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**McGregor: The grammar of the body, a fertile encounter between dance, technology, and architecture.
A project for Collezione Maramotti and Fondazione I Teatri of Reggio Emilia.**

Wayne McGregor | Random Dance Project
from 15 to 17 November 2013
Teatro Municipale Valli and Collezione Maramotti, Reggio Emilia

The Wayne McGregor | Random Dance project, part of the 2013 calendar of the Aperto 2013 festival, sees Fondazione I Teatri alongside Collezione Maramotti and Max Mara for the world première of the site-specific performance *Scavenger* in the Collezione's spaces (16 and 17 November – four performances), together with the Italian première of *Atomos* at Teatro Valli (15 November).

The collaboration between I Teatri, Collezione Maramotti and Max Mara, aiming to create fruitful dialogue between the world of dance and the visual arts, comes together in a journey begun back in 2009 with the involvement of the Trisha Brown Dance Company, and later Shen Wei Dance Arts in 2011.

So lean – and he seems even more so in the natural light that pervades the essential architecture of the Collezione Maramotti –, Wayne McGregor studies the works of art on display with the attention of an entomologist and the enthusiasm of one who discovers a place akin to his own sensibility. The dancers of his Random Dance, the resident company at Sadler's Wells in London, do the same, noting their impressions and thoughts in small notebooks, each one choosing a work from the collection to make his or her own, to be

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investigated, metabolised, and then returned to the audience and the other dancers, brought back into the world through the dancer's own body, in an exchange of energy flows. On the other hand, is this not what makes a "Scavenger", which regenerates and brings back to life that which "is no more"? And is this not the fine vital link that joins the artwork to the viewer?

In connection with the Italian première of *Atomos*, the world première of *Scavenger*, a site-specific performance conceived, directed, and choreographed by McGregor, is presented by the man himself as "a new challenge".

Fascinated by the brutalist and organicist architecture of the building that houses the Collezione Maramotti, Wayne McGregor defines it as a primary resource for the creation of a grammar around the body, whose punctuation is made up of proximity and perspective distance between performer and space, and in which the dialogue between the parts becomes really organic.

The end result of *Scavenger* will therefore derive from the combination of the dancers' creativity, the choral vision of Wayne McGregor, and a third, innovative element: "becoming", an "eleventh virtual performer", a "digital" sculpture inserted between the material sculptures based on software capable of transforming the stimuli from the dancers' movements into an autonomous creation, visible on a screen and for the first time presented live as an integral part of McGregor's performance.

The choreographer has made a name for himself internationally also thanks to his study of the relationship between dance and technology, collaborating not only with multidisciplinary artists but also with neuroscientists and mathematicians.

Atomos (from the Greek for *indivisible*), in its Italian première at the Teatro Valli in Reggio Emilia, is the newest work by cutting-edge contemporary choreographer Wayne McGregor. Known for his unique, tenacious questioning across the interface of art and science and through the body and mind, McGregor has remained at the forefront of contemporary arts for the past 20 years.

The idea is to start from the indivisible unit of a choreography, which then grows in the same way a living structure, such as a building, grows. The end result can only be a conjecture, because with McGregor everything is always in flux.

Wayne McGregor | Random Dance Project

A collaboration between Collezione Maramotti, Max Mara, Fondazione I Teatri, the Aperto Festival

Friday 15 November 2013, 8:30 p.m. (Aperto Festival 2013)

Teatro Municipale Valli

Wayne McGregor | Random Dance

Atomos

Italian première

concept, direction and set Wayne McGregor

choreography Wayne McGregor in collaboration with the dancers

music A Winged Victory For The Sullen

lighting design Lucy Carter

film Ravi Deepres

costume design Studio XO

Atomos is co-produced by Sadler's Wells, London; Montclair State University; New Jersey, USA;

Movimentos Festwochen der Autostadt in Wolfsburg, Germany; Festival Montpellier Dance 2014.

Atomos is co-commissioned by Fondazione I Teatri, Reggio Emilia, Italy; Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, London, UK.

Atomos is supported by the Idlewild Trust.

