

Yael Karavan

Dancer, performer, Director, teacher

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**'Karavan's physical discipline is extraordinary.
Every pulse and movement count'** TOTAL THEATRE

Award winning Dancer, performer, actress and director, Yael was born in Israel, grew up in Florence and Paris and was based in the U.K for 20 years, Since 2019 she lives in Lisbon. At the age of 13 she began a successful acting career in the National Theatre, television, radio and films in Israel. In 1995 she has travelled Europe, Russia, Brazil and Japan studying with masters such as Anton Adassinski from Russian theatre Derevo, Nigel Charnock from DV8, Philippe Genty (puppets and object theatre), Philippe Gaulier (Graduated from 2 years in his school in London), Jerzy Winnicki (Grotowski), Lume Teatro- The performers' Physical training, Monica Pagnieux (Complicite theatre), Sue Morrison (Clown through mask), and Butoh masters Kazuo Ohno, Tadashi Endo, Carlotta Ikeda, Yumiko Yoshioka, Akiko Motofuji, Ko Morobushi, Minako Seki, Tuko Kawamoto, Akira Kasai, Sankai Juku, and more, searching to create an elaborate method of physical training for the performer and to develop a contemporary physical language of expression bridging between east and west, dance and theatre.

Her work is often described as visual physical poetry, Drawing on elements of Butoh, dance, mime, clown, physical and visual theatre she explores the themes of humanity, Memory, Metamorphosis, the invisible and the notion of repetitive cycles, intertwining dreamlike atmospheres with a humorous edge, constantly balancing on the fine line between the tragic and the comic, the intimate and the collective often in a site specific context.

She has created and performed numerous solo shows, touring world-wide, and in 2006 was awarded the TEATRONETO prize for best performance with her solo *The Way Home*. She has been, amongst others, member of Derevo multiple award winning physical theatre Russian company, Mamu Dance Theatre of Tadashi Endo, Ten-Pen Chi of Yumiko Yoshioka and a founding member of the site-specific international company Adapt- Theatre Picture Collision. She has been collaborating with Tanya Khabarova (Derevo), Naomi Silman (LUME), Ephraim (Djalma primordial science), Linda Remahl, Fran Barbe, Marie Gabriel Rotie, Bruno Humberto, Adam Read amongst other artists and performers internationally.

In 2009 she founded award winning **Karavan Ensemble**, A site specific/responsive company of international performers with an exciting mixture of performance skills and backgrounds, with whom she has devised and directed, amongst others, award winning show **Anima** (Argus Angel award) 2011, **A Ship of Fools** 2010, **A Light through the Night** commissioned for Brighton's White Night 2011, **The Dressing Room** for 'inhabit' at Brighton Dome, **A Small Museum of Displaced Sea** commissioned by the award winning Dip Your Toe project as well as two big site responsive projects in Cologne, Germany and numerous community projects.



Yael is currently touring her various projects and performances in theatres, festivals, museums, galleries and public places internationally while teaching, mentoring and directing various performers and companies in Europe and Brazil.

Her work has been supported by Arts Council England, Brighton & Hove Council, South East Dance, Awards for all, Hollingdean Youth Trust, Coachwerks, The Nightingale Theatre and The Dome theatre, Brighton, Rich Mix and Shunt in London, Matan Foundation for the Arts in Israel, Micadances- Paris, Atelier de Paris Carolyn Carlson and CCN Magui Marin, France, cultural association Delloscompiglio Art Centre, Italy and DGArtes Portugal, GDA, Iberescena, Fundacao Calouste Gulbenkian.

