

MDLSX

**By Motus**

Presented by Arts House and Midsumma Festival

Thursday 31 January 2019 – Saturday 2 February 2019

80 mins

$35 l $30

Artist Statement

MDLSX is an explosive sound device, a lysergic and solitary hymn to the freedom of becoming, to gender b(l)ending, to being other than the borders of the body, skin colour, sexual organs, being other than an imposed or acquired nationality, a belonging to a Fatherland.

In On Becoming Europeans, Rosi Braidotti refers to a post-nationalist identity by speaking of “an open belonging to Multiplicities”. MDLSX aims to go beyond categories (including the artistic categories too). It is Silvia Calderoni’s road trip who, after 10 years with Motus, experiments with a Dj/Vj set-like format in order to start an exploration around borders.

Autobiographical moments and literary evocations come together, and MDLSX, by blurring action and reality, swings from Gender Trouble to Undoing Gender. Quoting Judith Butler who, with Donna Haraway’s A Cyborg Manifesto, Paul B. Preciado’s Manifeste Contra-sexuel and other bits of the kaleidoscopic universe of Queer, weaves the background of this “monster-performance”.

The change needed is so profound that it is impossible to say. So deep that says it is unimaginable. But the impossible is to come. And the unthinkable is due. (“Feminism is not a humanism”, Paul B. Preciado).

Artistic Credits

**Performer:** Silvia Calderoni

**Directors:** Enrico Casangrande and Daniela Nicolò

Biographies

**Silvia Calderoni**

**Performer**

Silvia Calderoni began her career at an early age with Teatro Valdoca, and since 2006 has worked with Motus, specially creating performances exploring her androgyny.

Her performances include Cruel Tales of Youth (2007), Antigone in Syrma Antigònes (2009), The Plot is the Revolution (2011), Nella Tempesta (2013) and internationally acclaimed MDLSX (2015).

She has also worked extensively for cinema: in 2011 she starred alongside Vincent Gallo in Davide Manuli’s film The Legend of Kaspar Hauser, and later she acted in feature films under the direction of Roberta Torre, Francesca Comencini and Roberto Andò, as well as in various music videos.

Calderoni was awarded many prizes: UBU for Best Actress Under 30 (2009), MArte Award for Best Actress (2013), Elizabeth Turroni award for Best Actress (2014), Virginia Reiter Prize for the Best Italian Actress Under 35 (2015), Best Performer Award at Dublin Fringe Festival and at Sarajevo MESS Festival (2017).

**Enrico Casangrande and Daniela Nicolò**

**Directors**

Motus was founded in 1991 in Rimini by Enrico Casagrande and Daniela Nicolò, the group burst onto the scene with productions wielding great physical and emotional impact and has always anticipated and portrayed some of the harshest contradictions of the present day. Throughout the years, the group has created theatre shows, performances, installations and videos, conducted seminars and workshops, taken part in interdisciplinary festivals. They’ve received numerous acknowledgements, including three UBU Prizes and prestigious special awards for their work. Freethinkers, Motus have performed all over the world, from Under the Radar in New York, to Festival Trans Amériques in Montreal, PuSh Festival in Vancouver, Santiago a Mil (Chile), the Fiba Festival in Buenos Aires, Adelaide Festival in Australia or Taipei Arts Festival in Taiwan, as well as all over Europe.

**Thank you**

In collaboration with La Villette - Résidence d’artistes 2015 Paris, Create to Connect (EU project) Bunker/ Mladi Levi Festival Lubiana, Santarcangelo 2015 Festival Internazionale del Teatro in Piazza, L’arboreto - Teatro Dimora di Mondaino, MARCHE TEATRO with the support of MiBACT, Regione Emilia Romagna

About Arts House

Arts House, a key program of the City of Melbourne, is Melbourne’s centre for contemporary and experimental performance and interactive artforms, providing a nexus for cultural expression and social connection in a city environment. We support new and diverse ways to make and experience art. We produce and present art which is participatory and experiential, interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary, curated through a balance of provocation, responsiveness and collaboration with artists and audiences

Acknowledgement of Country

Arts House respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, the Boon Wurrung and Woiwurrung (Wurundjeri) peoples of the Kulin Nation and pays respect to their Elders, past and present.

For the Kulin Nation, Melbourne has always been an important meeting place for events of social, educational, sporting and cultural significance.

Today we are proud to say that Melbourne is a significant gathering place for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

**For more information, please contact us on the details below.**

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