

# Object Dance



*photo* *Tristán Pérez-Martín*

## OBJECT DANCE

In the past years, Federica Porello, Xavi Moreno and Marine Broise have developed a «basic vocabulary», which involves both inanimate objects and physical actors.

The "things" they work with are objects that, at first glance, have no function or meaning, but can, however, combine with each other or with parts of the body to form concepts and ideas through movement.

Object Dance is based on the relationship between objects and movement: making an object dance and giving concretion to movements. A dialogue between the physical properties of the object (texture, shape, weight) and a grammar of actions (hitting, moving, pushing, pulling, dropping, giving...) from which emerges a dance-metaphor of relationships.

The tension between the materiality of things and the immateriality of the gesture generates the energy of the performative discourse.

## THE WORKSHOP

This work offers tools of improvisation with objects and rules to play with them, which are at the same time specific and flexible, a frame to explore each one's singularity and expressive potential.

The sessions include:

- Individual or group warm ups exercises
- Individual improvisations, in pairs and in groups, in which different qualities of movement are studied, how to transfer them to the object, and how the physical properties of objects can inspire our dance.

The topics addressed are:

- The musicality of the gesture: the phrasing, the dynamics, the rhythm, the tone, the speed.
- The precision of movement: articulation, clarity.
- Listening to the other: people and things that surround us.
- Silence: stillness and stage presence.
- The dialogue between one's own sensorial experience, imaginary and emotions.



## THE ORIGINS

Xavi MORENO, Federica PORELLO and Marine BROISE met when integrating a "Movement Laboratory" between 2011 and 2013 under the impulse of the Circassian puppeteer Merlin BORG.

Together they shared a background work aimed at developing a common language between dance and puppet manipulation of human size. From this exploration was born **Commune Présence**, a show presented among other places at the Charleville-Mézières International Festival, the Mirepoix MIMA Festival and Vivacité in Normandy.

Fueled by this experience, they meet in 2016 to cultivate this quest for hybrid languages at the crossroads of body and object. But now they focus on the development of tools for improvisation and manipulation of objects, from which two essential work axes emerge: develop a practice that brings together these two disciplines and use this practice as a common language for the writing of a dramaturgy derived from improvised scores, leaving the performer a freedom of spontaneous reaction of the movement.

**WeWood**, premiered at the MIMA Festival in Mirepoix in August 2018, is the first work by Federica, Xavi and Marine, a show for three performers and 24 objects without history: remains, pieces of wood with which they play and assemble to create volumes, Cubist landscapes or animated figures and with which they compose sound and visual music.

The second creation fed by the practice Object dance is **Nowhen** (2022), a spoken and danced monologue, created and played by Federica Porello, assisted by Xavi Moreno.

### **The people who have accompanied us a part of our path:**

Marine Broise-Troude, Olivier Broise-Troude, Nalda Broise-Troude, Fanny Thollot, Joana Serra, Guillem Gelabert, Andreu Bramon, Benjamin Sommabere, Tristan Pérez-Martín, Leo Castro, Xavi Bobes, Eduard Teixidor, Pep Ramis, Maria Muñoz, Roland Shön, Carme Puigdevall Plantés, Romy Deprez, Sylvie Cocrelle, Anne-Sophie Roffe, Rémy Lambert, Niels Freitag, Katherine Sheng Morrison, Pep Aymerich, Sira Aymerich, Zoltan Vakulya, María Mora, Majo Villafaina, María Fernanda Soberon, Enric Fabregas, Jaume Fiol, Mariantonia Oliver, and the participants in the Object Dance Workshops.

### **The places that have welcomed us:**

CATALUNYA : C.C.Guinardò, Adriantic, Antic Teatre, La Visiva, Teatre Zona Nord, La Caldera, L'animal a l'esquena, IF Festival, Institut del Teatre, Sala Hiroshima, Teatre L'Ateneu de Celrà, Escola de dansa de Celrà / Teatro Pradillo (Madrid), EiMa (Maria de la Salut, Mallorca) / FRANCE : Probedones d'Abaigt, La Page d'Aventure, le Théâtre de Cuisine, Odradek/ Pupella-Nogués, La Cave Cooperative, Le Casino de Lavelanet, Festival MIMA, Théâtre du Bois de L'Aune/ AUSTRIA: Tanzhouse Salzburg.

*"We don't play with things nor images,  
We play with objects that at the same time  
fold and resist our desires. We are with  
them in a state of union and separation.  
To play with things is to be in union with  
them in the very place of our separation".*

*Francis Ponge*

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