

TACTILE SENSATIONS

(ESCALES TACTILES)

Interactive choreography and augmented tactility

Dance and digital art



Tactile Sensations is an interactive dance performance which deals with the relationship to the body of the other.

Throughout the dance performance, the contacts between the dancers reveal musical and luminous impulses in real-time. Energies of the touch between the bodies become sensitive, tangible, audible. The sounds reveal emotions, rhythms and impacts. The music created in real-time by the dancers evokes diverse, strong, fragile and transitory energies.

The choreographic score gives the audience a multi-sensory experience which explores the possibilities for interlacing with an interactive setup able to augment the invisible impulses of the dancers' bodies, making them perceptible.

The circular scenography is a space of meeting as well as a space of confrontation, a ring, an arena surrounded by the audience. Its light format makes it easy for the performance to be presented in non-conventional spaces – indoors or outdoors. The scenography can easily be installed on any given flat surface.

Choreographers

Anne Holst & Jean-Marc Matos (Compagnie K. Danse): www.k-danse.net

Interactive design, lights and sounds

Scenocosme (Gregory Lasserre & Anaïs met den Ancxt): www.scenocosme.com

Dancers

Aude Miyagi & Julien Lecuziat

Artistic Theme

“the body does not exist; it is nothing but connective tissue”

Hubert Godard quoted by Kozel S. in Closer, MIT Press, Massachusetts, 2007

Tactile Sensations is a dance performance concerning touch in our post-industrial society.

The performance investigates the many levels and meanings of touch and its social construction: the connection to memory and human attachment, memory, emotion, desire, rejection... This investigation of touch within the performance is augmented and made more clearly perceptible to the audience by adding the aural sense in that each moment of touch produces a specific sound connected to the meaning and timing of this touch.

In our culture, vision is privileged and touch is conditioned by cultural rules. Rejecting traditional ocularcentrism of traditional performance, **Tactile Sensations** defies the vision of the spectator by putting forward touch as the triggering element for sound and light, depending on the degree of physical interaction between dancers, the intimacy of touch, and the degree of the exploration of intimate space versus public space. Therefore **Tactile Sensations** transforms the experience of sight by connecting audience vision to his/her own corporality.

Exploring bodies become bodies dancing these encounters: between dancer's bodies, distance-proximity between bodies and parts of the body, which attract each other, repel, rub against, hesitate, and meet with each other until fusing.

Links between dance / music / lights / interactivity

Tactile Sensations is a performative and sensorial experience of the choreographic staging of touch.

The technological innovation implies the conception of a reactive costume and dance floor, original interactive music and lighting as well as the development of software and an electronic platform capable of treating and translating in real time the information coming from the contact zones determined by the choreography.

The interaction between the bodies, the sound and the light, is based on a principle of conducting and increased electrostatic contact between the bodies of the dancers. Their interactive costumes are composed of surfaces of conductive textile.

Like the image of the positive and negative poles of an electrical circuit or force of attraction-repulsion of the magnet, various methods of interaction between the bodies are explored. To induce the perception of this invisible dimension, technical devices allow for the production of different sounds evolving in real time according to the quality of the touch and the parts of the body concerned.

Sound and visual artwork

The choreographic approach of this project is the composition of dance, sound and lights.

Energies produced by the contact between the bodies become sensitive and audible. The sounds translate emotion, bodily states, and bodily impacts. The music produced in real-time evokes different kinds of energies strong, fragile or ephemeral.

Interactive devices

Constructing a language, a visual and aural score based on touch: exploring and defining sensitive and reactive zones.

Tactile Sensations puts forward the making of various interactive and tactile aural set-ups.