Since 1999 Yael has been teaching internationally including the master degree course for the praticas senicas at NOVA university and the PACAP3 at Forum danca in Lisbon, Portugal, the **Brighton, Sussex**, Reading, Edge Hill and Oxford University in the U.K, Kinki University, Osaka and the Asbestos Kan studio, Tokyo- Japan, **Palacio Pancas Palha** Lisbon, **Mal Habit**os and Porto da Artes Porto- Portugal, Ecole Philippe Gaulier, Seaux-and Hippocampe mime school, France, The Habima National Theatre and Theatre of the body school (le coq branch), Tel-Aviv, Israel, Lume Theatre Research Nucleus and **SESCI**, São Paulo, Recife, Natal, Rio, Belem and caruaru - Brazil, BAW (Bilingual Acting Workshops) in Paris, TTI (Theatre training initiative) in London, **Oxford** dance forum, **Compass** -Edinburgh, Coachwerks and The Nightingale Theatre, Brighton, Caceres Escola superior de Artes Cenicis ESDA de Extremadura, Caseres Desembrendanca, Barcelona University, espacio em blanco, Madrid, Spain amongst others.

- Spoken languages (fluent): English, French, Italian, Portuguese, Hebrew and the language of the Body.

Solo Work

-   **2023- V for Vida-** Solo perf part of the V dictionaries at Casa do Comun, Lisbon. A political activism for PEACE.
- 2022-** 3 Solo performances in Homage to Dani Karavan on his sculpture sites for the 40th anniversary of Celle Art Factory Italy, including- **Jerusalem city of peace, The Line and The tea house**.
- 2019-20- Holy-Cow-** A Dance theatre visual performance on the massive impact animal agriculture has on our Climate Supported by Arts Council England.
- 2019- Ephemeral-** Site specific performance commissioned by White space Black Box in Neuchâtel, Switzerland
- 2018-19- 'I/ Living threads-** Performance created in response to the art work of Sandra Tomboloni at Galeria ME Vannucci, Pistoia, Italy. Performed at Radicondoli festival, Italy, FACE, Bauru, Brazil, Edge Hill Arts Centre, UK,
- 2018- 'Fragments'** – Site specific performance on the sculpture site of Dani Karavan in Port Bou, Catalunya in memory of the great thinker and philosopher Walter Benjamin.
- 2017-19 Living threads** – Site specific solo performance touring Albania & Spain.
- 2017-18- Future Proofed-** Solo performance questioning our future in various venues in Brighton & Berkley USA
- 2016-17 'I was Dead then Alive'-** 5 short modular solo pieces in reaction to the current world situation. Brighton, Lisbon and Berkley Museum, SF.
- 2014-18- D-Code-** A Dance theatre visual performance on the theme of migration and DNA in collaboration with sound artist Carl Beukman, supported by Arts Council England and Delloscompiglio Art center, Italy. Premiered in March 2016.
- 2009-18 -In-Between-** Performed at SEEDBED festival- Hackney Empire, London, at the Nightingale Theatre, Brighton. Toured in Brazil- Belem, Sao Paulo, Recife & Campinas and at Clipa Theatre Tel-Aviv, Israel.
- 2008/18 –Falling** – site specific performance commissioned by the Nagasaki Prefecture Museum, Japan. In memory of the atomic bomb disaster. Adapted & performed at Shunt Lounge, Queen's Elm Gallery- London, Fresh ftO -Brighton, Muzot festival- Shoam, Israel, Contemporanea Festival Prato- Italy, Dezebrendanca Spain and Cloud festival Tirana, Albania
- 2011- Fragments-** a collection of short solo pieces commissioned by South East Dance as part of Brighton International Festival at the Pavillion Theatre, Brighton, U.K
- 2010-11- Skin 1; Dissordered Geometries; Technology - my friend/my enemy-** various solos pieces presented as part as Fresh from the Oven monthly new work event, Brighton.
- 2010- Etudes-** site specific interactive installation/performance at the Shunt Lounge, London.
- 2009/11 -Solo Improvisation-** As part of *Stranger than Fiction* London & the Nightingale Theatre, Brighton.
- 2009 -The Nature of Things-** Performed in Coachwerks, Brighton and at the Shunt Lounge, London.
- 2006 -The Way Home** -Award winning at the TEATRONETTO festival, Tel-Aviv. Israel, Brasil and Belgium.
- 2005 -Pensieri Nocturni-** Commissioned by ITI International festival in Amandola, Italy.
- 2004 -Trampolina-** Created for the VERTICAL FESTIVAL curated by Derevo, St Petersburg, Russia.
- 1999-2003 -From The Earth- a memory-** Performed at the ASBESTO KAN, Tokyo, Japan, LUME theatre nucleus São Paulo, Brazil, 'MOSAICS'- festival of cutting edge dance produced by Sadler's Wells & other venues in London.

