

CREDITS

Freely Inspired by *Showgirls*, Paul Verhoeven (1995)

Concept, text and performance

Jonathan Drillet & Marlène Saldana

Original music

Rebeka Warrior

Stage design

Sophie Perez

Sculpture

Daniel Mestanza

Mix

Krikor

Make-ups, wigs, costumes

Jean-Biche

Lights

Fabrice Ollivier

Sound

Guillaume Olmeta

Stage management

Moustache & Jean-Marc L'Hostis

Assistant

Robin Causse

Translation

Nicholas Elliott

Choreographic advisor

Mai Ishiwata

Production

Chloé Perol

Production, distribution, administration

Fabrik Cassiopée, Manon Crochemore & Mathilde Lalanne

Thank you

Pierre Hardy, Philippe Qesne, Neonglazennails, Cédric Deboeuf Studio, Marc Chevillon, Jérôme Pique, Makoto Chill Okubo, Pierre Desprats, Warrior Records, Narcisse Agency, Elise Lahoussa and Paul Verhoeven

Executive production

The United Patriotic Squadrons of Blessed Diana

Co-production

Nanterre Amandiers Centre Dramatique National, Centre Chorégraphique National de Caen en Normandie, Comédie de Caen CDN de Normandie, Charleroi Danse, Théâtre Saint Gervais Genève, Les Subsistances - Lyon, La Rose des Vents Villeneuve d'Ascq, TAP Scène Nationale de Poitiers, La Comédie de Reims

Showgirl is co-presented with L'Alliance New York as part of Crossing The Line Festival

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Jonathan Drillet is an actor, playwright, author. Born in 1981 in Saint Briec, he trained at the École du Louvre and the Drama Conservatory of the 20th arrondissement of Paris. He has since worked with Raimund Hoghe, Hubert Colas, Sanja Mitrovic, Julien Prévieux. He works today as a performer and artistic collaborator with Jonathan Capdevielle, Théo Mercier, and Phia Ménard. In 2019 he wrote the text for the play *Affordable Solution for Better Living* by Théo Mercier and Steven Michel, which received the Silver Lion at the Venice Dance Biennale.

Marlène Saldana is a multi-talented actress and director who played an ambivalent and voicing Jacques Demy in Christophe Honoré's *Les Idoles*, as well as the more outlandish creatures that populate Sophie Perez and Xavier Boussiron's shows. This time, she dives into the contradictory, bloated and delirious mental universe of Nomi, the heroine of Paul Verhoeven's film. Between impotence and self-assertion, glitz and gloom, she struts about the stage as a powerful woman in a vulgar and crazy world. Like Nomi, she dances on a volcano that evokes the absurdity of Beckett's *Happy Days* as much as a podium for a Copi-like performance. Her *Showgirl* is a grotesque monologue, a queer stand-up set, a techno oratorio exalted by the relentless score composed by Rebeka Warrior (*Sexy Sushi, Kompromat, Mansfield.TYA*): a lucid, joyful and nightmarish vision of a society sick of its patriarchal stereotypes and of a resurrection through derision, sequins and intoxication.

Jonathan Drillet and **Marlène Saldana** founded their company **The United Patriotic Squadrons of Blessed Diana**, based in Paris, in 2011. In 2021, they created *Showgirl* at the Théâtre Saint Gervais, Geneva as part of the La Bâtie festival. In 2023, they continued their research on Verhoeven's movie by going to Los Angeles and Las Vegas through the Villa Albertine program. They came back with images for their own movie, *Starkness*, which will premiere in September 2025 (Barberousse Films). Their next creation, a group piece for 10 dancers, called *Les chats*, will premiere at Théâtre du Nord (Lille) in November 2024, and play in the National Theatre Chaillot (Paris) in January 2025.

L'ALLIANCE NEW YORK

L'Alliance New York is an independent, not-for-profit organization committed to providing its audience and students with engaging French language classes and audacious multi-disciplinary programming that celebrates the diversity of francophone cultures and creativity around the world. A welcoming and inclusive community for all ages and all backgrounds, L'Alliance New York is a place where people can meet, learn, and explore the richness of our heritages and share discoveries. L'Alliance New York strives to amplify voices and build bridges from the entire francophone world to New York and beyond.

