dance Theatre, Amsterdam. Amber joined ŻfinMalta in 2019.



Emma Louise Walker was born in the UK. She was accepted as an associate at the Royal Ballet School at the age of ten. She graduated with a First Class Honours degree in Dance and Performance from the Central School of Ballet in London. During this time she participated in 'Blink Margate', working with Wayne McGregor | Random Dance. Emma was selected for the pilot year of Akram Khan's AKX programme, training in ballet, contemporary, improvisation and repertoire, with teachers including Yen-Ching Lin and Andrej Petrovic. In 2018, Emma toured the UK with DeNada Dance theatre's production 'Toro,' by Carlos Pons Guerra. Emma joined ŻfinMalta as an apprentice in 2015, and a full-time dancer in 2018.

Company



Paolo Mangiola, Artistic Director

Paolo Mangiola is a choreographer, dance educator and performer working within ballet and contemporary dance practices. Operating in the interstices between codified dance and ordinary movement, Paolo is interested in exploring this relationship in the context of our interconnected society, drawing inspiration from various artistic sources, the web, and emerging movements.

As a performer Paolo has collaborated with, and danced for, artists and choreographers including Wayne McGregor, Deborah Hay, Martin Creed, and Mauro Bigonzetti. Paolo has created works for the Royal Ballet, Tanztheater Nürnberg, Aterballetto, Szczecin Opera Ballet and Balletto di Roma. He attained a Masters in Choreography at The Place, London, and designed the programme for the Contemporary Dance Department, Scuola del Balletto di Roma. Paolo was appointed resident choreographer at Balletto di Roma in 2015, where he remained for three seasons. Since 2017 he has been Artistic Director of ŻfinMalta, Malta's national dance company.



Martina Zammit, **Education & Outreach Artist** Martina was born in Malta in 1987. She first danced with the Olivia Dow School of Russian Ballet in Malta, where she studied the Legat System. Martina completed three degrees at the University of Malta, beginning with a Bachelor degree in English and Archaeology, and followed by a Masters in English, Modern and Contemporary Literature and Criticism. She then undertook a Bachelor of Dance Studies, which is where she was introduced to contemporary dance. Martina joined ŻfinMalta as a company dancer in 2014, and since 2018 has been making the transition to the role of Education & Outreach Artist.



Nicole Bearman, Producer

Nicole is a cultural producer with more than 25 years experience creating programmes, events and publications for contemporary art spaces, museums, universities and festivals, including ZfinMalta, Blitz, Malta Design Week, the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney, the Biennale of Sydney, Sydney Design Festival, and Australian Design Centre. She has edited and contributed to international art, architecture and design magazines, including Australian Art Collector, Indesign, Monument, POL Oxygen and Vogue Living. Nicole holds degrees in Visual Arts and Museum Studies, both from the University of Sydney. She joined ŻfinMalta in 2019 as Project Manager of Threaded Fine, by Rosemary Lee, and in 2020 was appointed Producer.



Anna Nowak, Artistic Coordinator

Anna is a dance artist, educator, re-stager and rehearsal director with over 20 years of professional experience, leading educational and choreographic projects, delivering masterclasses and workshops internationally, as well as creating her own work. She is a former dancer with Wayne McGregor Company, where she performed in Europe, the USA, Canada, Mexico, Australia and Asia, and participated in art installations and films. During her six seasons with the Polish National Ballet, Anna danced solo roles in classical repertory, including Swan Lake, La Bayadere, and Sleeping Beauty, as well as Balanchine, Kylian and others. Anna joined ŻfinMalta in 2020.



Sylvia Attard, Secretary

Sylvia's passion for the company comes through in the vital administrative support she provides across all aspects of programming and activities.

Sylvia joined ŻfinMalta in 2020.



Moritz Zavan Stoeckle, Production Manager

Moritz Zavan Stoeckle is a dancer and a lighting designer. He began his career in dance in 1995 in Bharatanatyam training with Savitry Nair. In 2007 he started his career in lighting design at Teatro Fondamenta Nuove in Venice. Since 2010 Moritz has been primarily practicing contemporary dance. In 2018 he obtained an MA in Performing Arts, Dance, with a dissertation on multi-genre choreographies that merge Indian classical dance and contemporary dance. Currently he is working as a freelancer with several theatre and dance companies in Malta, Italy and England, both as a dancer and lighting designer, and he also teaches light design at MCAST, Institute for the Creative Arts in Malta.

/ SUPPORT

Your support of ŻfinMalta ensures that we can continue to deliver as one of the region's leading contemporary dance companies. By getting involved you are providing vital support for our artistic programming and productions, touring programme, education and participation activities for all ages, and professional development programmes. Most importantly, you will share in the beauty and joy of contemporary dance and know that your gift, regardless of its size, is of tremendous value to us.

For further information contact: Nicole Bearman, Producer, +356 99999520, nicole.bearman@zfinmalta.mt

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