Opposite

background

The Compagnie Oposito has been treading the roads around the globe for the last eighteen years. From Noisy-le-Sec to Addis Ababa, in the streets, boulevards, squares, on water, on the sea and in lifts...

Credits

14 shows written and performed over 400 times.
Creation of 55 monumental events (in France, Europe, Africa...).
Direction of thirty urban festivals.
Invention of two festivals (Grains de Folie, Rencontres d'Ici et d'Ailleurs)
Collaboration with over fifty international companies.
Foundation of a street theatre production centre.
Street theatre lobbyist.

Choices

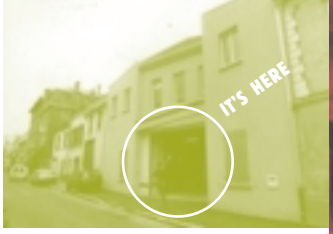
An artistic adventure is not measured in seasons or calendar years. It is a journey, a bias over time, a long-term vision. The Oposito company is convinced that a street show is a modern artistic language with cosmopolitan roots drawing on theatre and its generosity, on the freedom of poetry and the energy of travellers. Oposito provokes new encounters, oves weaving new ties, mixing people and genres. It upholds its will to carry on telling cities the stories they have taken the risk to co-write. Over the years, either singly or in collaboration with our "corporation", we have invented and set up the necessary tools for the evolution and artistic movement to which we belong: street arts.

Our projects are supported by:

The city of Noisy-le-Sec; the Ministry for Culture (DRAC Ile-de-France and DMDTS);
The regional council of Ile-de-France;
The general council of Seine-Saint-Denis;
The Ministry for Youth and Sports (DDJS)

COMPANY PRODUCTIONS FROM 1983 TO 2001

84 Métamorphosis
85 Songe d'une nuit d'un cirque en hiver, L'Enfer des Phalènes
86 La Rumeur
87 Le Toro de Fuego, Le Record du Monde de gonflage de ballons
88 l'Unité Mobile
89 Max 36/15
90 Boxing Club
91 Opération Tapis Rouge
93 Massacre
94 Le Cinématophone
95 Les Imprévisibles
96 Manifeste pour un Moulin
97 Transhumance, l'heure du troupeau
01 Les Trottoirs de Jo'Burg... mirage



The moulin fondu's homeport

History

In 1994, under the initiative of the Compagnie Oposito and with the collaboration of the Gérard Philipe Cultural Centre of Noisy-le-Sec, the construction of a workspace is considered in the Paris region. The company's work was in phase with current developments in street arts. In 1991, professional street artists and institutions suggested that a structure be created for artists to elaborate their shows in suitably adapted premises. That is when the appellation "Place of Fabrication for Street Arts" was born. Following the agreement of the different institutional partners, the French Ministry for Culture, the General Council of Seine-Saint-Denis, the Regional Council of the Ile-de-France and of the City of Noisy-le-Sec, an old farm in the historic quarter of Noisy-le-Sec was rehabilitated. The Moulin Foundu was inaugurated on 7 January 1996.

Presentation

The Moulin Fondu, is 900 sq. m of original, functional and spacious premises, located in a historic district of Noisy-le-Sec near the town centre and just five minutes' walk from the train station. It houses a rehearsal room (200 sq. m) equiped with sound, a meeting room with video equipment, wardrobe, workshop, accommodation for up to six people, kitchen and bathroom.

Oposito's homeport

The repercussions of such a tool on our evolution are clear. Our team, writing and position in the network of modern and innovative cultural bodies have been strengthened. The multiple guest visits to and meetings at the Moulin Fondu, collective events, written and designed for "Rencontres d'Ici et d'Ailleurs", the countries and cities visited, all testify to the vitality of our itinerary and the quality of our creations.

The moulin fondu
as residence

The place of fabrication, a shared tool

Our company has always put its workspace at the disposal of other artistic teams. It is an integral part of the way we work, a pretext for exchanges and mutual enrichment.

It was logical for our team to be associated with the conception and the setting up of places of fabrication for street arts as early as 1992. The creation of the Moulin Fondu has enabled us to develop our relationships to others in an exponential way. It has allowed us to provide a qualitative approach to residences in terms of comfort and support. About forty teams have benefited from this dynamic to date. These steps, often taken in association with other places of fabrication, have had qualitative results on our productions over recent seasons.

Our project is now going through a transitional phase. It's a history in the making, in full evolution. After six years' experience at the Moulin Fondu, we have to reconsider the notion of our residence and fabrication space.