Collaborations

- 2021-2024- HOMENAGEM-** Co-creation with Naomi Silman from Lume Teatro on the theme of Extinction, Supported by GDA, Gulbenkian and Iberescena, Premiere September in Brazil, October in Portugal.
- 2023- 77 88** site specific performance in collaboration with artist Anat Zafir on the sculpture site of Dani Karavan the White Square in TLV for Houses festival.
-   **2022- Pe'imot/ Beats-** Site specific performance on the Culture Square by Dani Karavan and in Homage to him, with Dancers from the Masloul Bikurei haitim, Tel-Aviv.
- 2020-24- Bingo Human Rights-** A Game/performance online on Zoom during the pandemic and LIVE, a game of Bingo on theme of the Human Rights in collaboration with Silvia Mercuriali Supported by Arts Council England, the Cockpit Theatre, BAC London and Lancaster Arts.
- 2021-23- Pela Nossa Pele/ Our Skin** – Video art, dance film on themes of climate and ecofeminism + workshop with local communities culminating in a performative action, presented in Portugal, UK, Italy, the Netherlands and Brazil, Supported by DGEARTES, Portuguese Cultural Ministry.
- 2020-21- MA-MA** – Live performance and Dance film in collaboration with Rita Vilhena on the theme of climate change performed in MAPS- Setuba, Circolando- Porto & PenhaSCO- Lisbon Supported by DGARTES Portugal.
- 2015-19- Pupik- Fugue in 2-** Duet in collaboration with performer & director Naomi Silman, co-production of the Karavan Ensemble with LUME Teatro, Brazil. Premiered in 2015, touring Brazil & Portugal, in 2018 received Arts Council funding to adapt, translate and tour the show in the UK + Israel.
- 2016- Equator-** Duet in collaboration with Tanya Khabarova, commissioned by Delloscompiglio Art Centre, Italy.

2012-15 Somnambules and the 7 deadly sins - Dance theatre performance in collaboration with Tanya Khabarova, presented at Summerhall for EdFringe13, The Nightingale Theatre, Brighton University & RichMix theatre, London, BAW, Paris, Tenuta Dello Scompiglio, Vorno, Macherata, Radicondoli and Pisa Festival, Italy, Kolbhalle Art Centre, Cologne, Germany and Crossroad Festival, Belgium.

2014- 'Sisters of Hera' – Invited guest artist and performer for the Site specific/ responsive residency and performance commissioned by the tenuta delloscompiglio, Vorno, Italy.

2013- Portals- a site specific performance and residency at the site of Delloscompiglio Art Centre, Vorno Italy.

2012-Trance Europa express- a Dance performance project with live music and live painting in Collaboration with Tanya Khabarova, at Lauro Rossi theatre, Macherata, Italy.

2012-13- 'My Origins' - Video dance piece commissioned part of the **Invisible Bridges** book and exhibition project by *Boca to Mouth*, written by Xelis de Toro with exhibitions at Pheonix gallery, Brighton & Galicia, Spain.

2009/13 -The Geomancers - A Site Specific performance created and performed with Bruno Humberto A live music, clown, physical theatre performance in Shunt Lounge & Brick Box Tooting Market, London.

2009 - Love& Tears- Solo Improvs part of the international Butoh dance Festival, Paris.

2009 - Alongside White- Dance performance part of The Experimental Festival Brighton in collaboration with dancer/choreographer Linda Remahl.

