

TRILOGY ON DANCE, SPORTS AND ICONIC BALLETS
by Roser López Espinosa & international dance companies



Resident artist Mercat de les Flors 2018-20

ROSER LÓPEZ ESPINOSA
+34 697 555 468
roser@roserlopez.com
www.roserlopez.com

TRILOGY ON DANCE, SPORTS AND ICONIC BALLETS

by Roser López Espinosa & international dance companies

**Which are the similarities and differences between contemporary dance and judo? And boxing? And hockey?
Can we use popular social framework as sports to talk about universal topics?**

This trilogy researches on the meeting points between contemporary dance and sports. And takes some of the most iconic ballets as playing fields to offer a contemporary view on some universal topics: love, desire, monsters and fantastic beings, rituals, men and women roles in society.

New movement possibilities arise when contemporary dance approaches sports, embodying new physicalities, tactics and cadences. This is the starting point for a trilogy project that takes some of the most iconic ballets as frames of reference and playing fields to offer a contemporary view on some universal topics referred in these classical pieces: love, desire, monsters and fantastic beings, rituals, men and women roles in society.

To create this trilogy, the choreographer Roser López Espinosa (resident artist in Mercat de les Flors 2018-20), works with the complicity of international dance companies. The first piece of the project is **HAND TO HAND**, created in 2014 for Conny Janssens Danst/Dansateliers in Rotterdam (The Netherlands). A second piece is in creation process at Skånes Dansteater in Malmö (Sweden), to be premiered in May 2019.

HAND TO HAND

> Conny Janssens Danst + Dansateliers (Rotterdam The Netherlands)

> judo + The Swan Lake / duet (20 min)

HAND TO HAND is a unique 'Swan Lake' proposal in the form of a judo combat. A work where dance approaches martial arts and plays with its tactics and cadence. A love story under the touch of magnificent music by Tchaikovsky. Hand in hand, two dancers, precise and in fair play, compose a couple dance. Hand to hand, a movement like a caress.

MONSTERS - new creation (2018)

> Skånes Dansteater (Malmö, Sweden)

> boxing + The Firebird / solo (20 min)

A solo for a woman. Boxing and 'The Firebird'. Femininity and strength. Fragility, power, delicacy and social roles. A woman alone in a boxing training ring. She combats against her opponents and against the social roles a woman is supposed to follow. Together with the legendary 'firebird', she is a non-common woman, a fantastic being, a beautiful 'monster'.

(ICE) HOCKEY, FEMININITY, LOVE AND RITUALS – (30 min) for 7-13 dancers

The ceremony. Like a woman being dressed with all the layers of Asian traditional wedding dresses, on stage the ceremony happens with the same ritual codes when a woman is dressed with all the layers of clothes and protections of an (ice) hockey goal keeper. What is a ritual? How is it displayed? What are the codes ruling a wedding ritual? What is femininity? How do we approach love? This is the starting point for a group piece displayed as an (ice) hockey match. An initial proposal is to work in relation to the iconic ballet "Les Noces" by Bronislava Nijinska of Les Ballets Russes, as it refers to rituals (mainly on wedding rituals, but also on the relation between men and women). Other ballets will be considered as well, as alternative approaches to the subject. On the physical level: next to the choreographer's own movement vocabulary, hockey brings the possibility to work with speed, fast turns and big slides, floor work (playing with refined hockey falls), contact and counterweights (which can be transformed into partnering), rhythm games, spatial constellations and playfulness.

ROSER LÓPEZ ESPINOSA is considered as one of the most international choreographers of the new generation of makers from Barcelona. Her choreographic work is based on a powerful physicality, with love for precision, risk and acrobatics, delicacy and detail. Agility and endurance, complicity and complex group work meet in imaginative and playful proposals with refined poetics and sense of humour. Highly demanding physical work created from a female point of view.

Next to creating her own work, she has been invited to create pieces for other companies such as Conny Janssens Danst (The Netherlands) and Skånes Dansteater (Sweden), as well as creating big format productions like *L'estol* for the National Dance Production in Catalonia in 2017. She is a resident artist of Mercat de les Flors in Barcelona 2018-20.

*"In Hand to hand judo and dance are intertwined.
A beautiful and pure piece of dance."*

Mirjam van der Linden, de Volkskrant

*"The doubt lingers on for a while: are these typical
judo moves or are there maybe a little too many twists,
turns, long pauses and gazes too intense?
As soon as Tchaikovsky starts to play the ultimate ballet
music, the game officially turns into a love story, filled with
fervent embraces and vertiginous lifts."*

Mirjam van der Linden, de Volkskrant



photo: Philipp Zimmer



MONSTERS

New creation for Skånes Dansteater (Malmö, Sweden)

In creation process – rehearsal images

Premiere: May 2019



ROGER LÓPEZ ESPINOSA | SKÅNES DANSTEATER 2019

ROGER LÓPEZ ESPINOSA | SKÅNES DANSTEATER 2019

ROGER LÓPEZ ESPINOSA | SKÅNES DANSTEATER 2019

ROSER LÓPEZ ESPINOSA

Dancer | Choreographer

Roser López Espinosa graduates in contemporary dance in the MTD – Theaterschool / Higher School of Arts in Amsterdam in 2005. She is awarded a danceWEB scholarship for ImpulsTanz festival in Vienna and trains with former coach of the Spanish olympic gymnastics team **Jaume Miró**.

