

A POST-HUMAN DANCE FICTION
BY COLETTE SADLER

*LEARNING
FROM THE
FUTURE*

TOUR PACK



SYNOPSIS

Imagine a post-human future where bodies are on the verge of disappearance. In Learning from the Future, the futuristic female cyborg Body A inhabits a science-fiction world. The fictionality of Body A is taken as a poetic means to speculate on an inconceivable reality where ever-accelerating flows of information and encoded data could dictate the manner in which bodies move and function. The choreography uses movement to amplify the primitive power of bodies against the background of their dematerialisation and disappearance.

BODY A

An imaginary future, in which the purposes and necessity of the human body are put into question, creates the departure point for this work. The piece operates within a science-fiction-like setting inhabited by the prototype BODY A. This inconceivable futuristic body is regarded ambiguously as being “alive”, but also as a highly sophisticated bio machine. It possesses no self-awareness and cannot distinguish between inner-intention and external impulse. BODY A transcends the boundary between a self-perceived interiority and an outer physical reality which normally stands in opposition to it. It is not subjected to the singularity of an embodied position.

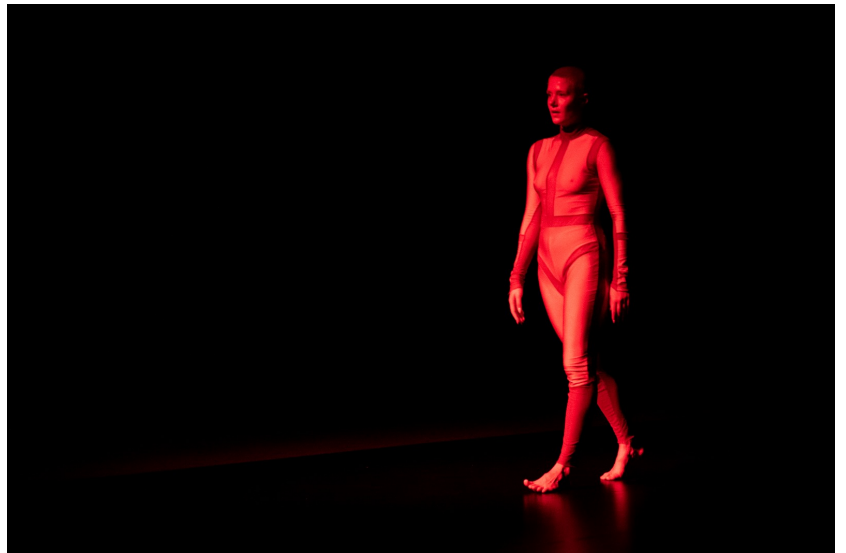
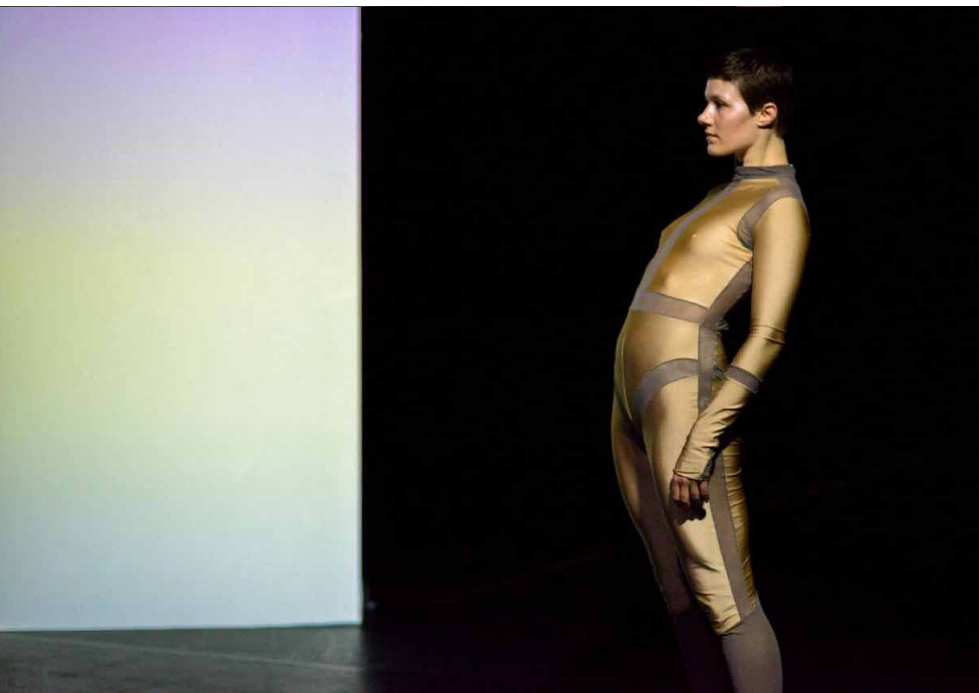
The fictionality of BODY A is taken as a poetic means to speculate on a reality where ever accelerating flows of information and encoded data could dictate the manner in which bodies move and function. The objects and bodies in this artificial environment share the same ubiquitous disembodied “consciousness” – Such a condition subverts the idea of self-agency; The performer’s body in this piece is taken as a mere container – a channel. It can be filled and emptied. It allows information to pass through it.