2008/09 - Contre-image - Disordered interior geometries- Dance/Theatre performance in collaboration with dancer/Choreographer Ephie Gubrek. Supported by CND Maguy Marin Rilleux-La-Pape, Atelier de Paris Carolyn Carlson and Micadanses- Dance centre in Paris. Performed at various festivals in France.

2007- Assembly part 1- A collaboration with Swedish choreographer Linda Remahl. Performed at The Place Robin Howard dance theatre, London, Sweden and France Supported by the Swedish Arts Council.

2006- Human Forest- Site-Specific performance with 'J.A.M- Dance Company' commissioned for the inauguration event of *Sculpture Forest* in Nara- Japan.

2005 -ZOO- An absurd physical theatre performance in collaboration with Australian dancer Adam Read. Performed in Tel Aviv, Israel and Dresden, Germany.

2004 -Fleshmirror- A curated dance event at *the Space* venue in London with Fran Barbe, Yumino Seki & Shane Irwin. Choreography and performance of solo **In-Between** & duet **Dying Laughing**.

2003 -Way to the hidden garden- Choreographed & performed with *ADAPT-Theatre picture collision*. Site Specific Performance on the sculpture site of Dani Karavan. Commissioned by the Sapporo Art Park, Japan.

2003 -Bereshit and G motion- site specific dance performance in collaboration with Tadashi Endo. Commissioned by the Kirishima Open Air Museum in Japan.

2000 -Spring- A site specific performance with 'Foetus' Temporary physical Theatre Company, commissioned by the Stoke Newington Festival in Clissold Park, London.

As director of The Karavan Ensemble and other projects, including community projects.

2022- Physical and movement director for 'A Flor das aguas' by Teatro Fonte Nova, Setubal

2022-Fulano- external eye and support to Dramaturgy of a new performance trilogy by Andresa Soarez, Lisbon

2019- I'd Rather Not – Dramaturgical support to solo performance by Andresa Soarez, Supported by GDA, Gulbenkin foundation and GDARTE.

2017-19 The birth of Death – Director of a physical theatre solo for performer Joanne Tremarco, supported by Arts Council England for the Liverpool international physical fest, touring the UK in 2018/19.

2016-18 Um ensaio sobre Amaro (Rehearsing to become Amaro) - Directed a physical theatre solo show for Eduardo Rios in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. (shortlisted for best actor for premio Botequim Cultural at Rio de Janeiro)

2015- Memories of a Lullaby- Directed a visual theatre solo show for Saras Feijoo in Edinburgh about Venezuela.

2014- Macina Icarus- Directed a circus outdoors family show for companhia Ventura in Natal, Brazil.

2013- Bone Garden- Directed and choreographed a short dance theatre solo for Tara Hodgson in Edinburgh.

2012- Margate Hosts the boat- Big Dance 2012- Message in a bottle- community project, performance with a local dance youth group including workshops and a procession in Margate, commissioned by SED.

2012- A Small Museum of a displaced sea- A site responsive performance with a reconstructed bathing machine commissioned by the multiple award winning project **Dip Your Toe** for Brighton Fringe.

2011- Winter Lights of Hollingdean - A spectacular outdoor parade celebrating Light, created by the company with community participants from deprived Hollingdean, Brighton. Supported by Awards for All.

2011- M'aalot- Time, space, perspective, music, architecture and light, a Site Responsive performance on the sculpture site of Dani Karavan in the centre of Cologne. Commissioned by the Ludwig Art Museum, Germany.

2011- Invisible Bspoken – Site responsive performance at Kolbhalle community Art space, Cologne, Germany.

2011- Award Winning ANIMA- Winner of the Argus Angel for artistic excellence in the Brighton Festival & Fringe. Anima is a journey through light and darkness and the various metaphors these have in our life.

Supported by ACE. Including outdoors version for the opening of Coastal Currents festival, Hastings, commissioned by Creative Coast.

2010- The Dressing Room - A site specific performance in the underground corridors and dressing-rooms of Brighton Dome. Commissioned for Inhabit by The Dome Arts Forum.