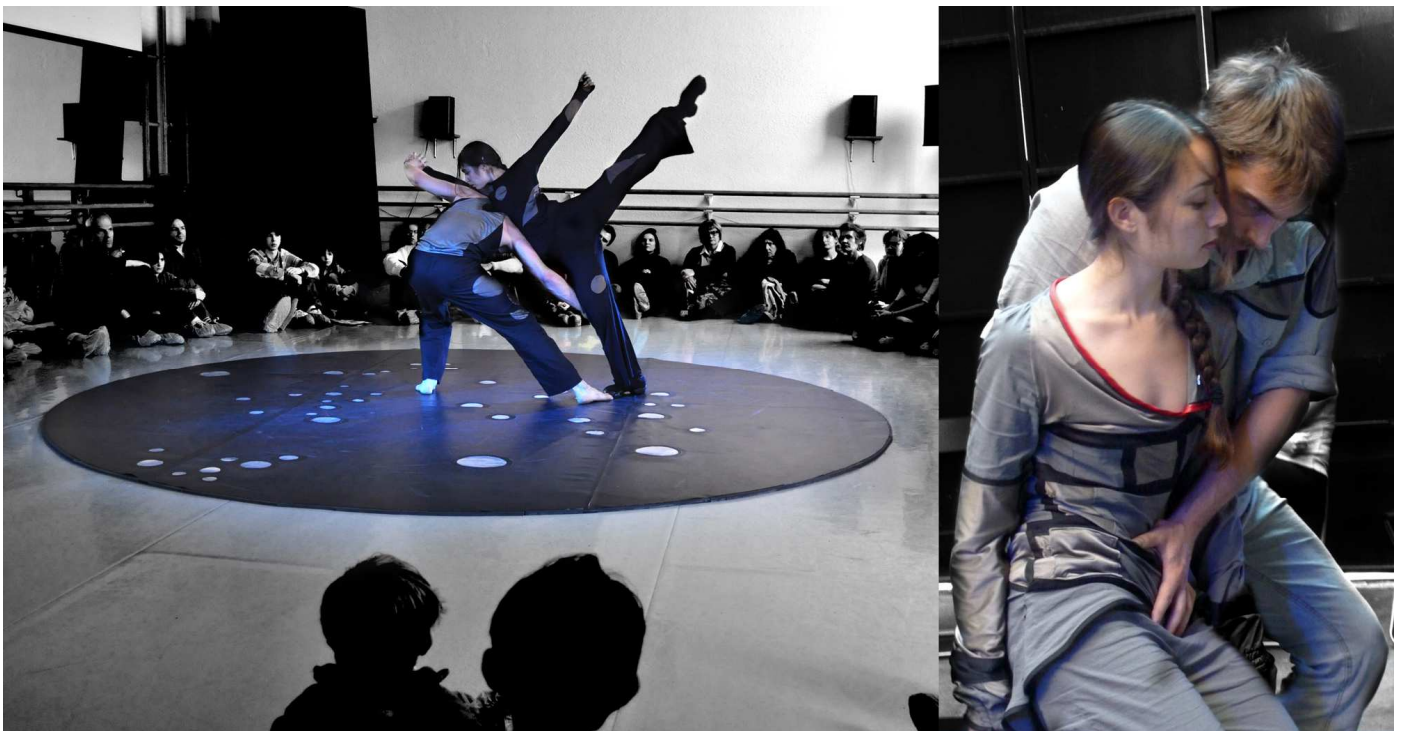
For this performance, two different set-ups have been developed: a conductive/communicative /sensitive/sensory/reactive costume and a reactive dance floor.

- **A reactive costume** with various zones which react differently according to the location of the contact with the dancer's body.
- **A reactive circular dance floor** with a specific network which links various contact locations on the floor.

This set-up allows the questioning of degrees of proximity that we have with the other, according to the location of contact between bodies. Interfaces are the sensitive costume, the dance floor and the human body itself.

The contact sensors are integrated inside the dancer's costume. They allow the contact with the skin of the second dancer. These sensors then send real time data to the computer which allows for real time interaction with the light and sound composition, according to the quality of the touch of the sensitive zones : strong or light for example.

For Tactile Sensations, Scenocosme has created a **reactive costume** for the dancers which allow them to have **augmented bodies**. Tactile contacts between dancers generate sound and lights for the performance.



The performance unfolds on a circular dance floor to enable a close relationship between the dancers. This dance floor can be installed inside or outside, in theatres, galleries or outdoor public spaces etc. and the performance can be experienced from any degree or angle and proximity. The dance floor defines the contact zones on the floor taking into consideration the desired proximities and distances between the dancers.

Context, collaborative team

Tactile Sensations is collaboration between:

K. Danse: The choreographers, Jean-Marc Matos et Anne Holst, pioneers in the field of choreographic writing and digital media, create dance performances integrated with digital arts (Price winner in the Bagnolet International Dance Festival). Their performances have toured around the world.

And

Scenocosme: Artists working with digital arts. Gregory Lasserre & Anaïs met den Ancxt, who combine digital art, music and architecture in order to conceive interactive installations which are sensitive and poetic. Scenocosme have exhibited their interactive installation artworks in many international biennials and digital art festivals around the world.



