



MoonShadow

A call from another world

MOONSHADOW



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Winner of the Bat-Yam 2006 Street Theater Festival. Moon Shadow is a physical theater performance. Energetic and mystical, it is based on body expression and includes original rhythm and dance.

The happening combines fire-dancing, alternative music and choreography, performed by the Balbalu Street Theater Group.

Moon Shadow tells the ancient tale of man, moving from darkness to light, from search to discovery in his endless journey.

The essence of the journey is transformation, in which a ritual has to occur in a specific time and place. The peak of this ritual is a trance in which fire plays a symbolic role, allowing the metamorphosis to occur.



The creatures of the Moon Shadow clan

The clan appears from a place where time and earthly substances are not known. The images and characters are a result of research into the depths of human matter - influenced as well by animal characteristics - and the clash between the creatures of the Moon Shadow clan and our modern world.

Another main theme is fire, the essential element to complete the process.

During the journey, the hierarchy, traditional roles, relationships and interdependency of the clan is revealed. When making the costumes we focused on creating a special skin for each of the creatures, giving each of them his own personality and role. On the deformed and painted "skin suit" we added ready-made materials we collected. All the accessories were collected from garbage dumps and adapted to each characters needs.

Ritual under the moons shadow

To illustrate the ritual we chose an astrological event, during which a structure of a hexagram (star of David) appears. This rare event is interconnected with a lunar eclipse. The hexagram symbol is the basis for the visual context and the choreography of the ritual. Studying the meanings of this cosmic structure has given us the background and the substance for this whole journey.

Clan Theater

Moon Shadow was born from the communal spirit of Balbalu in which all the members of the group are part of a creative community, inspired by the teachings of Jacques Lecoq. The performers take an active part in developing the idea, theatrical and visual, bringing the whole thing to life.

In the coming into being of the Moon Shadow clan there was no director, no play writer, no choreographer, only the mutual creation itself.



Balbalu Street Theater Group

For five years the Balbalu Street Theater Group has been creating performances in the streets of Israel, in parks, at schools, fairs, festivals, museums and markets.

The six members of the group work and raise their families as neighbors in a small village in the north of Israel. The group is now working on founding a regional center for street theater in the Galilee.

The creative process is communal and individual at the same time, the members of the group create and perform all the material, including direction, writing, costumes design and props production - these are done in collaboration with other actors who join the group when needed.

Our street theater work includes short plays, historical theater, field figures, stilt figures, and other outdoor performances. In addition, over the last two years we have been creating stage plays in Physical Theater using the method of Jacques Lecoq.

The group's creative directions are dynamic, and change in accordance with the different personal interest of the group members and the different projects.



Members of the group

Eyal Porter - actor creator - begun his theatrical work eight years ago, after graduating from the Weizmann Agricultural Faculty, Israel. He studied with Abraham Danna in the Kibbutzim College of Education, at the Ecole Philippe Gaullier in London, at the Angry Mime in Brisbane Australia. He specialized in Physical Theater at the Body Theater School based on the Jacques Lecoq method in Tel Aviv.

Guy Porter - actor creator - studied at the Musrara School of Photography in Jerusalem, where he participated in a student exchange program, and studied also at the Visual Theater School in Jerusalem. Guy went through different training programs, until he specialized in Physical Theater at the Body Theater School based on the Jacques Lecoq method, in Tel Aviv.

Ayala Elisha - actor creator - after engaging in modern dance for many years, Ayala studied speech and drama at the Kibbutz Harduf Anthroposophical Academy. In addition, she also does creative writing, acting and music.

Orianne Shavit - stage, costume, and props designer - studied illustration at the Bezalel Academy of Fine Arts, Jerusalem, studied painting in Paris, ceramics and calligraphy in Kyoto, Japan. Orianne is also seamstress and puppet creator.





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Amir Shavit - costume and props designer, performer-studied painting at Bezalel Academy of Fine Arts, Jerusalem. He is a graphic designer, designing props in different materials, and specializes in woodwork, metalwork, and recreation of periodical props.

Netanel Goldberg - musician, actor creator - studied biomechanics and stage battles, danced with "Noah's Ark" dance group, specialized in Physical Theater at the Body Theater School based on the Jacques Lecoq method, in Tel Aviv.



Five more performers and a musician have joined Balbalu in the creation of Moon Shadow: **Reenat Caidar** - actor creator - Studied at the Dell'Arte School of Physical Theater in California as well as the Body Theatre School based on the jacques Lecoq method in Tel Aviv. Studied with Lume Teatro Company in Brazil they're Energetic training method and street performance.

Yonathan Stogi - actor creator - Yonathan is a dancer (danced at Adama dance group with Nir & Liat Ben-Dror), a juggler and student at the Body Theater School based on the Jacques Lecoq method, in Tel Aviv.

Rakefet Mor - actor creator - student at the Body Theater School based on the Jacques Lecoq method in Tel Aviv.

Matan Yaniv - actor creator - specialized in Physical Theater at the Body Theater School based on the Jacques Lecoq method, in Tel Aviv, teaches theater at Hertzlia High School of Art. A member of the Zaza Group.

Kathy Trifonov - actor creator - graduate of the Thelma Yellin School of the Arts, Theater Department, specialized in Physical Theater at the Body Theater School based on the Jacques Lecoq method, in Tel Aviv.

Dori Damski - musician, actor creator - Dori is a percussionist who builds instruments from recycled materials, deals with communicating through rhythm for people with special needs, brings peace to the world.