Learning from the Future wishes to reflect on the replacement of the living body with the properties of the inanimate as well as with the virtuality of its post-human representation. It uses the medium of movement to amplify the primitive power of bodies against the background of their dematerialization and disappearance.

Following on from Learning from the future Colette Sadler and Mikko Gaestel created a video installation work BODY A first presented at Art Night London 2018. BODY A is a video installation work suitable for gallery or site specific space.

www.body-a.org





ARTISTIC TEAM

Choreography: Colette Sadler

Performance: Leah Marojevic

Music: Brendan Dougherty

Video: Mikko Gaestel

Light: Samuli Laine

Costume: Eyal Meistel

Dramaturgy: Assaf Hochman

Producers: Feral

By Colette Sadler / Stammer Productions and Dance4 / Arts Council of England.
Funded by Creative Scotland. Supported by residencies at TanzHaus Zurich and Bora-Bora Aarhus.
Part of the British Council Showcase 2019.

Photos: ©Arne Schmitt

PRESS & REVIEWS

"In this literally penetrating choreography by Berlin resident Colette Sadler, the body is a virtuoso machine, but, just as a user is uninterested in the inner complexity of programs, apps or a washing machine, it is neither the machinery nor the virtuosity which is on show here, rather both are synthesised with striking ease. The body of the future presented by British choreographer Colette Sadler is a perfectly controlled apparatus designed for performance, from which the viewer can expect existence without gender, modesty without pride, and servitude without ideology. It is a body that deserves ovations."

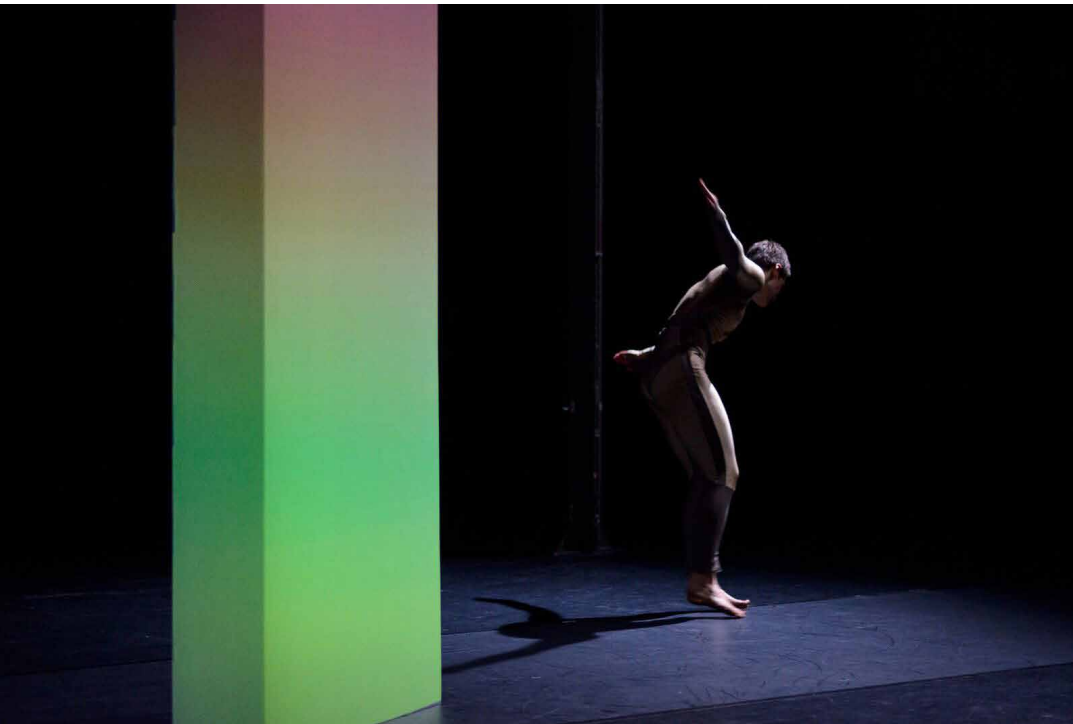
— **Arnd Wesemann, Glasgow on tour, TANZ, August 2017**

der-theaterverlag.de/free/artikel/sadler-learning-future

"A thrilling and urgent ritual"