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Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 November 2013, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. (Aperto Festival 2013)

Collezione Maramotti

Wayne McGregor | Random Dance

Scavenger

Site-specific performance

World première

conceived, directed and choreographed by Wayne McGregor

Bio

Wayne McGregor, director and choreographer, was born in Stockport, England, in 1970. He studied dance at Bretton Hall College of the University of Leeds and at the José Limon School in New York. He is the founder and artistic director of Wayne McGregor | Random Dance, resident company at Sadler's Wells Theatre in London, for whom he has choreographed over thirty performances, among the most noteworthy being *The Millenniumium*, *Sulphur 16*, *Aeon*, *Nemesis*, *AtaXia*, *Ossein*, *Amu*, *Entity*, *Dyad 1909*, *FAR* and *UNDANCE*.

He is resident choreographer of the Royal Ballet.

In January 2011 he was appointed CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire) for services to dance.

Recent creations: *Atomos* for the Wayne McGregor | Random Dance, *Borderlands* for the San Francisco Ballet, *Raven Girl*, *Machina* for *Metamorphosis: Titian 2012* and *Carbon Life* for the Royal Ballet, *UNDANCE* for Wayne McGregor | Random Dance, *L'Anatomie De La Sensation* for the Ballet National de l'Opéra de Paris. He choreographed the video for Radiohead's *Lotus Flower*, receiving a Grammy nomination. He directed *Sum*, Max Richter's chamber opera, commissioned by ROH2. He directed *Big Dance Trafalgar Square*, part of the London 2012 Olympics events, involving a thousand people.

Commissioned Works: *Borderlands* (San Francisco Ballet); *Machina* for *Metamorphosis: Titian 2012*, *Carbon Life*, *Live Fire Exercise*, *Limen*, *Infra*, *Chroma*, *Nimbus*, *Engram*, *Qualia*, *brainstate*, *Symbiont(s)* (The Royal Ballet); *Outlier* (New York City Ballet); *Dyad 1929* (Australian Ballet); *Genus* (Ballet National de l'Opéra de Paris); *Skindex*, *Re:Nature* (NDT1); *Yantra*, *Eden|Eden*, *Nautilus* (Stuttgarter Ballet); *2Human* (English National Ballet); *PreSentient*, *detritus* (Rambert Dance Company).

Repertoire: *Chroma* (National Ballet of Canada, San Francisco Ballet, Bolshoi Ballet, Royal Danish Ballet, Boston Ballet); *Infra* (Joffrey Ballet, Royal Ballet of Flanders); *Eden|Eden* (San Francisco Ballet, Atlanta Ballet); *PreSentient* (Tulsa Ballet).

Opera: *Sum* (ROH), *Dido and Aeneas* and *Acis and Galatea* (The Royal Opera / The Royal Ballet); *Dido and Aeneas* (Teatro alla Scala, Milan); *The Midsummer Marriage* (Lyric Opera of Chicago); *La Bohème*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Orpheus and Eurydice* (Scottish Opera); *Salome* (English National Opera); *Manon* (English Touring Opera); *The Mikado*, *Rinaldo* (Grange Park Opera).

Theatre: *Kirikou et Karaba* (Casino de Paris); *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, *Ring Round the Moon* (West End); *Aladdin* with Ian McKellen; *The Woman in White* (London & Broadway); *Cloaca* (The Old Vic); *A Little Night Music*, *Antony and Cleopatra* (National Theatre); *Much Ado About Nothing*, *You Never Can Tell* (Peter Hall Company); *Cleansed* (Royal Court Theatre).

Cinema and Television: *Lotus Flower* – music video for Radiohead; *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* (Warner Bros); *Tiny Dancer* (Elton John's Million Dollar Piano, Caesar's Palace); *DICE Life*, *Bent*, *Tremor*, (Channel Four); *Chrysalis*, *Entity*, *Sur le Traces de Kirikou*, *Kirikou et Karaba* (Arte); *Horizone*, *Nemesis*, *Symbiont(s)*, *Dance USA*, *Infra*, *Physical Dysfunctional*, *Dyad 1909* (BBC); *Chroma*, *Infra*, *Limen*, *Dido and Aeneas*, *Acis and Galatea* (Opus Arte); *The South Bank Show*, *Wayne McGregor: Across The Threshold* (ITV); *The Culture Show* (BBC); *Wayne McGregor - Going Somewhere* (Les Films Du Present).

