

PUPPIK

fugue in 2

scenic duet of
NAOMI SILMAN
Yael KARAVAN

A new multi-layered, visual, physical performance, with a compelling original soundtrack. A co-production between award winning companies, LUME Teatro, Brazil and The Karavan Ensemble, Brighton, UK.



synopsis

What defines our identity? How do we belong? And where do we really come from?

Pupik - ("navel" in Hebrew) - is the story of an encounter and life-long friendship between two women from similar backgrounds, descendants of generations of migrants who have always been foreigners in another land. Together they tackle some vital contemporary questions about their common paths such as identity, roots, migration, borders, and the concept of a Home. They travel through time and space, unveiling the layers of their personal stories and ancestral backgrounds, tracing a line from the personal to the universal. In the current global scenario of conflict, violence and social injustice where people are discriminated against for religious, nationalist, or racial reasons, Pupik looks to unearth what connects us despite our differences.

With a consolidated career of more than 20 years in physical and visual theatre, dance and clowning the performers fuse their artistic skills into a simple and poetic language of expression, creating a playful and intimate dialogue with the audience.

The performance premiered in Brazil in 2015 as part of the 11th Ferevestival - International Theatre Festival of Campinas and went on to run in São Paulo at the renowned cultural institution SESC. In 2016 the show toured for a month and a half to different regions around the country, taking part in important theatre festivals. The actresses also created a special version of the show for youth between the ages of 10 and 16 and performed for local school children in Campinas.

At the end of 2015, Pupik was presented as a work in progress in its first English version as part of an exchange at the University of East London (UEL).

WORKSHOPS | The performance can be accompanied by a professional workshop led by Silman and Karavan entitled 'The secret life of objects' or by an open community workshop tracing the life maps and family trees of the participants through a sharing of personal stories on the theme, potentially culminating in an open exhibition.





reviews

“A clever, funny and moving exploration of motherland, heritage and the notion of ‘foreign-ness’, delivered in a variety of physical, visual and verbal languages”

Dorothy Max Prior - Total Theatre Magazine

“The theme of identity and cultural diversity is a highlight in the structure of the show, in which the actresses relive personal stories from their home countries as well as memories of their ancestors... the spectators naturally connected and were sensitized enabling each person after the show to reawaken their own memories.”

Marcos Ranger Koslowski - Artistic Director of Festem - Matão Theatre Festival, São Paulo

“The performance PUPIK opened for our young spectators a universe that touched them right in the centre of their bodies and spirits – their navel. The humour always present in the show and the alternation between different states and times – allowed our pupils – children and teenagers, to not lose their attention even for a minute. Later in the classroom, we were able to discuss the universality of things, how the foreigner has this role, although sometimes a burden, to show that throughout the world, we are one.” **Anna Carla de Oliveira - Portuguese teacher 6th grade**

“... we couldn't not include PUPIK in the festival's programme, (a show) that raises questions about our individuality and our ancestrality, with exquisite and precise acting from the performers Yael Karavan and Naomi Silman. Presented in Caruaru and Recife, the show brought the audience to an active and vibrant participation”.

Fabio Pascoal, director of FETEAG – Agreste Theatre Festival

“PUPIK touches directly our belly-button. A case of letting oneself be swept along by the flow of images... at times delicate tableaux, at times frenetic, that pop-up within our eyes/bodies telling a story so intimate and universal, that is all yours, but is ours as well. Pupik might be an eternal performance, a patchwork quilt that never ends. While there is friendship, there will be no end... it speaks of sorority, the solidarity between us. Travelling women, wheels on their feet, who follow their destiny and luck, protagonists of our contemporary nomadism. I leave feeling myself larger, braver and more common in the desire to be what we dream to be. And with renewed faith in the fact that life is made of the people we meet and the stories we experience”. **Mariana Rotili, photographer and historian**



Yael Karavan | www.yaelkaravan.com

Award winning performer, dancer and director, Karavan began an acting career in television, theatre, film and radio at the age of 13. In 1995 she began travelling through Europe, Brazil and Japan developing a contemporary, physical language of expression bridging east and west, physical performance, dance and acting. Karavan has been living in the UK since 1996, she has created and performed seven solo shows, touring world-wide, and has been, amongst others, a member of Derevo, multiple award-winning Russian physical theatre company, as well as numerous Butoh troupes. She is currently touring her solos and her various collaborations while teaching, mentoring and directing in the UK and abroad. To date, her work was supported amongst others by Arts Council England, South East Dance, the Dome Brighton, Awards for All, Hollingdean youth trust and other international organizations.

*"Karavan's physical discipline is extraordinary.
Every pulse and movement counts... all is communicated*
TOTAL THEATRE Magazine

THE KARAVAN ENSEMBLE | www.karavanensemble.com

In 2009 Yael founded the Karavan Ensemble in Brighton, initially a site-specific company of international performers who brought an exciting mixture of performance skills and backgrounds, with whom she has devised and directed, amongst others, award-winning show Anima, A Ship of Fools and A Light Through the Night as well as numerous community projects in the UK and a big site specific commission in Germany. Since 2013 the Karavan Ensemble has become the umbrella for Karavan's numerous collaborations including, D-Code with Carl Beukman, Somnambules with Tanya Khabarova and Pupik with Naomi Silman.