It is not about moving but extending the Moulin Fondu space and its project to the city of Noisy-le-Sec by building a complementary pole: the "Grand Moulin".

The projection of this extension will obviously be conducted by an artistic team responsible for its destiny and within the framework of an outward looking, space sharing policy at the service of other major or emerging artistic ventures.

COMPANIES-IN-RESIDENCE SINCE 1996

YANNICK JAULIN
"Fleur de nombril" Tale

ANNIBAL ET SES ELÉPHANTS
"Attention aux chiens" Street theatre

LES PIÉTONS
"Bat mad" Street theatre

DÉCOR SONORE
"Boîtes à musique" Music

GENRE DE CIRQUE Circus

KUMULUS
"Family Express" Street theatre

DORIANE MORETUS
"Butterfly Blues" Theatre/dance

DÉCOR SONORE
"La Petite Bande Passante" Music

ACOUSTEEL GANG
"Chic!" Fanfare

DORIANE MORETUS
"Bubble Bee Bzz" Theatre/dance

BOXING EXPRESS
"Les Oiseaux Vaches" Street theatre

QUAI D'SCÈNE
"Le Voleur d'Autobus" Theatre

LES COSTARDS
"mEtissab0" Fanfare

TRACE(S) EN POUDRE
"Portées Dis..." Theatre of movement

DÉCOR SONORE
"Les Monstrations Inouïes" Musical conference

ARTHUR ET ASTRIDE
"Eldträff" Flame thrower

LES ALAMA'S GIVRÉS
"La Pirogue" Street theatre

les trottoirs de jo'burg

Parade

Scenario, stage setting and scenography:
Oposito company
Musical Universe:
Michel Risse of the Décor Sonore company

In the last years, the Oposito's journeys took the company to Africa, from Ethiopia to South Africa. Subtlety and complexity were at the heart of the adventure. From reality to mirage, the strong emotional impact of those epics journeys will stay forever within the company. The kind of event that leaves you breathless, tumbles your spirit and feeds your senses. The company brings back from there its parade, a tribute to the women and children of those countries.

THE SHOW IS CO-PRODUCED BY :
Le Fourneau [en Bretagne] - L'Abattoir / Festival Chalon dans la Rue, Chalon-sur-Saône - Festival Eclat, Aurillac - L'Atelier 231 / Festival VivaCité, Sotteville-lès-Rouen - Le Moulin Fondu / Les Rencontres d'Ici et d'Ailleurs, Noisy-le-Sec - Theater op de Markt / Dommelhof Neerpelt (Belgique) - Culture Commune, Scène Nationale, Loos-en-Gohelle - Festival Juste pour Rire, Montréal (Canada) - Festival la fête dans la Ville, Amiens métropole - Festival Coup de chauffe, Cognac

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:
Le Manège, Scène Nationale, Reims

The stage setting acts to give the images a sensation of visual, sound and olfactory successive mirages. The persons, the timeless nomads, with the clay faces, live in mirages, give them life. They express themselves solo or in choir, build on the night border villages as rainbow. Together, they make you listen to songs of enjoyment, but also the thunder of the anger. They do not stay, they are only passing by, from mirage to mirage, they cross the city. Associating the game, the song, the music, the dance as well as the manipulation of objects, the interpreters evolve on a collective partition.

... mirage

le cinématophone

A co-production of Oposito and Décor Sonore

" They are ten musical automatons dressed like soldiers, with heavy make up, smiling and wandering with large and curious loudspeakers hanging over their heads. In their midst, a gracious and fragile diva seems lost and searching. Dressed in a long 1900s robe, a heavy pearl necklace and a medusa like head piece made of 35mm film, she wanders about, her mind lost in her own thoughts. Her mysterious gestures seem to indicate a direction which the automatons accept as theirs. Sometimes chaos erupts, the automatons assail the diva or scatter in all directions. Not a word is said; simply an extremely surprising and complex score blaring out from each automaton's loudspeaker: marching band, opera, waltz, animals cries, even disrupted telephone conversations. A fascinating procession during which the identity of the diva remains hidden while the attitudes and postures of the soldiers will leave many in awe. A bright and poetic event, a momentary and turbulent dream, a very curious story, a revelation which disapears without the obligatory salute in a rave of applaud."

