

THE CENTRE CHORÉGRAPHIQUE NATIONAL DE CRÉTEL ET DU VAL-DE-MARNE | COMPAGNIE KÄFIG  
PRESENTS



# BOXE BOXE

CHOREOGRAPHED AND DIRECTED BY MOURAD MERZOUKI  
A PERFORMANCE WITH THE DEBUSSY STRING QUARTET | A 2010 PRODUCTION



A 2010 PRODUCTION

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# STATEMENTS OF INTENT

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Boxing's a form of dance anyway. I realized that as a teenager, when I got into hip-hop after years of doing martial arts.

While one is identified with brutality and violence and the other with grace and pleasure, I found a touch of all these ingredients in each of them.

I'll be putting these contrasts to work in this new piece, because each aspect of boxing has an equivalent in choreography: the ring and the stage, the gong and the curtain going up, the referee and the eagle-eyed critics – for me there are all kinds of similarities.

Like martial arts, dance demands hard work, sweat, no effort spared; in both the «performer» commits himself and suffers the same encounter with the void in the form of his opponent or the audience. No weaknesses or flaws allowed – he has to satisfy the public. The further I go down my path as a choreographer, the clearer it is that you really have to show your mettle. When fame and recognition are no longer enough, only risk-taking – the face-off, the leap into the unknown, and ultimately your battle with yourself – will keep you going.

So there's a mix – the excitement of combat and fear of the spectators: the gut fear of getting badly knocked about, of taking a licking, together with that great feeling of abandoning yourself, of achieving absolute fulfilment in that magic moment on stage or in the ring.

Now I want to relive those feelings, those moments of release and letting go. The move from boxing to dance is like a pirouette: like when Chaplin turns a street brawl into a hilarious choreographed sequence.

Mourad Merzouki

A hip-hop company and a string quartet – unimaginable? The Debussy String Quartet and Mourad Merzouki don't think so, which is why they are dauntlessly joining forces for a performance based on boxing. On go the gloves and the battle begins.

Summoned into the ring are the composers Maurice Ravel, Giuseppe Verdi, Felix Mendelssohn, Franz Schubert with his celebrated Death and the Maiden quartet, Philipp Glass with Dracula, and Henryk Gorecki. This Ring is definitely not the Wagner version. The musicians are not on stage just to interpret the music: their on-stage role has been thought through and meticulously prepared in association with the choreographer. In parallel with their work as a classical string quartet, the Debussy string quartet have long been engaged with other artistic domains.

Their motto, you could say is curiosity, surprise, renewal, discovery and sharing; and with them they have built bridges to such different disciplines as dance (Maguy Marin, Anne Teresa De Keersmae-ker, Wayne McGregor, Abou Lagraa and others), theatre (with Philippe Delaigue, Richard Brunel, Jean Lacornerie...) and contemporary music (Olivier Mellano, Robert le Magnifique). This is a quartet that is never short of innovative ideas.

So the challenge has been taken up and the battle has begun!

Le Quatuor Debussy

BOXE BOXE

# ARTISTIC CREDITS

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## ARTISTIC DIRECTION AND CHOREOGRAPHY

Mourad Merzouki

## MUSIC DESIGN

Quatuor Debussy and AS'N

## STRING QUARTETS - PERFORM ALTERNATELY WITH

Debussy Quartet - Christophe Collette, Marc Vieillefon, Vincent Deprecq, Fabrice Bihan

Varèse Quartet - Francois Galichet, Jean-Louis Constant, Sylvain Séailles, Thomas Ravez

Phidias Quartet - Lyonel Schmit, Alex Greffin Klein, Caroline Donin, Julien Decoin

## DANCERS

Rémi Autechaud known as *RMS*, Guillaume Chan Ton and/or Mourad Merzouki, Aurélien Desobry, Magali Duclos, Frédéric Lataste, David Rodrigues, Steven Valade and Teddy Verardo

## LIGHTING DESIGN

Yoann Tivoli, assisted by Nicolas Faucheux and Julie-Lola Lanteri-Cravet

## SET DESIGN

Benjamin Lebreton in collaboration with Mourad Merzouki

## COSTUME DESIGN

Emilie Carpentier, assisted by Pierre-Yves Loup Forest and Mathilde Boulay

## SET CONSTRUCTION

Patrick Lerat

## PAINTING

Camille Courier de Mère and Benjamin Lebreton

Duration - 1h05

Suitable for children aged 7 and above

## EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Centre Chorégraphique National de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne / Compagnie Käfig

## CO-PRODUCERS

Biennale de la Danse de Lyon, Théâtre National de Chaillot, Maison des Arts de Créteil, Espace Albert Camus de Bron

**WITH THE SUPPORT OF** Quatuor Debussy

The Quatuor Debussy is supported by Musique nouvelle en liberté

ARTISTIC CREDITS

# THE MUSIC

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The music in BOXE BOXE is a full-fledged actor in the piece, not a discreet background score, nor an energiser that serves to pump up the dancers' movements: it is both companion and counterpoint to the movement and the story that unfolds on stage; and a sonic reflection of the visual world that envelops the dancers, that draws them into a mysterious and dreamlike night. It consists of both original pieces by AS'N and existing masterpieces by classical and contemporary composers, chosen together by Mourad Merzouki and the Debussy String Quartet.