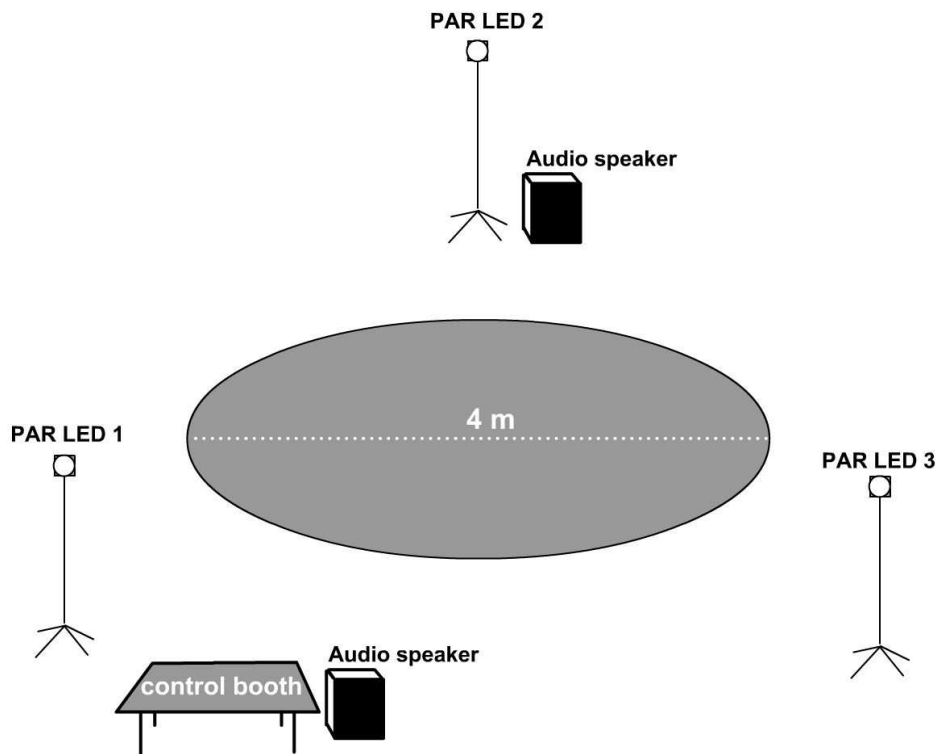
Previous touring

- Festival les Bains Numériques – Enghien les Bains (FR)
- Festival Electrochoc – Les Abattoirs – Bourgoin Jallieu (near Lyon) (FR)
- Le Cube – Centre de Création Numérique – Issy-Les-Moulineaux (FR)
- Festival Horizons numériques - Abbaye de l'Escaladieu – Bonnemazon (FR)
- Festival Le Souffle de l'Equinoxe / Conservatoire – Poitiers (FR)
- Lieu Commun - Espace d'Art Contemporain (CorpusMedia 2011) - Toulouse (FR)
- La Caldera (CorpusMedia 2011) – Barcelone (SPAIN)
- Théâtre de la Digue - Toulouse (FR)
- Théâtre Marcel Pagnol - Villeneuve-Tolosane (FR)
- Cité de l'Espace - Toulouse (FR)
- Alénya (Perpignan) - rendez-vous transfrontaliers Pyrénées Méditerranée (FR)



Technical requirements

- A suitable space for dancing - a space needed for the circular dance floor provided by the artists (4 meters diameter) on a flat surface free of obstacles plus space for a surrounding audience.
- Light: Structure (stands, etc.) for the hanging of 3 LED RVB projectors with DMX control and DMX cable (the artists can provide the lamps if necessary)
- 2-3 theater light projectors, 500 W, on stands with simple manual dimmer board (optional)
- Sound: Stereo sound system, connected to a laptop
- 2 laptops (provided by the artists)
- Electricity: Access to two electrical 220 V sockets (Lights and sound need different sockets).



Artistic team

4 (2 dancers, 1 digital manager, 1 technician)

If technical assistance can be provided by the performance space, the team can be reduced to 3.

Best setup time

One day before the show or early in the morning

Artists' CVs

K. Danse

Anne Holst and **Jean-Marc Matos** are choreographers and artistic directors of the K. Danse Company.
www.k-danse.net

Anne HOLST, born in Denmark, she stages, choreographs, and directs dance performances for K. Danse. She has studied classical ballet, contemporary dance, Butoh and physical theatre in Denmark and England, has obtained a BA (First class) Dance in Society, an MA (Choreography) from the University of Surrey (theory and practice: choreography, dance anthropology, dance analysis), and an MA (Distinction) in The Body as a Medium of Expression from the Royal Hollowing University of London, Department of Theatre and New Media. She studied choreography with Rosemary Butcher in London, and has created more than 25 dance performances in France and many other countries since 1992.

Jean-Marc MATOS, of French-American nationality, trained with Merce Cunningham in New-York, and performed with David Gordon (Judson Church). He works on choreographic projects that investigate the body in the context of new technologies and media, in order to develop new choreographic methodologies for new societal contexts. He has created more than 40 dance performances in various countries.