1994 BAGNEUX Fête des Vendanges, BREST Grains de Folie, CLAYE-SOUILLY Festimagic

1995 CALAIS, NOISY-LE-SEC Rencontres d'Ici et d'Ailleurs, VILLEURBANNE Eclanova, AURILLAC Eclat, BREST les Jeudis du Port, LA COURNEUVE Rues de l'Humanité, CHOISY-LE-ROI, LES ULIS, PARC ASTÉRIX

1996 SOTTEVILLE-LES-ROUEN Viva-Cité, SAINT-GAUDENS La Saint Gaudingue, CHALON-SUR-SAÔNE Chalon dans la rue, GAND Straattheater European Gent Festival (B), NEERPELT Theater op de Markt (B), LE BLANC-MESNIL le Forum fait sa place, SURESNES Evénement Nuit Blanche, PÉRIGUEUX Inauguration of François Mitterrand Culturel Center, EDIMBOURG Hogmanay (GB)

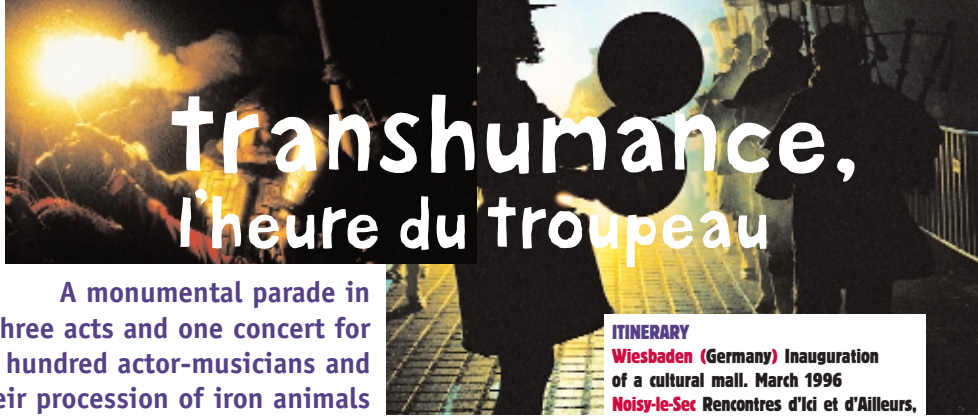
1997 VALLADOLID Arteanima (E), NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNES Inauguration "Le Solitaire" (GB), FNAC ST-LAZARE Inauguration, MONTREUIL-SOUS-BOIS Intérieur rues, DOETINCHEM Stichting Straattheater Festival (NL), DREUX, STOCKTON-ON-TEES Stockton International Riverside Festival (GB), DORNBIRN Impuls Festival (A), SÈTE Les Joutes de Sète, LES BEAUX-ARTS DE PARIS Convention Olympus

1998 LA VILLETTE le Hall de la chanson, ZUG (CH), BERCY Convention Peugeot, POZNAN Malta Festival et JELENIA GORA (P), OOSTENDE (B), SIDMOUTH, NEWTON ABBOTT, PLYMOUTH National Street Arts Festival (GB) TROCADÉRO Handicap International

1999 GARE DE MAGENTA Inauguration RER, GRAZ Festival La Strada et LOIPERSDORF (A), SOWETO ET ALEXANDRA, JOHANNESBOURG (SA)

2000 SAINT-GAUDENS Les Pronomades, MONTRÉAL Festival Juste pour Rire (CAN), MONTREUIL Opening of the Salon du Livre de Jeunesse...

SPECTACLE



transhumance, l'heure du troupeau

A monumental parade in three acts and one concert for two hundred actor-musicians and their procession of iron animals

Script, direction and stage setting: Oposito.
Rhythmic creation: Métalovoice.
Orchestration, concert direction: Décor Sonore.
With the Bagad of Briec or of Plougastel. A parade is one of the signs most adapted to the language of crowds and open spaces. Its movement is built by successive apparitions. Its rhythm takes the public by surprise, knocking it sideways and from behind... to captivate it, lead it and embark it as an unconditional passenger into our dream.
We prepared ourselves for this adventure.
We created it to our measure with the best of the multiple relationships we have established over the last fifteen years.
"Transhumance, l'heure du troupeau" is a show borne out of our experiences. It is inscribed in time, each leg feeding the next. Our journey started in 1997. Today, after having crossed some twenty towns, one thousand eight hundred people will have interpreted our imaginary partition, allowing us to share our dream with over 150 000 spectators. "Transhumance, l'heure du troupeau" is an arch with no deluge, without Noah, an arch to harbour our dreams and act as rampart against indifference. It is a vessel with the emotions of olden days when man lived to the rhythm of the seasons.
"Transhumance, l'heure du troupeau" is a metaphor on transhumance. A great travelling dream crosses the city, pushing back the limits of the possible. An allegory, a homage to travellers, storytellers and other poets, a salute to the conquerors of the useless.

