



CENTRE  
CHORÉGRAPHIQUE  
NATIONAL  
DU HAVRE NORMANDIE  
direction Fouad Bousouf

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND  
CHOREOGRAPHER  
**Fouad BOUSSOUF**

# YÈS



Duration 30'

**CREATION 2020**

ALL AUDIENCE  
above 4 years old

## CONTACTS

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# YËS

## À propos de YËS

Yës is a duet composed of Yanice Djae and Sébastien Vague, both from Vitry-sur-Seine, a Paris suburb.

Their first collaboration, as early as 2012, took the shape of a choreographic show. In 2014 it developed into a full dance piece of 20 minutes, *The Elemants*, under the guidance of choreographer Fouad Boussouf who noticed that these two young amateurs possessed singular qualities as stage performers and had a special connection.

Inspired by the personalities of the two artists, this duet combines technical virtuosity, acting and musicality. Yanice and Sébastien playfully challenge each other on stage to the rhythm of beatboxing and tunes they whistle, revealing their characters and letting us share in their endearing folly, their friendship and their infectious energy.

"I met Yanice and Sébastien when they were barely 14. I quickly understood that for them dance was not just another hobby but a way of communicating, a way of stating to the rest of the world "I exist." Their musical penchants and their personalities became a starting point for the work. A meticulous fusion of real-life friendship, technicality and daydreaming, Yës became their free space, their platform for expressing fully who they are, through their bodies, musicality and poetry...

And they've got a lot to say... without saying a word!"  
*Fouad Boussouf*

**Choreographer** Fouad Boussouf

**Dancers** Yanice Djae, Sébastien Vague  
or Sando Eruot

**Dramaturgy and acting direction**  
Mona El Yafi

**Lighting Design** Fabrice Sarcy

**Tour and stage manager** Aloïs Darles ou Mathieu Morelle

**Courant production** Le Phare - Centre chorégraphique national du Havre Normandie / direction Fouad Boussouf

**Production** Compagnie Massala

**Coproduction** La Maison de la danse de Lyon, Scènes et Cinés, Scène conventionnée Art en territoire – Territoire Istres Ouest Provence, Espace André Malraux – Le Kremlin-Bicêtre, Équinoxe – Scène nationale de Chateauroux, Centre chorégraphique national de Rillieux-la-Pape

**Support and Residencies** La Briqueterie - CDCN du Val-de-Marne, Théâtre Jean-Vilar - Vitry-sur-Seine, Le Studio Dahomey - Alfortville

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## CALENDAR 2024/2025

### Friday 03.14

Centre Culturel Joséphine Baker - Guibeville (France)  
[with Théâtre Brétigny]

### Wednesday 03.19 > Saturday 03.22

Le Channel, scène nationale - Calais (France)

### Friday 04.11

Maison de l'environnement  
- Magny-les-Hameaux (France)  
[with Théâtre de Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines]



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# OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

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The creations of Fouad Boussof are a vibrant blending of hip hop, contemporary and traditional dance. **A teacher as much as he is a choreographer, he prioritizes communication and transmission in both areas of his work.** Each piece is conceived with an obligatory accompanying set of practical workshops offered to all audiences. These workshops allow us to better understand the works, to continue the experience of the spectator beyond the performance, and to enrich that experience. Yès is not the exception to this policy, and can be experienced in a number of ways.

## Objectives for our audiences:

- ▶ Facilitate the **discovery of the choreographic and aesthetic universes** of Fouad Boussof,
- ▶ **Initiate the audiences into the lexicon and practices of live performance**, specifically those used in dance,
- ▶ **Offer perspectives on the creative process** and experimentation with audiences already familiar with dance, including beginning dancers,
- ▶ Propose **feedback time at the end of long form workshops** or **an audiovisual validation** relevant to a creation.

These ideas will apply to all audiences but may be adapted depending on levels of understanding, notably for amateur dancers and for changing objectives in teaching.

## The modules :

Workshops will be led by one of the dancers from Yès or by other dancers from Le Phare - CCN du Havre Normandie. Various modules are possible, ranging from two hours of discovery to more structured projects lasting through an entire season. The two hour format is largely sufficient to discover a choreographic universe, begin moving and creating a pleasing group dynamic, but longer lasting sessions are proposed to anticipate more detailed study and experiences, with additional feedback.

**We are willing to customize our formats depending on audiences, theatres, any expressed wishes, and our availability.**

## CONTACTS

### CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COLLABORATORS

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## Ballet Urbain

Documentary • Duration : 19 min

The Urban Ballet project is a multi-year project, which questions the relationship to dance young people between 15 and 25 years old have.

Fouad Boussof has been interested in the career paths of these young amateurs he met in his regular courses or workshops.

