



INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL OF
ARTS & IDEAS

COMPAGNIA TPO: +ERBA A FOREST IN THE CITY

Presented in Partnership with The Legacy Theatre

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COMPAGNIA TPO: +ERBA
A FOREST IN THE CITY

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



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GORDON GEBALLE
Environmental Series

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COMPAGNIA TPO: +ERBA A FOREST IN THE CITY

Presented in Partnership with The Legacy Theatre

Wednesday–Sunday May 1-5 at 10:00AM-4:30PM (60 minutes)
The Legacy Theatre, 128 Thimble Island Road Branford, CT

+ERBA is an interactive show with two dancers who create together with children an imaginary city. The ‘architect’ dancer observes the landscape and draws the city with houses and streets. The other dancer loves the earth, the insects and draws grass and trees. The two characters move in an empty scene where projections on two large aligned screens evoke a room of wonder. Here their ideas, imagination and projects are drawn from movement and come to life. The architect creates houses full of color and light, the other dancer redesigns them by adding grass and trees. Slowly an imaginary city grows by combining their different sensitivities. The newborn city becomes a living environment and new characters and new events are added. The children come to color and populate the city. Insects appear, the seasons change and the city gets bigger, busier and more complex. Their dream of a green city is coming true. But there is also a factory that grows and grows, scaring away insects, birds, people and making greenery disappear. Together with the children, the dancers will design a new space where nature will grow and where a ‘tree concert’ can be expected.

Presented in partnership with **The Legacy Theatre** and part of the **Gordon Geballe Environmental Series**. This event is part of Compagnia TPO’s U.S. Premiere Tour, with an exclusive presentation in the New England region—one of six cities presenting the work across the country.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

Based on Prato, Italy, **Compagnia TPO** used interactive, digital scenery to enhance theatrical dance performances that engage young audiences. Using their bodies to “paint” and “play music” with the ever-changing visuals onstage, the performers gently invite children in the audience to join them in their creative movement. Images and sounds interface with the bodies onstage, transforming live gestures and virtual landscapes into a charming interactive gallery. The company’s work has received awards for innovation and artistry in China, Poland, Italy, the United States and Spain.

ABOUT OUR PARTNER

The Legacy Theatre is a professional regional theatre company that enhances the Connecticut shoreline’s cultural scene, economy, educational opportunities, and quality of life through live theatre and related programs. This historic theatre in the Stony Creek village of Branford offers Mainstage Productions, Broadway Concerts, a Family Series, holiday performances, new works, classes, special events, and more to the town of Branford, the shoreline, and beyond. The Legacy strives to be a premiere Arts house and to ensure ongoing seasons of uplifting, inspiring, and challenging professional theatre and theatre training for all. With a dedicated staff and supportive volunteer base, Legacy Theatre enters their fourth season in

Stony Creek this year, with performances including The Great American Mousical directed by Dame Julie Andrews Edwards and The Bridges of Madison County starring Broadway veterans Hugh Panaro (The Phantom of the Opera, Side Show) and Anne Runolfsson (The Phantom of the Opera, Victor/Victoria). More information on the Theatre and the 2024 Season can be found at www.legacytheatretct.org.

ARTISTS’ BIOS

Valentina Consoli

Began ballet studies with Nadia Fava and Sonia Serafini. She specialised in contemporary dance with Teri J. Weikel, Roberto Zappalà, Alessandro Certini, Charlotte Zerbey, Max Barachini, Inaki Azpillaga, David Zambrano, Laura Simi and Damiano Foà. He collaborates with Tir Danza, with Company blu, with the Aleph company and in 2008 he participated in the Equilibrio festival with Caterina Genta. Since 2010 she has collaborated continuously with the TPO Company. As a dancer she has taken part in the following shows, Kindur, Babayaga, Farfalle, Giardino Dipinto and Anouk. As a choreographer and performer she took part in the productions Pop Up Garden, Colors, +Erba and Melodia. As part of the Ex Fabrica project she created Landskin, Cotton, Canapa, Pathos Pathos, Chonos Kairos and Anguane-Napee.

Bela Dobiasova

She studied at the Dance Conservatory in Prague, specialising in contemporary dance. After graduation she was a member of the Bohemia Ballet, Black light theatre and worked on projects with the Barevný Děti theatre company. She ran a dance studio in Prague. In 2017, she started working with TPO. As a dancer she took part in the following shows, Childrens Hero, Colors, Anouk and + Erba. As a choreographer and performer Canapa, Melody, Pelle Madre, Anguane-Napee. In collaboration with Anna Balducci and Valentina Consoli she took part in the creation of Pathos Bathos and Chronos Kairos.

CREDITS

Compagnia TPO

In coproduction with

TEATRO METASTASIO DI PRATO

A co-commission of

WHEELER OPERA HOUSE

In collaboration with

ASPEN, CO - REGION ARTISTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY

Artistic Direction: Francesco Gandi, Davide Venturini

With Béla Dobiášová, Valentina Consoli

Engineering: Rossano Monti

Visual Design: Elsa Mersi

Music and Engineering: Federica Camiciola, Francesco Fanciullacci

Costumes: Annamaria Clemente

Props: Livia Cortesi

Collaboration on the Concept and Pedagogical Support: Sandra Goos

Organization Valentina Martini, Chiara Saponari

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