"LIVE MAD TO BE WISE..." CERVANTES

ITINERARY

Wiesbaden (Germany) Inauguration of a cultural mall. March 1996
Noisy-le-Sec Rencontres d'Ici et d'Ailleurs, Manifeste pour un Moulin, 8 June 1996
Evry Charivarl d'Evry, 26 April 1997
Sotteville-lès-Rouen closure of VivaCité Festival, 28 June 1997
Chalon-sur-Saône closure of Chalon dans la Rue Festival, 20 July 1997
Brest Le Fourneau, 25 October 1997
Noisy-le-Sec Rencontres d'Ici et d'Ailleurs, 9 May 1998
Cognac Coup de Chauffe Festival, 5 September 1998
Weimar (Germany) Opening of the European Cultural Capital 1999, 19 February 1999
Neerpelt (Belgium) Theaterstreken Opening of the European Youth Musical Festival, 1 May 1999
Dijon Opening of the Dixièmes Rencontres Internationales de Théâtre de Dijon, 9 mai 1999
Issy-les-Moulineaux launch of The 2000 Issy Festivities, 21 December 1999
Edimbourg (Scotland) Edinburgh's Hogmanay 2000, Inauguration celebration of the new Scottish parliament 28 and 29 December 1999
Conflans-Sainte-Honorine Scènes de Rues au Confluent Festival, 17 June 2000
Blanc-Mesnil Summer Solstice Feast, 24 June 2000
Saint Jacques de Compostelle (Spain) Compostala Millennium Festival European Cultural Capital 2000, 5 and 6 August 2000
Bruxelles (Belgium) 150th anniversary of the National Bank of Belgium, 8 September 2000
Mâcon Carnaval 2001, 3 March 2001
Ottawa (Canada) opening of the Jeux de la Francophonie, 23 and 24 June 2001
Montréal (Canada) Festival Juste pour Rire Festival, 13 and 14 July 2001

SPECTACLE

Made to measure events

Plastic art installation

The Compagnie Oposito likes to explore different street art movements and formats. The monumental is one of them, a language that is well suited to traditional or modern collective ceremonies. It speaks to every inhabitant of the invested city.

THE CROWD IS A PERSON

To write a story for a city, taking in consideration its inhabitants. Taking into account its past, its present. Provoking modern day rituals. Elaborating a scenario that weaves its way into the life of the city, highlighting its hidden or forgotten aspects. Inventing legends where none existed. Drawing, constructing images that have no fear of space, noise, wind or storm. Finding the movement for the show that suits the crowd best. Experiencing the combined power of ten companies incarnating the same story. Entering stage in the light of the setting sun, exiting it in the moonlit ocean light.

TAKING THE TIME. NOT TO MISS THE OPPORTUNITY...

artistic directions

89 à 95 "Grains de Folie" street theatre festival, Brest, Relecq-Kerhuon, Plougastel
89 à 93 "Les Fêtes de Saint Denis", Saint-Denis
88 à 90 "Les Fêtes de la Ville", Trappes
89 "Les Fêtes de la Ville", La Verrière
96 à 97 "Rue de l'Humanité", La Courneuve
96 à 97 "Le Forum fait sa place", Le Blanc-Mesnil
93 à 97 "Charivari d'Evry", Evry
91 à 2001 "Les Rencontres d'Ici et d'Ailleurs", a street theatre artist event, Noisy-le-Sec...

ONE-OFF events

"Alexia ou le sacre du printemps", closure of the Printemps de Bourges
"Tapis Rouge", opening of the Polar de Cognac Festival
"Fanfare à bâtir", "Gonflée... la fête de la musique", Maurepas
"Le Grand Saut", closure of Eclanova Festival, Villeurbanne
"La Grande Parade", Le Nombril du Monde, Pougne Hérisson
"Les Trois Coups", opening of Atelier 231, Sotteville-lès-Rouen
"Rhinocéros 98", centenary of diplomatic relation between France and Ethiopia, Addis Abeba, Janvier 1998
"Jo'Burg's Dolls", opening tableau of the "All Africa Games", African Olympic Games, Johannesburg, South Africa...

