

DESTINATA GUERRIERA



Foto Francesco Spagnuolo

Choreography: Isabella Giustina

With Isabella Giustina

Music: Electric Kulintang, Tibor Szemző, Laurie Anderson, Raime

Co-production Company Blu/Giardino Chiuso

supported by

MiBACT Ministero dei Beni Culturali e del Turismo and REGIONE TOSCANA

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Destinata Guerriera investigates the warrior-woman figure that appears in Renaissance poems of chivalry.

While the ends of the care free and playful time of her childhood approaches, this woman comes to apprehend her destiny and begins to develop those traits that will have to be her fundamental qualities: force, courage, determination.

She is a woman, but she is obliged to leave her femininity and wear the chivalric armor, which will make her indistinguishable from cavaliers.

Being a Diana devotee, she is destined to virginity. She is not allowed to love; or she is forced to conceal her romantic feelings.

This is what the warrior woman must look like: strong, brave, determined and indiscernible from men.

But behind this appearance hides the delicate femininity, the sweet sensuality and the capability to love of this young girl, who cannot reveal her real feelings.

Having no other choice than following her fate, this woman becomes persuaded that she is not a delicate girl but a warrior woman: she hides her long hair, she leaves her white gown and she wears the dress that will hide her feminine figure.

Upon taking over her new dress and her new appearance, the warrior woman is ready to fight.

This work invites to reflect about the role of women not only in the mythic-literary context but also in the contemporary world, where the complexity of female identity is still an unsolved issue. Even though literally not compelled to a warrior's fate, contemporary women must deal with the coexistence of their feminine identity, being women, partners, mothers, with the duties and responsibilities of professional life. Today women find themselves occupying roles that for long time have been strictly masculine.

Project made in residence at:

Sesto TRAM- Theatre of Multiple Artistic Residence (Art. 45 year 2016)- Sesto Fiorentino, supported by MiBACT and Regione Toscana (Company Blu);
Teatro dei Leggieri- San Gimignano (Compagnia Giardino Chiuso);
Sala Bergamas- Gradisca d'Isonzo (a. Artisti Associati- Compagnia Arearea).

Project selected for:

(In)Generazione - Fondazione Fabbrica Europa per le arti contemporanee;
FOCUS, choreographic residency project- a.Artisti Associati, Compagnia Arearea, ERT Ente Regionale Teatrale del FVG;
Miniatures, choreographic competition for contemporary solos;
Network XL Anticorpi (2017/2019);
ESSENZIALE Festival, Essen;
Solo Dance Contest 2018/Gdansk Festiwal Tanca, Gdansk, Poland.

Artistic consultation

Charlotte Zerbey, Patrizia De Bari.

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Foto Andel Goy

Extracts from Destinata Guerriera

<https://vimeo.com/333525234>

ISABELLA GIUSTINA



Foto Andel Goy

She started dancing in 1996. After studying for about ten years at a local dance school in Monfalcone, in 2007 she moved to Florence to pursue a professional training at the dance academy Opus Ballet. After that, from 2011 to 2012, she attended the vocational training in Nikolais technique held by Simona Bucci and Paolo Mereu in Florence.

In 2013 she moved to Brussels to study with a number of choreographers active in Belgium, among which Thi-Mai Nguyen, Robert M Hayden, German Jauregui, Inaki Azpillaga, David Zambrano, Peter Jasko, Anton Lachky, Dominique Duszynski. In Brussels she also regularly attended the company classes at Ultima Vez (Wim Vandekeybus).

In 2013 she participated in the Biennale Danza in Venice directed by Virgilio Sieni.

From 2014 to 2017 she has attended every year Carolyn Carlson's one-week masterclass at the Atelier de Paris.

In 2016 and 2017 she attended the vocational training in contemporary dance "Progetto Azione" that consists in monthly masterclasses with Tuscan choreographers.

She has been employed by dance companies since 2011 and has danced in the following shows: *Visitazione* (2011) and *Locus* (2012) by Virgilio Sieni; *If* (2012) and *(Ri)conoscere* (2014) by Compagnia Gabriella Secchi; *Sguardi nel tempo* (2012) and *Ultima Cena* (2013) by Giardino Chiuso; *Incontri inaspettati* (2014) and *Enter Lady Macbeth* (2014) by Compagnia Simona Bucci; *Angel* (2015) by Charlotte Zerbey–Company Blu; *Arcitaliani* (2015), *Mille brividi d'amore* (2016) and *La scomparsa delle lucciole* (2017) by Gianfranco Pedullà – choreography by Paolo Mereu; *Nata Femmina* (2017) by Paola Vezzosi–Compagnia ADARTE; *Alla Montagna* (2018) by Sabrina Mazzuoli; *Re-Mark* (2018) by Sang Jijia, *Sea Rant* (2018) by Company Blu/Alessandro Certini and Charlotte Zerbey; *Pinocchio* (2019) by Giardino Chiuso/Compagnia Opus Ballet/Versiliadanza/Fabbrica Europa.

In 2017 she created *Destinata Guerriera*, a dance solo which was selected for *Vetrina del Network Antcorpi XL 2017* platform, for *Essenziale Festival 2017* (Essen/Germany) and for the *Solo Dance Contest 2018/Gdanski Festiwal Tanca* (Gdansk/Poland).

In 2018 she created *Mutamenti*, a dance solo which was selected for *Fabbrica Europa 2018* Festival in Florence. *Mutamenti* is also the winner project of *TenDance 2018* prize organised by Ricky Bonavita and Theodor Rawyler in Latina (LT, Italy).

She was selected for *Crossing the Sea 2019*, a project that aims to establish collaborations between Italy, Asian countries and the Middle East: in Singapore Isabella has created the show *Hanging in the Balance* for the T.H.E Second Company, which has debuted at the *M1 Contact Contemporary Dance Festival 2019*.