"Humanity's intelligence seems to have culminated in the flickers of light that emanate from this form – what purpose or possibility, then, is left in the material body? In flesh, weight, limbs, a head, or hands? The dancer continues to dance; rolling, twisting, turning. A series of impossibly fast gestures – hands shifting each other – technology testing itself?" — **Paul Hughes, Exunt magazine**

exeuntmagazine.com/reviews/review-learning-future-nottingham-contemporary



MEDIA

Trailer – vimeo.com/261445289

Full length Trailer — vimeo.com/324918188 > Password: FUTURE1

BIOGRAPHY

COLETTE SADLER / Choreography

Colette Sadler is a performer, choreographer and curator living in Berlin. Trained in classical ballet, she completed a BA (Hons) at Laban Centre London and worked internationally as a dancer until 2002. Sadler's performances have been shown in numerous dance and art contexts, including the Performatik Festival at the Kaai Theatre Brussels, South Bank Centre London, Nottingham Contemporary, Les Lattitudes Contemporains France, OGR Turin Italy, TRAMWAY and with her works Learning from the future and RITUALIA as part of the British Council Showcase 2019.

In 2019 Sadler curated the multidisciplinary art symposium "Present Futures" in Berlin and Glasgow in collaboration with the Goethe-Institut Glasgow, the Centre of Contemporary arts, the GoMa (Glasgow Museum) and the Sophiensaele. In Feb 2021 she curated an online version of the festival Present Futures Digital. In 2020 she was part of the Temporars residency programme at Museum Susch Switzerland and participated in the FitArt exhibition with Swiss gallery Roehrs & Boetsch.

In Jan 2021 she created STRANGE GARTEN for Purple International Dance Festival Berlin in Co-production with the Fonds Transfabrik - German-French Fund for the Performing Arts; L'échangeur - CDCN Hauts-de-France; Offensive Tanz für junges Publikum Berlin, supported by TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund from funds of the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and Media; Berlin Senate for Culture and Europe. With financial support from the NATIONAL PERFORMANCE NETWORK - Co-Production Support Dance -, funded by the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media. In Spring 2021 she will develop her latest Dance Installation performance ARK 1 with support from "Stepping Out" /Nationales Performance Netz, Tanz Haus Dusseldorf and TWR Glasgow.

LEAH MAROJEVIC / Performance

Leah, originally from the UK, spent three months with Sydney Dance Company's Pre-Professional Year after graduating from the Victorian College of the Arts with a Bachelor of Dance in Melbourne 2013. Leah was the recipient of the Australian Council for the Arts, ArtStart Grant 2015 and received the Orloff Family Trust award for 'Most Outstanding Dancer' in 2013. Leah has worked as a performer, artistic collaborator, rehearsal director and choreographer for makers and companies including; Theo Clinkard, Skånes Dansteater, Colette Sadler, Candoco Dance Company, Clod Ensemble, Becky Hilton, Mirjam Gurtner, Seke Chimutengwende, among others.

MIKKO GAESTEL / Video

Mikko Gaestel (Hamburg 1982) is a visual artist and filmmaker living in Berlin. He studied at University of the Arts Berlin and Iceland Academy of the Arts Reykjavik, finishing with a Meisterschüler degree. His works have been exhibited at institutions including Goethe Institute New York, Bremerhaven Art Museum, Museum of Contemporary Art Helsinki, Future Gallery Berlin and Dumbo Arts Center New York. His documentary feature debut »The Great Fortune« won the Grand Prize at Belgrade Documentary Film Festival 2016.

SAMULI LAINE / Lights

Samuli Laine (b.1983) is a Helsinki-based scenographer, video artist, and performance maker. Laine became a Master of Arts in 2011 and Master of Theater Arts in 2014. He has worked as a light, video and set set designer and occasionally a performer in the field of contemporary theater and dance. Laine has also designed sets for TV. He is a member of award-winning arts collective W A U H A U S that consists of five Helsinki-based artists with various professional backgrounds in the performing arts.

VELI-VILLE SIVÉN / Lights

Veli-Ville Sivén is a visual artist, light and sound designer. He is specialised in performing arts and he is studying lighting design (MA) in Theatre Academy in University of the arts Helsinki. He is used to work particularly with space and non-verbal dramaturgy using improvisation and conceptual based thinking. His works have been seen in many contemporary theatre, dance and music festival productions in Finland. Recently Veli-Ville had a light installation called Kontti in Lux Helsinki 2019 and he has joined as a live member to a Finnish Pori based band Eleanoora Rosenholm.