Recent work for cinema: *Wayne McGregor – A Moment In Time*, documentary by Catherine Maximoff for ARTE France; *La Danse*, documentary film by Fred Wiseman (mainstream cinema distribution); *Hardtalk* for the BBC.

Awards: CBE (Commander of the Order of the British Empire) for services to dance (January 2011). Golden Mask Awards Critics' prize for *Chroma*, Bolshoi Ballet (2012); Benois de la danse prize for *Infra*, The Royal Ballet (2009); Ballet Tanz's Choreographer Of The Year (2009); International Theatre Institute Award for Excellence in Dance (2009); South Bank Show Award for Dance for *Entity*, Wayne McGregor | Random Dance and *Infra*, The Royal Ballet (2009); Movimentos Award for *Entity*, Wayne McGregor | Random Dance (2009); three Critics Circle Awards (*Amu*, Wayne McGregor | Random Dance; *Chroma*, *Infra*, The Royal Ballet); Lawrence Olivier Award for Best New Dance Production for *Chroma*, The Royal Ballet (2007); South Bank Show Award for Dance (Royal Ballet programme, which included *Chroma*, 2007); Lawrence Olivier Award for Outstanding Achievement in Dance for *2Human*, English National Ballet (2004); Time Out Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Dance (received twice, 2001 and 2003), IMZ Dance Screen Award (2002).

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Wayne McGregor | Random Dance

Brief bio of the company

Founded in 1992, Wayne McGregor | Random Dance became the instrument through which Wayne McGregor evolved his drastically fast and articulate choreographic style.

The company became a byword for McGregor's radical approach to new technology – incorporating animation, digital film, 3D architecture, electronic sound and virtual dancers into the live choreography.

In *Nemesis* (2002), the dancers fight with steel prostheses as extensions of their arms to a soundtrack mingled with telephone conversations; in *AtaXia* (2004) the choreography is driven by McGregor's research fellowship at the University of Cambridge's Department of Experimental Psychology; in *Entity* (2008), the choreography was developed starting from the score written by Jon Hopkins, producer and collaborator for Coldplay, and Joby Talbot; in *FAR* (2010), the cutting-edge set design (rANdom International) blends into the choreography, exposing the radical cognitive process; and in *UNDANCE* (2011), Eadward Muybridge's research into movement comes to life on the stage.

Wayne McGregor | Random Dance is resident company at Sadler's Wells, London.

Wayne McGregor is resident choreographer of the Royal Ballet.

www.randomdance.org

collezione maramotti

A place to be lived as an open space for research and knowledge: this is the philosophy behind the **Collezione Maramotti**, brainchild of Achille Maramotti – entrepreneur, founder of Max Mara and passionate art collector.

Opened in late 2007 in the old company headquarters in Reggio Emilia, the permanent collection hosts more than two hundred works of art – by about one hundred international artists from 1950 up to today, including Acconci, Bacon, Basquiat, Burri, Clemente, Cragg, Fischl, Fontana, Gallagher, Manders, Manzoni, Merz, Ontani, Paladino, Sachs, Schifano, Schnabel, Twombly and Viola – and can be visited free of charge with an appointment.

Temporary exhibitions are also organised with projects made to measure for the Collection by young Italian and international artists.

www.collezionemaramotti.org

MaxMara

The **Max Mara Group**, founded by Achille Maramotti in 1951 and currently run by his heirs, is one of the most important international fashion houses and the largest Italian clothing company, with 2,300 stores around the world and 22 different collections sold in 105 countries.

www.maxmara.com

I TEATRI

Fondazione I Teatri Reggio Emilia's activities cover just about every area of live performance. In order to perform its activities ranging from dance to drama, concerts to opera, kids' theatre and musicals to operetta, the foundation uses a theatre system which is unique in Italy – three theatres gathered around a square in the heart of the city, each unique both architecturally and in its schedule.

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