

Nicole COMPAGNIE Seiler

C'est sérieux !

In situ choreographic piece, 2020



Crédits

Concept: Nicole Seiler
Performance: Anne Delahaye, Christophe Jaquet
Administration : Laurence Rochat
Tour management : Martin Genton — +41 78 695 35 15
martin@nicoleseiler.com

Production : Cie Nicole Seiler
Support : Ville de Lausanne

Duration : 25 minutes

Short recording : <https://vimeo.com/457198391>



Synopsis

What does a gesture tell us?

How do we say a gesture?

To dance is to escape from the articulated language.

A vocabulary, even a precise one, is often insufficient to express the uniqueness of a dance, all the more so as it leaves multiple possible interpretations. Describing dance, and consequently transmitting it, is therefore part of the unspeakable and perhaps even the impossible. Here is an attempt.



Concept

Nicole Seiler created "C'est sérieux!" during the summer of 2020. This new site-specific performance can be presented in two ways:

- Under windows or balconies, broadcasting the sound through Zoom. Spectators use their smartphones and headphones to listen to the soundtrack of the performance, directly from their homes, thus social distancing.



- The performance can also take place simply outdoors. In this quasi stage version, the sound is broadcast via speakers. While the performers use the urban and landscape equipment at their disposal, the audience is positioned "in front of" or "around" the stage space.



Cie Nicole Seiler, Lausanne (CH)

The Nicole Seiler company was founded in 2002 in Lausanne (Switzerland).

The choreographer's artistic approach has led her to varied formats, and since the inception of the company she has created 30 projects: stage shows, video works, site-specific works, performances and installations. Since 2004, the company has been touring internationally. As of the end of 2020, it will have given over 750 presentations, in more than 400 venues and forty countries, in Europe, North America, South America, Africa, Asia, Russia and Australia.

Since 2010, Nicole Seiler has been exploring the complex links woven by two of a show's essential elements: image and sound. This formal research has resulted in several projects in relation to the description of dance and movement. *Amauros*, a stage project created in 2011 and adapted as a video installation in 2014, plunges the spectator into obscurity, their imagination stimulated by precise description and evocative sound effects. *Un Acte sérieux* (2012) is a playful interactive performance that reveals the infinite strata of the language of dance. *Small explosion with glass and repeat echo* (2012) was the company's first show to be entirely described for a visually impaired and blind audience. *Sekunden später...* (2017) is a stage project that makes use of description as a surreal effect. *Palimpsest* (2018) takes the concept even further. This collection of geo-tagged sound pieces, accessible via smartphone, makes visible in the public space a history of the choreographed locations, via meticulous audio description alone.

The company's repertoire, made up of diverse forms, also includes site-specific projects: *K Two* (street performance, 2007), *Living-room dancers* (apartment performances and films, 2008), *Willis* (choreographic installation in a forest, 2014) created at the °far festival in Nyon (CH), and presented in 2015 at the Fabriques festival in the Jean-Jacques Rousseau park (F).

Since 2018, Nicole Seiler has been including voice in her working method. More than the link between voice and body, she considers the body as a complete instrument, as vocal as it is choreographic. This is evidenced by pieces such as *The rest is silence* (stage project, 2020) and *Wouah!* (stage project for young audiences aged 4 and up, 2020).

The Nicole Seiler company produces its own shows in collaboration with Swiss and international theatres and festivals. It receives regular support from public funding bodies (Ville de Lausanne, le Canton de Vaud, Pro Helvetia), as well as private foundations (Loterie Romande, Fondation Ernst Göhner, Thomas Stanley Johnson Foundation, Sophie and Karl Binding Foundation, CORODIS, etc.).

The full repertoire, as well as video recordings of all shows mentioned here, are available on www.nicoleseiler.com.

Nicole Seiler

Chorégraphe

Née en 1970 à Zurich, Nicole Seiler se forme en danse et en théâtre à la Scuola Teatro Dimitri à Verscio (CH), à la Vlaamse Dansacademie à Bruges (B), et à Rudra Béjart à Lausanne (CH). En tant qu'interprète elle collabore à de multiples créations de Philippe Lizon, Omar Porras, Guilherme Botelho, Philippe Saire et Massimo Furlan en Suisse et à l'étranger. Nicole Seiler crée sa compagnie en 2002, et depuis 2004 elle rencontre une diffusion internationale.

En 2009 Nicole Seiler remporte le Prix Culturel Vaudois Danse par la Fondation Vaudoise pour la Culture et en 2021 elle est récompensée par le Prix Suisse des Arts de la Scène.

Nicole Seiler est régulièrement invitée à enseigner, à donner des stages et des masterclass ainsi qu'à participer à des forums et des symposiums dans le monde entier. Parallèlement à son travail de chorégraphe, Nicole Seiler s'intéresse aussi aux questions de politiques culturelles. Au fil des années elle a fait partie de jurys et de différents comités d'association et conseils de fondation ou d'administration tels que Pro Helvetia - Fondation suisse pour la culture, Danse Suisse, far° festival des arts vivants Nyon, SSA – Société Suisse des Auteurs, etc. Depuis 2018 Nicole Seiler est co-programmatrice à l'ADN Danse Neuchâtel.