

PARTY

by Alfredo Zinola and Maxwell McCarthy
for children from 6 to 10 years old and adults

A dance party. An interactive performance. An experience for everybody





PARTY is an interactive performance where the public and performers dance together. PARTY happens in a special room, with huge spills of color installed on the floor and ceiling, a live DJ and adults dressed with masks and suits.

In PARTY the public is not the audience, they're the party! No seating, no chilling, just sweat.

PARTY is our personal invitation to let loose, to be wild and to shake it up. Together we will build a space where we can dance and go crazy. We'll take everybody to the max, we'll dance till we drop, and then enter a new world together. A world where each person can dance how they really want.

With PARTY we cross the borders of language and culture, everybody is invited to come and every child is part of the party. By guiding the participants through the party the performers stimulate every child to take decisions and to express themselves through the unspoken language of dance.

PARTY is an unconventional ritual for our contemporary wish for communality.





from and with: Alfredo Zinola, Maxwell McCarthy, Julia B. Laperrière

Music: DJ Sarah Adorable

Scenography: Vladimir Miller

Light: Marek Lamprecht

Special thanks to: Hannah Dougerthy and Micaela Kühn Jara.

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EXTRA - Why a party?

The idea for PARTY was born when presenting a previous performance called NERO. Kids often arrived to the performance with unique dance cloths on... It presented us with an interesting question... who is dancing for whom?

Then we understood that in actual society, dance is perceived and viewed primarily as a practice and not as a performance. And the kind of dance practice that we can find in television or other media is quite different from our idea of dance and movement. With this project we aim to sensitize people to contemporary dance, a medium that can both connect people to themselves and to each other, permeating the boundaries of language and culture.

In a performance as a party, our goal is that the performer and public come together to discover a knowledge and an awareness of the creative possibility of the body and to share it in a group. A party is a social practice familiar to everybody: people are able to share a time and a space, to trust other bodies as they loosen up to social conventions and connect on different levels of communication. We consider it a performance because the public is sharing an experience with the performers.

Using the frame of a children's party to share dance skills and playing mostly pop music is a way for our project to contextualize in the daily life of the participants. We can then offer another approach to these elements of everyday life.

One of our biggest goals is that after every party each child can go home with the feeling that they have experienced, maybe for just a few moments, their own way of moving, different from the dancing they see on television, and different from the usual kids party dances. We would like to develop trust in each singular body that inspires moments of self-connection and creates a journey to find individual dance. At the same time, we have communality as we are all experiencing the same party.

In order to achieve our goal, it is important that the party doesn't become a dance class, but is rather a facilitated experience where participants have their own space to discover.