Franz SCHUBERT  
Quatuor D32 : andante

Giuseppe VERDI – Emanuele MUZIO  
Luisa Miller : acte 2, coro ed aria

Maurice RAVEL  
Quatuor à cordes : assez vif et très rythmé

AS'N  
Création originale

Giuseppe VERDI - Emanuele MUZIO  
Luisa Miller : allegro brillante

Glenn MILLER  
Moonlight serenade

Philip GLASS  
Dracula : interview with Renfield  
© Universal/MCA Music Publ. SAS obo USI A Music Publ.

Henryk GORECKI  
Quatuor n°2 op.64, Quasi una Fantasia : molto furioso

Giuseppe VERDI - Emanuele MUZIO  
Luisa Miller : andante

Félix MENDELSSOHN  
Quatuor op.13 : intermezzo

AS'N  
Original composition inspired by Mendelssohn

Philip GLASS  
Dracula : Mina on the terrace  
© Universal/MCA Music Publ. SAS obo USI A Music Publ.

AS'N / Dorian Lamotte, Seok Woo Yoon  
Flamenco

Franz SCHUBERT  
Quatuor D810, La jeune fille et la mort : andante con moto

Franz SCHUBERT  
Quatuor D32 : andante

MUSIC



# MOURAD MERZOUKI

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## FROM CIRCUS SCHOOL TO HIP HOP DANCE...

Born in Lyon in 1973, Mourad Merzouki began practicing martial arts and circus arts as early as a seven-year-old. At the age of fifteen, he encountered hip-hop culture for the first time and through it, he discovered dance.

He quickly decided to develop this form of street art while also experimenting with other choreographic styles, particularly with Maryse Delente, Jean-François Duroure and Josef Nadj.

The wealth of his experiences fed his desire to direct artistic projects, blending hiphop with other disciplines. In 1989 he, along with Kader Attou, Eric Mezino and Chaouki Saïd, created his first company 'Accrorap'.

In 1994 the company performed Athina during Lyon's Biennial Dance Festival; it was a triumph that brought street dance to the stage.

Merzouki's travels have led him into uncharted territory, where dance can be a powerful means of communication. In order to develop his own artistic style and sensitivity, Merzouki established his own company, Käfig, in 1996.

In January 2006, Compagnie Käfig began a period of residence at Espace Albert Camus in Bron. The theatre became the venue of the Karavel Festival, created in 2007 under the leadership of Mourad Merzouki. The festival invites some 10 different hip-hop companies and other initiatives to the city.

In parallel, Mourad Merzouki spearheaded the inception of a new center for choreographic creation and development: Pôle Pik opened its doors in Bron in 2009.

In June 2009, Mourad Merzouki was appointed director of the Centre chorégraphique National de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne. He continues to develop his projects there, with an accent on openness to the world.

In 18 years, the choreographer has created 23 shows and his company gives on average 150 performances per year around the world.




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**February 15, 2013** The City of Lyon is awarding Mourad Merzouki the Medal of the City.

**July 14, 2012** Mourad Merzouki is named Knight of the Legion of Honour.

**July 5, 2011** Mourad Merzouki is named Officer of Arts and Letters by the Minister of Culture and Communication.

**February 19, 2008** Mourad Merzouki receives the 2008 Award Designers without Borders, awarded by the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Bernard Kouchner. The trophy is awarded each year to artists and personalities for their particularly remarkable actions throughout the world.

**December 4, 2006** The newspaper Le Progrès and Tele Lyon Métropole organize an evening rewarding Lyon's cultural players. Ten awards are given in ten artistic categories. Mourad Merzouki and the Compagnie Käfig receive the Lumières de la Culture Award in the Dance category.

**June 12, 2006** Mourad Merzouki receives the Choreographic New Talent Award by the SACD. 2006 SACD winners include, among others, Gad Elmaleh, Julie Ferrier, Radu Mihaileanu, José Montalvo and Dominique Hervieu ...

**July 14, 2004** Mourad Merzouki is named Knight of Arts and Letters by the Minister of Culture and Communication.

**May 30, 2004** Mourad Merzouki is awarded the prize for best young choreographer at the Wolfsburg's International Dance Festival. Other winners include Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Tero Saarinen and Maurice Béjart.

