Monchichi
Company Wang Ramirez

WHEN:
WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 28, 2018
8:00 PM

VENUE:
BING
CONCERT HALL
STUDIO

Photo: Grant Halverson ©ADF
Program

Company Wang Ramirez: Monchichi

Artistic direction, conception, choreography, dance: Honji Wang & Sébastien Ramirez
Dramaturgy: Vincent Rafis
Light design: Cyril Mulon
Set design: Ida Ravn
Costumes: Honji Wang
Composer: Ilia Koutchoukov aka Everydayz /+∞
Arrangement: Fabien Biron
Additional music: Carlos Gardel, Alva Noto, Nick Cave & Warren Ellis

Production Management Services by Academy for Dance and Theatre Arts
Technical / Production manager: Bartolo Cannizzaro

Executive producer: Company Wang Ramirez, Clash 66
Exclusive North American Representation: John Luckacovic / Eleanor Oldham
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Coproduction
Act’art – Conseil général de Seine-et-Marne
Le Théâtre*/Scène Nationale de Narbonne
Initiatives d’Artistes en Danses Urbaines (Fondation de France – Parc de la Villette with the support of Caisse des Dépôts and Acsé)
Tanzhaus NRW Düsseldorf
Communauté de Communes de la Région Lézignanaise

The program will last approximately 55 minutes and will be performed without an intermission.

Support
Regional council Occitanie / Pyrénées-Méditerranée
Regional Cultural Affairs Directorate Occitanie
Hebbel am Ufer – HAU, Berlin
Hauptstadtkulturfonds (Senat Berlin)
Casa Musicale Perpignan
Association Départementale de Développement de la Musique et de la Danse de l’Aude
Réseau en Scène Languedoc-Roussillon

Special Thanks
Dansens Hus Stockholm

Company Wang Ramirez — Clash66 receives a structural support by
Regional Cultural Affairs Directorate Occitanie, by Regional council Occitanie / Pyrénées-Méditerranée and by County council Pyrénées Orientales.

The company receives the support of Foundation BNP Paribas for the development of its projects.

Sébastien Ramirez & Honji Wang are supported artists of Théâtre de l’Archipel, scène nationale de Perpignan.

The bedrock piece by duo Wang Ramirez creates a portrait of a new, urban, mobile, and intercultural generation. Here, they choose their artistic language as freely as their life partner even if he/she speaks a foreign language... or several.

Dance is their language, but so are words. Sébastien, French with Spanish origins crosses choreographic paths with Honji, born in Frankfurt to Korean parents. Because in this open-minded world, everyone can be a cultural mix with blended origins.

Honji brings suppleness and Asian musicality to her movement, and Sébastien brings his Mediterranean vivacity. Together, they tackle Monchichi as they construct their life together—in perfect balance between masculine and feminine.

Their dance puts its virtuosity at the service of a quest for truth where nothing is left to conceal doubt or the difficulties in communicating, let alone the joys of togetherness.

In the end, Monchichi is a piece full of humor and self-deprecation, a joint self-portrait that testifies daily life with as much humor as poetry.

**COMPANY WANG RAMIREZ**

Since the creation of Company Wang Ramirez, Honji Wang and Sébastien Ramirez have produced and choreographed dance-theatre pieces that have won them many awards and accolades, such as the New York Bessie Award and the nomination for the Rolex Mentor & Protégée Arts Initiative Program.

Acclaimed by the international audience, the company is invited in major theatres and festivals, as Théâtre de la Ville, La Villette and Théâtre National de Chaillot (Paris), Sadler’s Wells (London), Apollo Theater (New York), Mercat de les Flors (Barcelona), etc. and receives the support of important international co-producers.

Wang & Ramirez developed a conceptual dance performance for the opening celebration of the arts space MADE in Berlin.

In 2015, they contributed to the creation phase in New York City and choreographed for the live show of Madonna’s Rebel Heart Tour 2015–16.

In 2016, Sadler’s Wells invited them to direct and perform a dance work made to Nitin Sawhney’s album Dystopian
Dream. Wang Ramirez never seize to deepen their quest of finding new choreographic languages with means of expression built on technical virtuosity, poetry, humour and the questioning of human identities.

They currently encourage and explore strong artistic collaborations with artists from different fields.

HONJI WANG
Honji Wang is a dancer, choreographer and artistic director born and raised in Germany by Korean parents.

Her dance language is an abstraction of hip hop dance and has influences of earlier martial arts and ballet training. She is recognised as an artist who brings contemporary and hip hop together in an exceptionally organic fashion.

Together with Sébastien Ramirez, Honji Wang received the Bessie Award 2013 as “Outstanding Performer” following the presentation of AP15 at the Apollo Theatre in New York. Their work Monchichi was one of the 2017 Bessie Award nominees for “Outstanding Production” following its performance at BAM Fisher.

Wang was invited to Madonna’s final auditions in New York, where her outstanding performance earned her an invitation to tour and perform for the Rebel Heart Tour. She was invited as a guest artist to perform a duo with acclaimed British choreographer Akram Khan titled The Pursuit of Now, which was accompanied by well-known pianist Shahin Novrasli. She also collaborated with the most avant-garde female flamenco dancer Rocío Molina in the duet Felahikum as well as with New York City Ballet principal dancer Sara Mearns in the duet NO.1.

SÉBASTIEN RAMIREZ
Born in the south of France, Sébastien Ramirez is an internationally renowned dancer, choreographer and artistic director.

Ramirez specializes in the use of aerial work as well as choreographic rigging development. Since the foundation of his company, he developed a new vision of space and choreography, bringing hip hop dance to a wider and new audience.

Following the presentation of AP15 at the Apollo Theatre in New York, Sébastien Ramirez and Honji Wang received the Bessie Award 2013 as “Outstanding Performers”. Their work Monchichi was one of the 2017 Bessie Award nominees for “Outstanding Production” following its performance at BAM Fisher.

Ramirez contributed to the creation phase of Madonna’s Rebel Heart Tour in New York City and choreographed for her live show. Akram Khan invited him to direct a personal workshop at the Théâtre de la Ville in Paris, a recognition of his unique quality of movement. He was also invited by Sadler’s Wells as one of the five choreographers of RIOT OffSpring, a unique dance piece performed to Igor Stravinsky’s iconic The Rite of Spring played by Southbank Sinfonia.

Photo: Matea Ilieva
Photo: Christopher Duggan, courtesy of Jacob’s Pillow