The rencontres d'ici et d'ailleurs a street theatre festival

1992 "Le vaisseau de pierre" (the stone vessel) with Zap, the young philharmonic of Seine-Saint-Denis, Janie Allen, Denis Josselin, Oposito, Acrospor, Ilotopie.

1993 Accoules sax, Annibal and his Elephants, Tortelle Poltrona, Saphir Percussions, the Compagnie Hydragon. The "Défilé fantastique" (the fantastic procession) with the Compagnie Off, the Tambours du Bronx, the Noisy conservatory brass, Oposito, the Bagad de Plougastel, Décor Sonore.

1994 "L'arène foraine" a collective project on travelling theatre co-led with the Famille Burattini and the Compagnie Off.

1995 "Tous en chœur" with Lila Fichette, the Piétons, image In Air, the Amis de la Musique, Eclat Immédiat et Durable, Lacombe-Asselin and Décor Sonore.

1996 Idir, compagnie le Carillon, les Piétons. "Manifeste pour un Moulin" a precursory act of "Transhumance, l'heure du troupeau" (Moving to Higher Ground), with Oposito, Décor Sonore, the Bagadou de Brieg and of Kemperle, the young philharmonic of Seine-Saint-Denis, Métalovoice, Annibal and his Elephants and the Alama's Givrés.

1997 Compagnie Porte Lune, the Quartet Buccal, Genre de Cirque, Séta Touré. "Merlan Village" with Kumulus, Antoine and Véro, the Quartet Buccal, the Cousins, the Royal Majestik Orchestra, Georges Trillat, the Grooms and Oposito.

1998 The Escroc Toys Band, Raymond Depardon. "Transhumance, l'heure du troupeau" (Moving to Higher Ground) with Circus Ethiopia, Métalovoice, the Bagad of Briec, Jean Louis le Vallegant, the young philharmonic of Seine-Saint-Denis, Décor Sonore and Oposito.

1999 Métalovoice. "Quand la parade passe... les fenêtres s'ouvrent" (When the Parade passes... windows open) with the Uranus Bruyant, Oxyde de Cuivre, Le Snob, Acousteel Gang fanfares directed by Jean-Claude Asselin, and the Compagnie Off, Décor Sonore, Yannick Jaulin, Tintin Orsoni, Dominique d'Angelo, Olivier Roustan and Daniel Péan.

2000 Companies: the Chiffonières and Cinérama, Boxing Express and Babylone. "La Parade... Les Trottoirs de Jo'Burg" (the Parade... the pavements of Jo'Burg), model for Act I. Collective event, inspired by the souvenir market of Johannesburg (South Africa), designed and put into movement by the Compagnie Oposito on musical arrangements by Jean-Phillippe Dejussieu, with the Les Costards musicians, Ali Farès and his percussionists, the Zulu voice of John Thomo, the choreographic intervention of Roger Merguin, the participation of Décor Sonore, l'Agora du Cheval, Michel the shepherd and his dog Milane, voluntary actors from Noisy and the Fourneau de Brest team, with pyrotechnical punctuation from Feu & Métal.

2001 "Déjà 10 ans... à venir" (10 Years already... to Come) with Amoros and Augustin, La Belle Image, Le Filet d'Air, Décor Sonore, L'Illustre Famille Burattini, Claude Merle, Arthur et Astride, the Seine-Saint-Denis Philharmonic, Les Alama's Givrés and Oposito's actors.

The "Rencontres d'Ici et d'Ailleurs" is an annual street theatre festival, presented by the Compagnie Oposito to its town and inhabitants.

Homeport for the company in town, the event essentially takes place outdoors. In ten years this initiative has become an event drawing an increasing number of spectators from the Paris region.

The companies present are invited to perform their work, and also to take part in the monumental show where all the different teams'skills are combined.

This moment, written and directed by the Oposito company, lends a specific and unique character to the event.

It is also the privileged place for shows created at the "Moulin Fondu" by visiting companies to meet the public for the first time.

FESTIVAL

contacts

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Actor's leading: Martine Rateau and Thierry Lorent
Administration and production: Coralie Chatauret
Technical direction: Philippe Cuvelette
Co-ordination and executive secretary: Bérengère Turc
Stage management: Achil Bras
Construction-set design: Katell Le Gars and Manuel Charnay
Costume design: Fabienne Desflèches and Philou Jacob

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Ministry of Culture - Regional Direction for Cultural Affairs of Ile-de-France - Regional Council of Ile-de-France - General Council of Seine-Saint-Denis - City of Noisy-le-Sec

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