2010 - A Light through the Night – A site specific performance commissioned by Brighton & Hove Council for Brighton's White Night on the theme of illumination.

2010 - A Ship of Fools- A four-hour devised site specific performance in various locations in Brighton, including an Eco-friendly bus and the sea front culminating in a dinner shared by fools & audiences, Supported by ACE.

Member of and Collaborations with other Companies

2017- '4017 Enacted'- Site specific Performance at the V&A part of 'Collecting Europe', with Common Initiative.

2012/13- Headcase- Main Role in physical, object theatre performance by Touched Theatre, touring the U.K.

2009- Admeto- Opera by Handel, performed at the Edinburgh International Festival & the International Handel Festival in Göttingen, Germany. Directed by Doris Dörrie Choreographed & performed by Tadashi Endo & Mamu Dance Theatre.

2000-04 & 2006-09 Member of **Mamu Dance Theatre**, artistically directed by Choreographer- Tadashi Endo. Touring with *Migration 01* and *KI-ME-RA* in festivals around Germany and the U.K.

2003-05 Member of multiple award winning **DEREVO**, Russian physical Theatre Company. Touring with *Once...*, *Islands in the streams*, *La Divina Comedia*, *Ketsal* and various Site-Specific projects in England, Ireland, Scotland, Germany, Holland, Belgium, Greece, Hungary, Russia, China, Finland and Japan.

2001-03 Member of **Ten Pen Chi**- Butoh Choreographer-Yumiko Yoshioka, touring *Test Labor* in Germany&Austria.

2002-03 Founding Member of **Adapt - Theatre Picture Collision**, a site specific company, with Minako Seki, Yuko Kaseki, Shinichi Momo Koga and Sten Rudstrom. Projects: *Glass Anatomies* at the *Schtaatbank* (a 100meters high glass roof) in Berlin and *Way to The Hidden Garden* at The Sapporo Art Park in Japan.

2003 The Collector- A collaboration with Dancer/Choreographer Marie Gabrielle Roti at *The Place Dance Theatre* and at *Jackson's Lane* in London. Supported by ACE.

2003 Palpitation- created by Fran Barbe performed at *Jackson's Lane theatre*, London.

Teaching and workshops since 1999

- Teaching practical classes for the praticas Cenicas Master degree course at Universidade Nova Lisboa, Portugal
 - Butoh workshops at Forum Danca and for the PACAP 3 course, Lisbon, Portugal
 - Butoh workshops at Nova, Forum Danca, Palaco palhas (compania Olga Roriz), Roundabout, Espaco, Casa do Coreto, Circolando, Porto D'arte, Maus Habitots, Lisbon, Porto, Portugal
 - Butoh retreats in Quinta Ten Chi, Sintra and in Amadora, Alentejo.
 - Regular workshops at Oxford, Reading, Sussex, Edge Hill and Brighton University, England.
 - Workshops in Barcelona university, Caceres ESDA (Escola Superior de artes performativas) de Extremadura, Celra, Port Bou, Madrid and Asturias, Spain.
 - Teaching regularly at Ecole Hippocampe- Arts du Geste- Theatre Physique.
 - Teaching part time at Ecole Philippe Gaulier in Seaux, France.
 - Workshop at Summerhall and as part of Pozaprojects in Edinburgh, Scotland.
 - Regular Workshops at Coachwerks, The Natingale theatre, Evolution Arts and Brighton Natural Health Centre.
 - Workshop part of TTI (Theatre Training Initiative), Pimlico Church Hall and various locations in London.
 - Workshops at the 'Kinki University' Osaka and at the *Asbestos Kan* memorial Butoh Dance studio in Tokyo.
 - Workshops at 'Lume'- Theatre and Movement research centre in São Paulo as well as in Moitara theatre in Rio De Janeiro, SESC Sao Paulo, Campinas, Matao, Recife, Caruaru, Bauru, Olinda, Salvador and more, Brazil.
 - Workshop at 'Theatre of the Body' School and at the 'Habima' National Theatre, Tel- Aviv.
 - Teaching at BAW- Bilingual Acting Workshops, Paris and Hipocampe corporal mime school.
 - Teaching Movement classes for kids at the Belsize community Centre, London.
 - _Youth workshops in Hollingdean, Brighton and Lancing College supported by the Youth Trust and Awards for all.
 - Regular workshops all over Brazil.
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Formation & Training

