
COMPAGNIA VIRGILIO SIENI

TERRITORI DEL GESTO

ODE BARBARA (Barbarian Ode)

CANGO CANTIERI GOLDONETTA **SEPTEMBER 1st, 2022**





CANGO CANTIERI GOLDONETTA
THURSDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2022, 9pm

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ODE BARBARA (Barbarian Ode)

Choreography Virgilio Sieni
Dancers Delfina Stella, Michael Incarbone
Lights Marco Cassini

This performance is based on work undertaken as part of the research project *People in Motion: Entangled histories of displacement across the Mediterranean (1492-1923)* (Cost Action 18140), supported by COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology).

Scientific Committee:

Giovanni Tarantino

(University of Florence and Chair of the COST Action PIMo)

Cátia Antunes

(University of Leiden and Leader of the PIMo Workgroup "People in Motion")

Caterina Pagnini

(University of Florence)

Jan Lazardzig

(Freie Universität, Berlin)



"We are in a Song: an unexpected song where movement breaks down face to face in the empty space of a transparent room. A navigated and nomadic place that embraces a language made up of imperfect, diphonic gestures geared towards adjacency. The emotional space is created by the shadowy action generated by the slightest breeze of things. A sung dance that chemically dialogues with air molecules until it disappears."

Virgilio Sieni

Ode Barbara is a performance on the theme of travel, understood as a symbol of inner shifts. Inspired by the Song of Songs, the creation develops springing from a reflection on the tempos of encounters: two dancers, a man and a woman, inhabit a shadowy but negotiable room where every gesture and every appearance reconstructs the emotional paths of a shared process.

It is a duet that explores ideas of inhabiting, passage/transition and being on the inside, welcomed. The room is conceived as a light mobile encampment where movement and experimentation with gesture are simply the strain of belonging or the desire for estrangement, or a return to the origin of things.



VIRGILIO SIENI

Virgilio Sieni has been the director of the Dance Sector of the Venice Biennial since 2013.

A choreographer and dancer, Virgilio Sieni has been a protagonist of the Italian contemporary dance scene since the early 1980s. Born in Florence, he trained in classical and contemporary dance in Amsterdam, New York and Tokyo, and also studied visual arts, architecture and martial arts.

In 1992 he founded the Compagnia Virgilio Sieni, currently one of the most significant elements in the Italian choreographic panorama, with close ties to the most important European theaters and festivals, including Festival d'Avignon, Biennale de la Danse de Lyon, Charleroi Danse of Brussels and Theatre du Merlan, Scène Nationale de Marseille, as well as all the major Italian dance production locales.

As a guest choreographer, since the early 1990s Sieni has created choreographies for major Italian Operas and theatrical institutions including the Teatro alla Scala in Milan, the Teatro Comunale of Florence - Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, the Teatro San Carlo of Naples, the Teatro Massimo of Palermo and the Teatro dell'Opera of Roma. He has often collaborated with internationally-known visual artists, musicians and composers in the creation of his works. The musicians have included Alexander Balanescu, Giorgio Battistelli, Ennio Morricone, Steve Lacy, Francesco Giomi/Tempo Reale, Evan Parker and Stefano Scodanibbio. For costumes, Miuccia Prada has collaborated with him on three productions.

Since 2003, Virgilio Sieni has been the director of CANGO Cantieri Goldonetta in Florence: a space he conceived inside an historic building in the Oltrarno neighborhood, equipped to host dance and other body practices, artists, viewing and research on the contemporary languages of art. Springing from his experiences with the Company and with CANGO, in 2007 Virgilio Sieni founded the Academy of the Art of the Gesture, an innovative context geared towards transmitting artistic practices and defining a new relationship between training and production, aimed at both professionals and groups of novice dancers, from children to senior citizens, as well as the blind.

He supervises the publication of a series of books entitled *Il Gesto* in collaboration with the Maschietto Editore publishing house in Florence.

In 2013 Virgilio Sieni received the title of *Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres* from the French Minister of Culture Aurelie Filippetti.

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Via Santa Maria 25 - Firenze

neo-studio.it

FOR INFORMATION

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