COMPANY

Francesco Gandi and Davide Venturini, artistic direction
Anna Balducci, choreography
Cristina D’Alberto and Luca Tomaio, performers
Elsa Mersi, visual design
Spartaco Cortesi, sound design
Rossano Monti, computer programming and interactive systems
Andrea Fincato and Saulo D’Isita/
Massimiliano Fierli, audio and video engineering
Fiamma Ciotti Farulli, costumes
Livia Cortesi, props
Valentina Martini, management

PROGRAM

Bleu! (2013)

Bleu! is a coproduction with Teatro Metastasio Stabile della Toscana, Marseilles-Provence 2013 European Capital of Culture, and Mercat de les Flors of Barcelona.

PROGRAM: COMPAGNIA TPO

JUNE 5 / 4:00 & 7:00 PM
JUNE 6 / 11:00 AM, 2:00 & 4:00 PM
BING CONCERT HALL STUDIO

PROGRAM SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Please be considerate of others and turn off all phones, pagers, and watch alarms, and unwrap all lozenges prior to the performance. Photography and recording of any kind are not permitted. Thank you.

Exclusive producer, U.S. tour:
ArkType/Thomas O. Kriegsmann
PO Box 180241
Brooklyn, NY 11218
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Taking the classical mythology of the Mediterranean as a starting point, Bleu! explains the meeting between a sailor and a sea nymph. The story begins when the nymph drops a pearl into the sea that the sailor has to find. The sailor sets off on an adventure-packed voyage across the sea, which transforms this story into an odyssey of discovery and knowledge.

COMPAGNIA TPO

Compagnia TPO was founded in Prato, Italy, in 1981 as a children’s theater company devoted to creating works that are highly visual and multidisciplinary in the use of music, dance, art, sculpture, digital media, computer technology, lighting, and sound. TPO is an award-winning, internationally recognized company that believes in creating dance-theater works that are conceptualized moving paintings that use movement, artistic objects, mechanical and digital devices, and the interplay of lighting—all geared to a child’s eye.

In 1999, Davide Venturini and Francesco Gandi became the artistic directors of TPO. With the emerging technology that has evolved, TPO has started using more and more digital technology, graphics, and video and combining these elements with the more traditional art forms of dance, theater, and music. TPO has created new methods of interaction between performers, the audience, and stage spaces by applying computer sensors and triggers to images and sound, and it has found new ways to collaborate with a variety of artists—dancers, actors, directors, musicians, engineers, designers, writers, and illustrators—to create new works.

ArKtype/Thomas O. Kriegsmann

Thomas O. Kriegsmann is the producer of acclaimed, internationally based projects and the recently appointed director of programs for New York Live Arts. ArKtype’s work includes projects with Mikhail Baryshnikov, Peter Brook, Yaël Farber, Annie-B Parson and Paul Lazar, Lisa Peterson, Jay Scheib, Julie Taymor, and Tony Taccone. Ongoing collaborations include 600 Highwaymen, the TPO in the roles of author, director, and actor. His works typically make prevalent use of images, props, figures, and, in his latest productions, technology. He currently holds the post of president of the TPO Cultural Association.

Elsa Mersi (digital designer) works in the fields of performing arts, computer graphics, and the Web, using a multidisciplinary approach. Her work focuses prevalently on research and experimentation in new ways of interpreting the relationship and interaction that link performer, image, and space. She also conducts research into new languages and systems of computer-based projection.

Spartaco Cortesi (sound designer) works on audio productions in multimedia projects, using mainly electrical instruments and audio software. He has five albums to his credit, two of which were solo under the pseudonym of Yellowcake and were released in the second half of the 1990s by KK Records, the seminal Belgian electronic music label. He has worked with TPO since 2000.

Rossano Monti (computer engineer) is a self-taught computer specialist who studied computer engineering in Pisa, Italy, until 2001. Since 1995, he has been a sound engineer and graphic artist for the Bonton Group both live and in studio, has contributed to the Strano Network group, and has taught computer know-how. He has been with TPO since 2002, dealing with programming and software, computer systems management, and staging the performances.

Cristina D’Alberto (performer) was born in Turin, Italy, in 1989 and started studying classical ballet with Claire Jahier. In 2006, she worked with the Molecule Company for Heket Productions. In 2007, she moved to Florence to attend the Opus Ballet professional course of contemporary dance. Since 2008, she has worked with choreographers like Rosanna Brocanello, Daniel Tinazzi, Loris Petrillo, Gabriella Secchi, German Jauregui, and Corinne Lanselle.
Luca Tomao (performer) started studying dance in 1993. In 2005, he attended a professional course at the Teatro Greco Dance Company, and in 2006, he studied at the Centro Regionale della Danza del Lazio. Since 2005, he has worked for the Teatro Greco Dance Company and has been involved in many performances of the Florence Dance Company. He works as a dancer in TV shows and films, and he took part in musicals and operas at the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma and the Roma Opera Musical.

Andrea Fincato (sound/video console engineer) earned a BA in sociology (Padua, Italy) and an MA (cum laude) at the Fine Arts Academy (Venice, Italy). A multimedia artist, he specializes in interactive design, photography, video, and installation. He was involved with the production of Open XIII (Venice), The Rag Factory (London), Cersaie (Bologna), Nuove Figure 3 (Venice), Nu-Fest (Padua), MAF (Vallo della Lucania, Italy), and Venetian Industries (Venice). He was also the coordinator of Inverso-Tecnologico.

Massimiliano Fierli (sound/video console engineer) studied piano and electric bass and is a self-taught drummer. He worked as a sound engineer, performer, and musician with the Elan Wales company. In 2001, he attended the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff, Wales, and earned a postgraduate diploma in jazz music. He has worked in live recording and audio postproduction in a number of short films and as the stage sound engineer for several festivals in Italy.

Saulo D’Isita (sound/video console engineer) joined TPO in 1991 after studying as a computer programmer. He works as a lighting, sound, and projection engineer. In addition, he has attended various acting classes and over the years gained in-depth knowledge of new computer technology for audio, video, and Web applications.

Livia Cortesi (scenography assistant) graduated with a degree in stage design from the Accademia di Belle Arti in Florence.

She has worked with TPO since 1992, dealing with sets and items for all shows and workshops. In addition, she works freelance for theaters and film and set workshops.

Valentina Martini (manager) graduated with a degree in foreign language studies in 2001 and in event organization in 2004; she earned the European professional qualification for planning performing arts in 2002. She has participated in internships at the Department of Culture of the town of Prato, Italy, and has worked jointly with the University of Florence on devising a long-distance training program. She has handled distribution and organization for TPO since 2004.

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