New York
L'Alliance



Crossing The Line is a citywide festival that engages international artists and New York City audiences in artistic discovery and critical dialogue to re-imagine the world around us. Crossing The Line is produced by L'Alliance New York in partnership with leading cultural institutions. Crossing The Line 2024 is curated by L'Alliance New York Artistic Director Violaine Huisman. Upcoming Crossing The Line performances include: *Quartiers libres revisited* by Nadia Beugré at New York Live Arts on Thu-Sat, Oct 24-26; *Mothering the Tongue* by Adam Linder on Fri-Sat, Nov 1-2, at L'Alliance New York; and *Le Petit B* by Marion Muzac on Sat, Nov 16, at L'Alliance New York. Check the full line up at www.lallianceny.org

WELCOME TO NYU SKIRBALL

NYU Skirball holds close James Baldwin's dictum that "artists are here to disturb the peace." Our mission is to present adventurous, cross-disciplinary work that inspires yet provokes, confirms yet confounds, and entertains yet upends. We proudly embrace renegade artists who surprise, productions that blur aesthetic boundaries, and thought leaders who are courageous, outrageous, and mind-blowing.

We are NYU's largest classroom. We want to feed your head.

NYU SKIRBALL FUNDING

NYU Skirball's programs are made possible in part with support from the National Endowment for the Arts; the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature; and the Howard Gilman Foundation; Van Cleef and Arpels; Laura Pels International Foundation for Theater, Collins Building Services; Albertine Foundation, and Marta Heflin Foundation; as well as our valued donors through memberships, commissioning, and Allies for Arts Access Fund support.

BECOME A MEMBER

NYU Skirball Members are friends with benefits.

Members receive discounted tickets to productions, events, pre-sale opportunities, exclusive invitations, and special access to innovative artists, academics, and thought leaders. More importantly, members support a broad range of cutting-edge performances for New York City. Memberships start at \$75. **Please visit nyuskirball.org to join, make a donation, or learn more.**

NEXT @ NYU SKIRBALL

Builders Association:

Atlas Drugged (Tools for Tomorrow)

October 25-27 | *World Premiere*

Just in time for the election, Ayn Rand's Benzedrine rants meet artificial intelligence in *Atlas Drugged*, the Builders newest technologically infused mindbender.

Netta Yerushalmy:

MOVEMENT

November 1 & 2 | *NYC Premiere*

Netta Yerushalmy weaves a quilt of borrowed material that stretches the idea of pluralism until it almost snaps.

The Civilians:

Sex Variants

November 14-24 | *World Premiere*

The Civilians examine the intimate lives of Depression-era queers in this kaleidoscopic musical fantasia adapted from the 1941 text *Sex Variants*, a "medical study" of LGBT+ sexuality. Featuring original songs by Martha Redbone, Stephen Trask, and the late Michael Friedman.

Nature Theater of Oklahoma:

No President

December 5-7 | *North American Premiere*

Nature Theater of Oklahoma makes a long-awaited return to NYC with a furious, over-the-top, tightly choreographed political grotesque that draws from everything on offer — all to a reordered recording of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*.

Learn more or purchase tickets at NYUSkirball.org

NYU SKIRBALL STAFF

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SPRING TWENTY TWENTY FIVE

NYU Skirball's Spring 2025 season will open on January 9, 2025, with the world premiere of **Show/Boat: A River**, a daring reframing of Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein II's iconic 1927 American musical *Show Boat*, from the award-winning **Target Margin Theater**, co-presented with the 2025 **Under the Radar Festival**. The season continues with a North American premiere directed by American theatre visionary **Robert Wilson**, starring acclaimed French actress **Isabelle Huppert**, and concludes with a special May Day world premiere choral work by **Ethan Philbrick**, featuring an eclectic assortment of singers, grassroots organizers, professional vocalists and performance artists.

The spring season showcases NYU Skirball's mission to present adventurous, transdisciplinary work that inspires yet provokes, confirms yet confounds, and entertains yet upends. NYU Skirball proudly embraces renegade artists who surprise, productions that blur aesthetic boundaries, and thought-leaders who are courageous and mind-blowing. This spring, works by Austrian performance artist **Florentina Holzinger**, Ireland's **Brokentalkers** Theatre, social commentator/feminist comedian **Adrienne Truscott**, and Canadian choreographer **Daniel Léveillé** reflect its embrace of James Baldwin's dictum that "artists are here to disturb the peace."