She dances in The Netherlands in Katie Duck's Magpie Music Dance Company and with choreographers Pere Faura and Marta Reig Torres. Marta Reig Torres' piece *More Day More Night* is selected for the Nederlandse Dansdagen festival as one of the best productions 2005.

In Barcelona she works mainly with **Àngels Margarit / Cia Mudances** (Premio Nacional de Danza 2010) dancing in group pieces *Flexelf*, *Kolbebasar*, *Capricis* and the internationally renowned solo *Corol·la*. She collaborates as well with **Cesc Gelabert** (Premio Nacional de Danza 1996) and film maker Isaki Lacuesta (Premi Nacional de Cine de Catalunya 2012) or Iago Pericot, among others.

She develops her own work in parallel since 2006, with pieces like *The lizard's skin*, *Còncau* and *Miniatura*, which win international recognition with the **Solo First Prize at Masdanza Festival**, Second Prize New Tendencies at Burgos-NY contest and Third Prize at Madrid Choreography contest, are selected for European tour **Aerowaves** and tour throughout Europe: Julidans Festival in Amsterdam, Tanec Praha in Prague, Aerowaves Spring Forwards in Ljubljana, Terni Contemporary Creation Festival in Italy, Library of Alexandria (Egypt), Yokohama (Japan), among others.

In 2012 she makes *Before We Fall* and *Stranger & Stranger* (Festival Grec in Barcelona, co-produced by La Caldera in Barcelona and Circuit–Est in Montréal).

In 2013 she premieres the acclaimed duet **Lowland** in co-production with **Mercat de les Flors** in Barcelona. *Lowland* keeps touring internationally at present: CDC Les Hivernales in Avignon, Aerowaves Spring Forwards Barcelona, Festival Temporada Alta in Girona, Korzo Theater in The Hague, Interplay Festival in Torino, Festival Prisma Panama, Festival Danzalborde in Valparaíso (Chile), Rencontres Essone Dance in Evry (France), etc.

In 2014 she makes **Hand To Hand** for Dutch company **Conny Janssen Danst** (Danslokaal program), in co-production with Dansateliers, being selected for the company spring tour 2015 in The Netherlands.

She premieres **November** in the Moving Futures Festival 2015 in Rotterdam, in co-production with **Dansateliers** (The Netherlands). *November* is part of Sàlmon< Festival in **Mercat de les Flors** in Barcelona, the official program of **Tanzmesse** in Düsseldorf and goes on tour in Europe and Latin America.

In 2016 she premieres **The Flock**, a group piece for 18 dancers based on *Lowland* for MTD2 in Amsterdam. *The Flock* is selected for the 30° Dutch Acrobatics Festival. She also makes *Solo* for *Sala da Ballo* for RE-AL Dances in festival Teatro A Corte in Torino (Italy).

In 2017 she creates **L'estol** for the **National Dance Production of Catalonia**, with the premiere in Mercat de les Flors in Barcelona and a following tour of 21 performances. **Nominated as Best Choreography 2017 at the XX Critics Prize.**

In 2018 she creates **The Entertainers** for renowned company **Skånes Dansteater** (Sweden). Upcoming premiere in June at Seoul Arts Center (South Korea). Program in collaboration with **Korea National Dance Contemporary Dance Company.**



Roser López Espinosa is an associated artist of La Caldera – Dance and Performing Arts Creation Centre in Barcelona. She is a **resident artist in Mercat de les Flors 2018-2020.**

Interested in **acrobatics** and **circus disciplines**, she gives training and movement assistance for *L'home que perdia el botons* by Circ Pànic (Kirkòlica Prize for Best Outdoors Circus Production in Catalonia 2012). In 2018 she is invited to give training and movement assistance to **circus company XY** (France).

She is a teacher and choreographer at **Institut del Teatre – Dance Conservatory of Barcelona** since 2013, in **MTD / Theaterschool in Amsterdam**, **ArtEZ Dansacademie** in Arnhem (The Netherlands) and teaches workshops internationally. She collaborates in the graduation project of **SEAD** in Salzburg (Austria) by teaching *The lizard's skin* and *Lowland*. In 2017 she directs the evening long dance production **Desván** for **Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro (Mexico).**

In 2016 **Time Out** magazine ranks her as **one of the most international choreographers of the new generation of makers** from Barcelona.

Her creation work has been programmed at main European and Latin American international festivals, Egypt, Canada and Japan.

> ROSER LÓPEZ ESPINOSA:

"Roser López Espinosa is the white hope of movement. Energetic, brave, honest, she forges her way over low heat, while she gains in density and plasticity."

Andreu Gomila, *Time Out Barcelona*

"Roser López Espinosa masters body and emotions and transmits them with enviable efectivity and strength."

Jordi Cervera, *Catalunya Ràdio*

"Eclectic movement between physical strength and precision."

Mercedes L. Caballero, *Susy-Q dance magazine*

"Her works have an unusual subtleness and risk."

Feria Internacional de Teatro y Danza de Huesca

"Magnificent"

Chiara Castellazzi, *Il sole 24 ore (Torino)*