A strikingly original production"(about Anima) | TOTAL THEATRE Magazine
So grand is the universe created by the Karavan Ensemble that it spills out into our own" | The Argus



NAOMI SILMAN is a performer, clown and director and a permanent member of award-winning Brazilian physical theatre group LUME Teatro. Born in London, she got a first class honours degree in Drama and Theatre Arts at Goldsmith's College and went on to develop her work with masters in physical theatre, clowning and butoh such as Philippe Gaulier, Jaques Lecoq, Sue Morrison and Tadashi Endo. In 1997 she joined LUME with whom she has travelled extensively throughout Brazil and around the world performing in over 20 countries, as well as teaching a variety of workshops that transmit the practices and daily corporeal-vocal training developed by LUME.

LUME Teatro | www.lumeteatro.com.br

Founded in 1985, LUME Teatro has become a world reference in the research of the art of the actor. The company has performed in over 27 countries, spanning four continents and developed partnerships with theatre masters from around the world. Winner of the Shell Award in 2013 for lifetime achievement, LUME Teatro have currently in their repertoire 10 shows in a variety of performative languages including physical theatre, clown, dance, Butoh, street theatre and large outdoor interventions. The company also maintains a strong teaching tradition sharing their extensive research into actor training through workshops, mentoring, technical demonstrations, international exchanges, theoretical reflection, book publications, lectures and itinerant projects that celebrate theatre as the art of meetings and encounters. LUME is also a funded research centre within the University of Campinas.

"(Naomi) has a beautiful performance sensibility, a merging of intensity, pathos and humour that endows her stage presence simultaneously with depth and lightness"

TOTAL THEATRE Magazine

info sheet

created and performed by
NAOMI SILMAN AND Yael KARAVAN

artistic advisor
RICARDO PUCETTI

original soundtrack
GREG SLIVAR

costumes
SANDRA PESTANA

lighting design
and technical coordinator
FRANCISCO BARGANIAN

graphic design
ARTHUR AMARAL

video maker
ALESSANDRO POETA SOAVE

realization
LUME TEATRO & THE KARAVAN ENSEMBLE





technical info

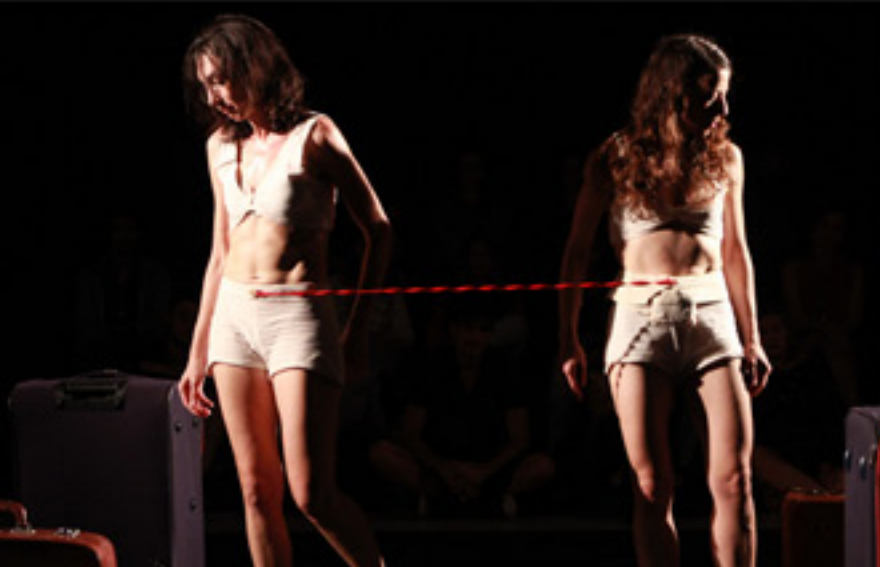
- Space requirements: PUIK is conceived to be played in a traverse set-up with audience on both sides - preferably on raked seating (flexible audience capacity between 40-200 depending on the space)
- Minimum stage area 5m X 8m
- Minimum rig height- 5-6 meters
- Black dance floor required to cover the whole stage area
- Full black out
- Preferably the space should be black or covered by black curtains
- Need the possibility to suspend a cord and pulley from the lighting rig, not heavy!
- 4 audio speakers, one on each corner of the space
- Sound running from a lap-top computer (supplied by the company) - please provide correct cable to connect to sound desk
- Lighting plan will be sent on request and adapted if necessary
- Full day get in
- Crew - 2 performers + 2 technicians

click below to watch the video clip of the show (39'):



or a shorter video clip (2'):





contact in England

the Karavan Ensemble

THE KARAVAN ENSEMBLE

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