BRENDAN DOUGHERTY / Music

Brendan Dougherty (U.S.A.) was born in Philadelphia. He co-founded Scrapple Records, which represented the Philadelphia improvised music scene with concerts across the US, Europe and a residency in The Knitting Factory (NYC). After moving to Berlin in 2002 he began working with improvisors such as Axel Dorner, Kim Cascone and Alexander Kolkowski. An interest in performance practices led him to a collaboration with choreographer Jeremy Wade, creating music for and performing in three evening length pieces. In 2009 he began working with Meg Stuart when they curated an improvisation series in HAU theater's Politics of Ecstasy festival. He and Stuart went on to create four pieces, including Violet and Sketches/Notebook, which continue to tour internationally. Dougherty remains active as a solo musician releasing solo records under his name and other aliases and playing drums in Tony Buck's Project Transmit.

FERAL / Producers

Feral (Jill Smith and Kathryn Boyle) produce a portfolio of performance and movement practitioners which has included artists such as Al Seed, Colette Sadler, Liz Aggiss, Oceanalover, Nic Green, Peter McMaster, Bex Anson and Dav Bernard (MHz), Mele Broomes, and Sita Pieraccini. Feral strive to create new contexts for the presentation of multi-disciplinary work and champion makers who explore new performance languages through their practice. Work produced by Feral has toured extensively in the UK and Internationally; most recently they have produced the contemporary arts festivals 'UNFIX Festival of Ecology' and 'Present Futures' which took place at the Centre of Contemporary Art (Glasgow). Feral have jointly run the Edinburgh Fringe 'Autopsy Award' with Summerhall for the last 4 years.

TECHNICAL RIDER

> drive.google.com/drive/folders/1SfXyXGlvluBoxF2_TjicOxxHnJFQhJBg?usp=sharing

Touring Company

1 x Choreographer
1 x performer
1 x light designer
1 x video designer

We require one dressing room for performer with shower facilities and water. We can perform one show per day and require an additional set up/get-in day before the first performance. Monolith object to be shipped to and from Berlin note it is possible to bring it in three pieces as hold luggage but shipping is preferable. Otherwise venue has to construct wooden box to exact dimensions and then reflective cover material must be fitted. This needs to happen in advance of teams arrival at venue.

STAGE: Black dance floor
Black curtains / walls
The room needs to be able to achieve complete black out
Monolith object to be projected on (will be brought by the company)
Optimal dimensions at least 10 x 10 meters, 5 meters high

LIGHTS: 20 x Fresnel 1kW/1.2kW
4 x Fresnel 2kW
3 x Symmetric Flood 1kW
All fixtures with barn doors and gelframe

LEDS: 2 x SGM P-5 LED

DIMMER: 27 x channels

OTHER: 1 x DMX shutter for video projector
(ONLY necessary if projector doesn't have an internal shutter)
All necessary cabling
All fixtures in individual channels

FILTERS: LEE #711 Cold Blue
LEE #253 Hampshire Frost
LEE #256 Half Hampshire Frost

Lights will be controlled from company computer which have 1 5-pin DMX output

VIDEO: 1 projector that is as bright as possible and have lens-shift and internal shutter; ideally 1920x1080px resolution and 5000 Lumen or more brightness and HDMI input
Depending on where the projector can be hung (it will be used to project onto the monolith object), we might also need telephoto lenses.

SOUND: 2 x full range speakers hung downstage
2 x full range speakers hung upstage (or if not possible then monitors on sides of stage for performer)
2 or more subs with sufficient wattage for loud electronic music placed under the audience or on sides of stage
mixer with ability to route and delay stereo signal among speakers
1/8" cable for output sound from laptop (mini jack)

TOUR DATES 2017-22

30th June + 1st July 2017, Sophiensæle Berlin
29th September 2017, Nottingham Contemporary
19th + 20th August 2017, Center for Contemporary Art, Glasgow
18th October 2017, Eden Court, Inverness
21st October 2017, DanceLive Festival Aberdeen
2nd April 2018, TweetAkt Festival, Utrecht
20th June 2018, Birmingham International Dance Festival
14th November 2018, South Bank Centre, London
20 - 24th August 2019, The British Council Showcase, Dance Base, Edinburgh
10th October 2020, OGR Turin, Italy
28th + 29th May 2021, Les Rose Des Vents Lille, France
22nd + 23rd Jan 2022, Le Lieu Unique Nantes, France

BODY A EXHIBITIONS 2018-20

Art Night London 2018
Temps D'Image festival Dusseldorf, Jan 2019
Present Futures Berlin, Feb 2019
Glasgow Gallery of Modern Art, June 2019
Porto Alegre en Cema Brazil, October 2020

BOOKING CONTACT

For fees and touring availability please contact

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