

Namur, Belgium and that same year won first place in the Verviers Competition Jacques Dome. In 2008, he began a long international tour with Alain Platel's Les Ballets C de la B as the star of the show *Pitié* based on the music of the *St. Matthew Passion of Bach*, arranged by Fabrizio Cassol. Opening at the Ruhr Festival in Bochum, the tour took him to over 45 cities all over Europe and as far as Japan, singing and dancing in more than 100 performances. Recent engagements include covering both Tolomeo and Giulio Cesare in the Paris Opera's production of Handel's *Giulio Cesare*, a reprise of *La Petite Messe de Rossini* at the Atelier Lyrique de Tourcoing and reprises of Studio Kabako's *Sur les traces de Dinuzord* in various festivals and European theaters. Serge Kakudji also embarked on a major tour over the last two years, starring in *Coup Fatal*, a collaboration with Alain Platel and Fabrizio Cassol, based on concerts he had presented in the Congo, mixing operatic arias accompanied by traditional African instrumentalists. The last of the 180 performances took place at the Marseille Festival. Most recently, he was a soloist in the Africa Lyric Opera's concert at the Théâtre des Champs-Élysées in Paris with his performance of *Non lasciarmi in tal momento* from the opera *Aureliano in Palmira* by Rossini, directed by Sébastien Billard with the Symphonic Orchestra of the Republican Guard and The French Army Choir.

## SUPPORT

Faustin Linyekula's performances at NYU Skirball is supported, in part, by NYU Africa House.



## WHAT'S NEXT ...

### **METTE INGVARSTEN: 7 PLEASURES SEP 29 & 30**

At the heart of **Mette Ingvarsten's 7 Pleasures**, twelve performers confront notions of nudity, body politics and sexual practice, questioning the borders between private and public space by literally placing the naked body in the middle of the theater public. In this American premiere, pleasure becomes a perceptual as much as a political question. How do we use pleasure's joyful potential to disrupt clichéd images attached to nudity and sexuality?

### **JOHN ZORN: BAGATTEL MARATHON OCT 6 & 7**

From March to May 2015 **John Zorn** wrote 300 new compositions collected in a book of music called **The Bagatelles**. Skirball is proud to present a two-day marathon concert of 20 different ensembles performing over 100 different compositions from Zorn's expansive new book of music. Hot from performing in Paris earlier in the year, these groups are performing better than ever and include core members of Zorn's inner circle as well as exciting young players from the worlds of rock, jazz and classical music.

### **THE FREEDOM THEATRE: THE SIEGE OCT 12-22**

Based in the Palestinian Jenin Refugee Camp, **The Freedom Theatre of Jenin's** production **The Siege** is a passionate retelling of the story of the 2002 siege of Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity, during the height of the second intifada. Drawn from interviews with survivors, it is told from the point of view of some of the armed Palestinian fighters who found refuge in the church. Along with 200 civilians, they were given sanctuary by the church's resident priests and nuns and spent 39 days there with dwindling food, water and medical supplies. While the world watched, the fighters grappled with survival, ideology, and the decision to continue to the end, or surrender.



# FAUSTIN LINYEKULA: SUR LES TRACES DE DINOZORD

**Friday, September 22 at 7:30 pm**  
**Saturday, September 23 at 7:30 pm**

**Co-presented with**  
**French Institute Alliance Française's**  
**Crossing the Line Festival**

French Institute Alliance Française's *Crossing the Line Festival* is part of BRIDGING, an initiative co-developed and supported by The Edmond de Rothschild Foundations.

**Direction** Faustin Linyekula  
**With** Serge Kakudji (singer), Jean Kumbonyeki Deba, Papy Ebotani, Yves Mwamba Bakadiasa, Faustin Linyekula (dancers), Papy Maurice Mbwiti, Antoine Vumilia Muhindo (actors)

**Texts** Richard Kabako, Antoine Vumilia Muhindo  
**Music** W.A. Mozart (*Requiem*, excerpts) Charles Lwanga Choir of Kisangani, Joachim Montessuis (*Nierica*), Arvo Pärt (*Pari Intervallo*, *Redeuntis in mi*, *Trivium*, *Annum per Annum*), Jimi Hendricks (*Voodoo Chile*)  
**Production** Studios Kabako/Virginie Dupray.  
**Coproduction** KVS Theater, Brussels. With support from the DRAC Ile-de France/French Ministry of Culture and Communication.