- **1994-08** In her search for an authentic method of training and a physical language of expression that bridges east and west, dance and theatre, Yael Karavan has studied with master-teachers and performers from all over the world including: Anton Adassinski and Tanya Khabarova from Russian physical Theatre company DEREVO, Lilo Baur and Anabel Arden from Theatre de Complicite, Philippe Genty and Mary Underwood- Interior Landscapes, Monica Pagnieux- Physical theatre and Feldenkrais, Jerzy Winnicki from the Grotowski Centre, Nigel Charnock from DV8, Sue Morrison- Clown through mask, Ricardo Puccetti from Lume Teatro- Brazil and Butoh masters Kazuo Ohno, Tadashi Endo, Carlotta Ikeda, Yumiko Yoshioka, Akiko Motofuji, Yuko Kawamoto, Ko Morobushi, Katsura Kan and more, as well as other Character Dance, Ballet and contemporary classes in Europe, the U.S, Japan and Brazil.
- **2002/07/10** Periodical Training with *Lume Theatre Research Nucleus* in São Paulo- Brazil.
- **1998** Derevo- *School on Wheels* for physical Theatre training led by Anton Adassinski, Tanya Khabarova and Lena Ierovaya at the *Derevo Laboratorium* in Dresden.
- **1996-98** Physical Theatre studies at *Ecole Philippe Gaulier* in London.
- 1989-92 A levels in Theatre studies with distinction at the Performing Arts department of *Thelma Yelin* College for the Arts, Israel

Others

- 2018-** Invited artists for the VIII cicle de Dansa contemporanea at the University of Barcelona – Coreografiar El Cos.
2016- Um ensaio sobre Amaro shortlisted for best actor for premio Botequim Cultural at Rio de Janeiro)
- 2014/16-** Mentoring 'Barca do Coracoens perdidos' for their new show Suasouna o Alto do Reino do Sol in Rio, Brazil.
Mentoring Moises Frreira of Sociedade T in Natal, Brazil, with his new solo show 'Sem sal, Sem acucar'
- 2010-16-** Mentoring dancer/performers Tara Hodgson with 'Bone Garden' and Sky Reynolds for an educational youth community project and a Dance film in Edinburgh, Scotland. Mentoring Quadro di Cena company, Recife, Brazil, for their project – 'written on the body', as well as mentoring Dancer/ performer Anna Barbour, supported by Oxford Dance Forum, Paulette Mae, Oxford, Supported by ACE, Skye Reynolds Supported by North Edinburgh Arts and Tara Hodgson Supported by ACE and Dance Base, Edinburgh.
- 2012-17- Regular supported artist in residence at the tenuta dello Scompiglio arts centre in Lucca, Italy.**
- 2011-12-** Supported by South East Dance in their creative and business development programme.
- 2010-11-** Supported by South East Dance through their Mentor Bank Programme- Mentor- Steven Bret.
- 2010-11-** Programmer and curator of the performance space at Coachwerks, Brighton.
- 2010-12-** Main curator of a monthly performance event 'Fresh from the oven' supported by various venues in Brighton.
- 2009-10-** Artist in residence at Coachwerks, an artist led space in Brighton.
- 2010-** Argos Angel Award for artistic excellence at the Brighton Festival and Fringe with 'Anima'
- 2006-** Awarded the Teatroneto award for best performance with ***The Way Home*** —Directed by Naomi Silman, Tel- Aviv.
- 2000 -** Diploma in Anatomy, Physiology and Body Massage.
- 1988-94-** Acting career in Israeli TV, with own TV programme, TV series and films + at the National Theatre and on Radio.
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