As a result, three video documentaries retrace the evolution of several of these dancers for nearly 10 years. Many have become professionals, others continue as amateurs.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT**  
Marie Chénard > [production@lephare-ccn.fr](mailto:production@lephare-ccn.fr)

# BIOGRAPHY

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## Fouad Boussouf - Choreographer

For Fouad Boussouf, dance is pure impulse, momentum, movement. These words also define his artistic journey, driven by **his innate curiosity and his desire to escape**. His early years in Morocco, living in an isolated village in the region of Moulay Idriss, were filled with festive family events and a natural environment of clean, monastic simplicity. When Fouad was seven, his family moved to France, to Romilly-sur-Seine, near Troyes, and he stepped into a new universe, in which he had to learn quickly about culture and societal codes. As a teenager he began doing hip hop to cassettes by Prince and Michael Jackson; the form was initially considered a socially acceptable physical exercise, but for him hip hop became **the building blocks for his personal style of movement**, in which the body's will to exceed, to go farther – brought him recognition from his peers.

He finished his education in Chalons-en-Champagne, where he also took workshops led by the circus students from the CNAC (the National Center for Circus Arts). He moved to Paris in 2000 and began studying social sciences at the University of Paris XII in Créteil, where he also taught classes in street dance, first informally, then as an accredited teacher. He continued studying at the Academy of the Cité Véron, participated in the Suresnes Cités Danse Festival and performed with Farid Berki and Pierre Doussaint. After having presented his DESS degree on hip hop, he took a seven month road trip in Australia, beginning **a long cycle of activities layering pedagogical, creative and travel plans**, which also took him to Egypt and to Russia. When he finally returned to France he decided to focus on dance, and at the age of 27 he founded the Compagnie Massala. In 2008- 2009 he created solos and a trio, and in 2010 he created his first group work, **Déviations (Detours)**.

Since then he has been **creating non-stop, embodying the momentum that has characterized his approach to his art and his life**. His work is hybrid, deliberately without labels, profoundly present and in the moment, always incorporating the hip hop movement vocabulary. Over the years he has built **a dance language channeling movement spontaneity and the idea of nonstop movement**, which has no beginning, no ending. His dancers are inspired by this dynamic which sets them outside their normal movement patterns, generating an extraordinary, cyclical energy onstage, notably in his recent works **Näss (People)** in 2018, and in **Oüm** (2020), an homage to Oum Kalthoum – which affirmed his place in the international dance scene.

For Boussouf, the principal artistic instrument is the body, of course, but he also incorporates other forms, including video and the plastic arts, both contemporary or linked to Mediterranean history. Among these works are the documentary film, **Le Ballet Urbain (The Urban Ballet)** (2019), and his collaborations with the sculptor **Ugo Rondinone**, on the video installation **Burn to shine** (2022) at the Petit Palais in Paris and in **Via** (2023), which he created for the Ballet du Grand Théâtre in Geneva, commissioned by the choreographer **Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui**. This "world citizen" follows **a rhythm of creation driven by emotion, the concept of risk, and the constant will to move forward**.

From 2020- 2022, Boussouf was an Associated Artist at the prestigious Maison de la danse in Lyon, at Équinoxe - Scène nationale de Châteauroux and at the Maison de la musique in Nanterre. On January 1, 2022, He was unanimously appointed as director of Le Phare - Centre chorégraphique national du Havre Normandie and during that year was also honored by the French government with the distinction of **Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres**.

- Isabelle Calabre

## Creations / Le Phare CCN of Le Havre Normandie since 2022

- 2025 : *Up*, creation for a violonist and a footfreestyler
- 2023 : *Fêu*, creation for 10 dancers
- 2022 : *Cordes*, creation for a dancer and a musician
- 2022 : *Âmes*, creation for 2 performers

## Creations / Massala Company from 2011 to 2021

- 2021 : *Yès*, creation for 2 dancers
- 2020 : *Oüm*, creation for 6 dancers and 2 musicians
- 2018 : *Näss (People)*, creation for 7 dancers
- 2015 : *Le Moulin du Diable*, creation for 5 contemporary & hip-hop dancers
- 2014 : *Esperluette*, creation for a circus dancer and a guitarist
- 2013 : *Transe*, ccreation for 7 danseurs contemporary & hip hop dancers  
*Concept Lavoir*, creation pour 5 hip-hop dancers & an opera singer
- 2012 : *Afflux*, creation for 5 hip-hop dancers, a saxophonist and an electro-acoustic DJ
- 2011 : *A Condition*, creation for 4 contempory & hip-hop dancers

## Commissions & performances

- 2023 : Creation of *Via*, commande for the Ballet of the Grand Theater of Geneva
- 2023 : Creation of *Corps (Im)mobiles* with the dancers of the Grand Theater of Geneva at the Art Museum and History of Geneva
- 2022 : Exhibition of *Burn to shine* in collaboration with Ugo Rondinone for the Petit Palais in Paris
- 2021 : Creation of *Happy* (for 15 dancers) for the Opening night of Paris L'Été festival 2021
- 2020 : Dance performance at the Museum of Modren Art of Paris (Salle Raoul Dufy) with the Arte en scène project, Arte.TV
- 2019 : Creation of *Escape*, France-Hong-Kong collaboration with 2 French dancers and 2 Hong Kong dancers as part of the Honk Kong Arts Festival (Hong Kong)
- 2018 : Creation of *On n'emprisonne pas les idées*, at the heart of exhibition « Les racines poussent aussi dans le béton ». Piece for 6 performers. MAC/Val Vitry-sur-Seine
- 2012 : Dance performance around the work of Roy Atsak, l'homme anthropométrique, Vitry-sur seine
- 2010 : Dance performance for the inauguration of Dan Graham's sculpture in La Rochelle