## WHO'S WHO

Dancer and choreographer, **Faustin Linyekula** lives and works in Kisangani, North-East of the Democratic Republic of Congo, former Zaire, former Belgian Congo, former independent state of Congo. After studying literature and drama in Kisangani, he moved to Nairobi in 1993 and in 1997 set up with Opiyo Okach and Afrah Tenambergen the Gàara company, Kenya's first contemporary dance company. In 2001, he created Studios Kabako, a space dedicated to dance and visual theatre, providing training programmes, as well as supporting research and creation. In 2007, the Studios Kabako moved to Kisangani, North East of the country and opened up to new artistic fields: music, film and video. Within the Studios Kabako, Faustin has created 15 pieces that have toured worldwide in Europe, Africa, Australia, Canada and North America. Other collaborations include a duet with German choreographer Raimung Hoghe (*Sans-titre*, 2009), a 25 dancers' piece for the Ballet de Lorraine in Nancy, *La Création du monde 1923-2012*, and a solo for the Portugal National ballet company in 2016. In 2007, he received the Principal Award of the Prince Claus Fund for Culture and Development. In 2014, he and the Studios Kabako were awarded the first Prize of the CurryStone Foundation for the work developed in Kisangani. In 2016, he was associate artist to the city of Lisbon Portugal and in November 2016 he was awarded the Officer city medal in the field of culture.

**Papy Ebotani** lives and works in Kisangani (Democratic Republic of Congo). An associated artist for the Studios Kabako, Papy has been performing in almost all Faustin Linyekula's pieces since 2001 including *more more more... future* (2009) and *Sur les traces de Dinozord* (2012) and has been touring extensively in Africa, Europe and the United States. Since 2003, Papy has been developing his own work.

*Na tempo* (2004), his first piece, has extensively toured in Europe, but also in Brazil. *Fanfare funéraires* (2014), his most recent piece has been touring in Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, United Arab Emirates and in Paris at the Fondation Cartier. Other collaborations include works with Belgian videomaker Thierry de Mey and with French performer and stage director Yves-Noël Genod. Papy has been awarded several residency programme at the Centre national de la danse in France, at la Bellone in Brussels, and at the Atelier Mondial in Basel.

**Jeannot Kumbonyeki** trained at the Studios Kabako. He founded the Keep Quiet street dance group in 2010. One year later, he was selected in a national Telecom contest and won the first award for Best Dancer. Since then, Jeannot has been living in Kinshasa. He is one of the three dancers of *Kinshasa Electric*, a piece by Brussels-based Ula Sickle. The piece has been largely touring worldwide in Europe. He is also developing his own work. *Le Kombi*, his first solo, a Studios Kabako production (2015), has been performed in Africa (Maputo, Cape Town, Ouagadougou) and in Europe (Zurich, Paris).

Born and raised in Kisangani, **Yves Mwamba** started contemporary dance with Studios Kabako. His first solo creation, *Juste moi*, is presented in Kisangani and Kinshasa at the Connexion Kin Festival in 2012. In 2013-014, he performed in Faustin Linyekula's *Drums and Digging*, touring widely in Europe (France, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany and Croatia). In 2017, he took over the role of Djodjo Kazadi in *Sur les traces de Dinozord*. Other recent collaborations include the trio *Debout* by Djino Alolo (2015-2016) and *Soleil* by American Paris-based Christina Towle (2017). Yves lives in Paris.

Actor, stage director, playwright, **Papy Maurice Mbwiti** was born and grew up in Kinshasa. There he is artistic director of Mbila Kréation Théâtre and founding member of the cultural space Les Béjarts. He now lives in Montreal Canada. Papy has performed in three Faustin

Linyekula's piece, *The Dialogue Series: iii Dinozord* (2006), *La Fratrie errante* (2007) and *Sur les traces de Dinozord* (2012), having extensively toured in Europe (France, Austria, Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium...). In 2009, he was the Director Assistant of Faustin Linyekula for *Bérénice* at the Comédie Française, Paris. Other collaborations include performances for Johan de Hollander (Belgium, 2010-11) and Monika Gintersdorfer (Germany, 2012). In 2011, he worked on the adaptation of Marie-Louise Bibish Mumbu's novel *Samantha à Kinshasa*, shown in Kinshasa and still touring in Canada. In 2012, he was awarded a writing residency at the Maison des auteurs in Limoges, France. He is member of the literature collective Moziki littéraire.

**Antoine Vumilia Muhindo** was born in the Eastern part of Congo and grew up in Kisangani. A writer, actor and stage director, he took up again with theater in 2010. Involved in the 1996 rebel movement that ended Mobutu's regime, he spent several years in prison in Kinshasa as a political prisoner. He is now a refugee in Sweden. Since 2009, he has been regularly collaborating for the Studios Kabako, writing texts for Faustin Linyekula's punk opera *more more more ... future* (2009), but also with various cultural organizations in Europe including the TNP in Villeurbanne and the Francophonies en Limousin festival, both in France, Milo Rau's International Institute of Political Murder in Switzerland and the Kulturskolan in Kalmar-Sweden. His research and writing questions shared history between Europe and Africa. He is currently following a Performance Studies course at the Stockholm University.

Since a child in his native Lubumbashi, young Congolese countertenor **Serge Kakudji** dreamed of becoming an opera singer. After workshops in 2005, Faustin Linyekula invited him to perform in his new piece, *The Dialogue Series: Dinozord* in 2006, premiered at Peter Sellars' New Crowned Hope festival in Vienna. Kakudji began formal studies in 2007 at the Institut musical et pédagogique in