The choreographic approach of the K. Danse Company is the development of a contemporary movement language by the dialectic confrontation between the physical body (lived, experienced) and the visual body (seen, virtual). The performances question the borders between fiction and reality, the social construction of the body, and the psychological structures in human relationships.

Since 1983, K. Danse has been present in major festivals and cultural manifestations in France and abroad : Festivals d'Aix en Provence, Avignon, la Rochelle, Châteauvallon, Métafort d'Aubervilliers, Centre Américain de Paris, Centre Georges Pompidou, Grande Halle de la Villette, Maison des Arts de Créteil, Maison de la Danse de Lyon, Centre National Art et Technologie de Reims, Centre National de la Danse, ISEA 2000 à Paris, Monaco Dance Forum, Espace Odysseus of Blagnac, Cité de l'Espace of Toulouse, Centre de Création Numérique Le Cube d'Issy Les Moulineaux, Centre des Arts of Enghien les Bains, ... The company has toured in India, Central America, Morocco, Spain, Mexico, Venezuela, Great Britain, Germany, Pakistan, Belgium, Hungary, Canada and USA and has presented performances in the Soros Center of Budapest, Video Fest and Podewill Centrum, Berlin, Hamburg International Festival, Foundation Polar in Caracas, Festival Medi@rte in Monterrey (Mexico), Festival VAD Girona and IDN Barcelona (Catalonia, Spain), Festival DiD at studio AEIP of Milano (Italy), International Video Art Festival of Casablanca (Morocco), The National Theatre of Guatemala City (Guatemala), NIAS of Bangalore (India), ScenoFest Festival as part of the Quadrennial of Prague (Czech republic), L'lunes d'EsBaluard of Palma de Mallorca (Balearic Islands, Spain), ...

More information on K. Danse: <http://www.k-danse.net/en/>

Artists' CVs

Scenocosme

Gregory Lasserre & Anaïs met den Ancxt are two artists who work together with the name Scenocosme.
www.scenocosme.com

They develop the concept of interactivity in their artworks by using multiple kind of expression : art, technology, sounds and architecture.

They mix art and digital technology in order to find substances of dreams, poetries, sensitivities and delicacies. They also explore invisible relationships with our environment: they can feel energetic variations of living beings. They design interactive artworks, and choreographic collective performances, where spectators share extraordinary sensory experiences.

Their artworks have been presented in several contemporary art and digital art spaces.

Since 2004, they have exhibited their interactive installation artworks at ZKM Karlsruhe Centre for Art and Media (Germany), at Museum Art Gallery of Nova Scotia (Canada), at Villa Romana of (Firenze), at Bòlit / Centre d'Art Contemporani (Girona) and in many international biennals and festivals : Art Center Nabi / INDAF (Seoul), Experimenta (Australia), BIACS 3 / Biennial International of Contemporary Art of Seville (Spain), NAMOC / National Art Museum of China / TransLife / Triennial of Media Art (Beijing), C.O.D.E (Canada), Futuresonic (UK), WRO (Pologne), FAD (Brasil), ISEA / International Symposium on Electronic Art (Belfast & Istanbul), EXIT, VIA, Lille3000, Ososphere, Scopitone, Seconde nature (France)... during important events : World Expo (Shanghai), Nuits Blanches (Toronto, Brussels, Brighton, Amiens), Fête des lumières (Lyon)... and in various art centers : Kibla (Slovenia), KIM? (Latvia), Utsikten Kunstsenter (Norway), MONA (Australia), Watermans (UK), Centre des arts d'Enghien-les-Bains, Carré des Jalles, Maison Salvan (France)....

Book of Scenocosme: www.scenocosme.com/bio_e.htm

Dancers

Aude Miyagi

French – Japanese dancer trained in ballet, contemporary dance and modern jazz. Aude Miyagi has performed in television productions, for French choreographer Karine Saporta, K. Danse Company etc. She also has a degree in design and designs costumes for various productions.

Julien Lecuziat

French dancer, actor and acrobat trained in circus disciplines in Madrid and Toulouse. Julien Lecuziat works with the choreographers: Anne Holst, Jean-Marc Matos, Myriam Naisy, Claude Brumachon, Denis Plassard, Benoit Bar, Frederic Jolivet... and with the theatre director Solange Oswald and the group Merci. He practices improvisation in urban environments (documentary « espèce de corps » by Frederic Jolivet). He takes part in the design of performance machines with the collective « Tonne-de-faire ». Julien also creates his own projects.

Contacts, links

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Partners

Tactile Sensations is part of the euroregional project CorpusMedia 2011 in partnership with Catalonia, Languedoc-Roussillon and the Balearic Islands.