# YÈS



2023/2024

14/10/23 Salle Meggiolaro de Saint-Loup – Vindry-sur-Turdine  
[Rebonds de la Biennale de danse de Lyon]  
14/11/23 Théâtre de L'Arsenal – Val de Reuil  
30/11/23 Théâtre Edith Piaf – Bernay  
05-06/12/23 Université de Rouen  
16/01/23 Théâtre de l'Arsenal – Val de Reuil  
17/03/24 Espace Bernard Mantienne – Verrières-le-Buisson  
19-20/04/24 Micro Folie – Pont-Audemer  
04-05/05/24 Théâtre Jacques Carat – Cachan  
18/05/24 Festival de Cluny  
21/05/24 Collège Gérard Philipe – Villeparisis  
23-25/05/24 Théâtre de la Ville – Paris

2022/2023

10/09/2022 Centre culturel La Fabrique, St Astier  
08-09-10/11/22 L'Orange Bleue, Eaubonne  
14-18/11/22 Projet Culture Justice, Centre Pénitentiaire du Havre  
25/11/22 CCN Le Phare  
02/12/2023 L'Étincelle – Théâtre de la ville de Rouen  
05/01/2023 Houdremont – La Courneuve, Lycée Jacques Brel  
28-29/01/2023 Festival Suresnes Cités Danse, Théâtre de Suresnes  
Jean Vilar  
12/04/23 Les Ulis, Espace Boris Vian  
17-21/04/23 Le Trident, Cherbourg  
09-10/05/23 Pôle Sud CDCN, Strasbourg

2021/2022

101/09/2021 Lycée Joliot Curie, Nanterre  
20/10/2021 Théâtre Christian Liger, Nîmes  
28/10/2021 Soirée des Lauréats du Réseau Entreprendre, Lyon  
08-09/03/2022 La Manekine, Pont-Sainte-Maxence  
09/04/2022 Équinoxe scène nationale de Châteauroux  
18/05/2022 Conservatoire Ivry-sur-Seine  
18-21/05/2022 Fontenay en Scènes, Fontenay-Sous-Bois  
17/06/2022 Chevilly-Larue  
04/08/2022 CCAS Soulac-sur-Mer  
05/08/2022 CCAS Carcans-Maubuisson  
06/08/2022 CCAS Lacanau Océan  
07/08/2022 CCAS Andernos-les-Bains  
09/08/2022 CCAS Layme  
10/08/2022 CCAS Saissac  
11/08/2022 CCAS Cap d'Agde

2020/2021

17/10/2020 Maison de la danse de Lyon  
12-16/10/2020 Festival TotalDanse, Île de la Réunion  
03/06/2021 Tournée de diffusion décentralisée, projet Archipel, Lycée  
Naturapolis de Châteauroux  
04/06/2021 Tournée de diffusion décentralisée, projet Archipel, MJCS  
de la Châtre (36)  
15/06/2021 Tournée de diffusion décentralisée, projet Archipel,  
Cité Scolaire Rollinat d'Argenton/Creuse  
16/06/2021 Tournée de diffusion décentralisée, projet Archipel, Gymnase  
Michel Moulin de Levroux  
18/06/2021 Collège Albert Cron, ECAM, Kremlin-Bicêtre (lycée)  
03/06/2021 Festival Cocotte CCNR, Rillieux-la-Pape  
07/06/2021 Théâtre de Chevilly-Larue  
08/06/2021 Théâtre des Quartier d'Ivry - Ivry-sur-Seine  
09/06/2021 Théâtre du Kremlin-Bicêtre  
10/06/2021 Théâtre du Kremlin-Bicêtre + Théâtre de Chevilly-Larue  
17/06/2021 Festival Colors Compagnie S'Poart



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[www.lephare-ccn.fr](http://www.lephare-ccn.fr)

**Le Phare - Centre chorégraphique national  
du Havre Normandie / direction Fouad Boussouf**  
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Le Phare - CCN du Havre Normandie receives support from the French Ministry of Culture / the DRAC Normandie, the Normandy région, the city of Le Havre and the Seine-Maritime department.

## Presse

"A duo that says yes to otherness, to difference, to fraternity."

**Nathalie Yokel - La terrasse**

"In this thrilling tandem, combining technical virtuosity, acting talent and musicality with hip hop dance, we feel a communicative energy as authentic and vulnerable as the clear friendship between the two performers."

**JDS Strasbourg**

"Amazing! Between contemporary dance and hip-hop, without music, the two virtuoso dancers showed great generosity. [...] The hip hop urban show at this level is beautiful living art!"

**Elisabeth Duclos, La Presse de la Manche**

## Video links

▶ **Temporary trailer**

<https://vimeo.com/831820667>

▶ **Captation**

<https://vimeo.com/794413618>

Mot de passe : FouadBoussouf2023

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