# TRAJECTORY OF COMPAGNIE KÄFIG

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Since 1996, 23 creations were performed in more than 700 cities.  
In 18 years, the Compagnie Käfig gave over 2600 performances  
in 61 countries for more than 1 million people.  
6 shows are currently on tour.

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A major figure on the hip-hop scene since the early 1990s, choreographer Mourad Merzouki works at the junction of many different disciplines: to his exploration of all hip-hop styles, he adds circus, martial arts, fine arts and live music. Without losing sight of hip-hop movement's roots, of its social and geographical origins, this multidisciplinary approach opens up new horizons and reveals complete new outlooks.

His training is rooted in the circus school in St Priest, in Lyon's eastern suburbs, which he attended from the age of seven while also training in karate and boxing. Hip-hop came along when he was fifteen: he began dancing in the street, then moved on to choreography with Kader Attou, who would remain his associate from 1990 to 1994. During that time he was also learning from contemporary choreographers like Jean-François Duroure and Josef Nadj.

In 1994, recognition came with **ATHINA**, a piece co-written with his first company, Accrorap. The project was backed by Guy Darnet's Maison de la Danse in Lyon, which has subsequently supported all his new productions.

Mourad's first fully independent work, **KÄFIG**, was performed at the Rencontres Urbaines de la Villette in Paris. Käfig means "cage" in Arabic and German and becomes the name of the dance company. It points to the choreographer's receptivity and openness and his refusal to become locked into a single style.

On a deck surrounded by a net, a hip-hop dancer and a contemporary performer challenge each other in order to improve their dialogue. The message is clear: hip-hop is extending its territory without losing itself. The Maison de la Danse of Lyon, directed by Guy Darnet, supported the project and since then, collaborated with most of Mourad Merzouki's new productions.

Two years later **RÉCITAL**, an unusual dialogue between six dancers, a musician and the image of a classical concert, launches the Compagnie Käfig's style. Mourad hangs a bunch of violins over the stage and choreographs the unlikely members of an orchestra. An international tour (40 countries) will bring worldwide fame to the Käfig Company.

Teaming up with South African choreographer Jay Pather in 2000, he creates **PAS A PAS**, an explosive mix of traditional Zulu dances and hip-hop.

In 2001, **DIX VERSIONS**, also created at Lyon's Maison de la Danse, outlines the hip-hop singularity of seven performers, including New York's dancer Klown. The piece is to be performed at the prestigious Jacob's Pillow Festival in Berkshire, USA. **DIX VERSIONS** highlights hip-hop writing and acrobatics with circles of lights that isolate each dancer in his artistic originality, whether inspired by acrobatic or martial arts. The show is embedded in an off-beat plastic environment. Geometric objects are moved around the space by the dancers in a lively game of forms and energies. **DIX VERSIONS** confirms Mourad Merzouki's aesthetics.

In 2002, he signed «A Fable to La Fontaine» **LE CHENE ET LE ROSEAU**, aimed at a young audience, part of the project led by La Petite Fabrique - Annie Sellem.

For the Year of Algeria in France in 2003, he created **MEKECH MOUCHKIN - Y'A PAS DE PROBLÈME** (No Problem!) with dancers from Algiers.

In 2004, **CORPS EST GRAPHIQUE**, the result of a period of residence at the Maison de la Danse of Lyon, supported by BNP Paribas Foundation, was performed with an equal number of male and female dancers. A kind of lightness travels from one dancer to another as they revisit the codes of seduction using large puppets. A sense of humor rarely found in hip-hop is revealed.



In January 2006, **TERRAIN VAGUE**, set in a fantasized no-man's-land, looks into the choreographer's childhood and personal journey. For the first time, Mourad Merzouki tells a story. In a fun, colorful space of all possibilities, hip-hop dancers, theatre and circus artists challenge each other with audacity and virtuosity. An eclectic show for a visual, sensory, choreographic and musical journey, bursting with energy.

With **TRICÔTÉ**, in 2008, Mourad Merzouki takes the audience behind the scenes as the company began a residency at the Espace des Arts de Chalon-sur-Saône. Set to the music of the troupe's faithful collaborator AS'N, this piece offers to all audiences a look at the creation process of a new work, from auditions through to performances.

For the 2008 Biennale de la Danse in Lyon, Mourad Merzouki, as a "guest artist", performs **AGWA**, a creation featuring 11 Brazilian dancers. **AGWA** is all about water, at once a vital component of our bodies, a precious – vital, even – natural resource to be preserved and used with care and a symbol of renewal.

For the 2008 edition, he directed the Parade of the Lyon Biennial Festival of Dance, a major event bringing together choreographers and local associations: **LES POINTILLES** drew a connecting line between the 18 cities participating in the parade on the theme "Legends of the Future." Mourad Merzouki was also artistic director for the third time of Bron's participation in the event.

Between January 2006 and June 2009, Compagnie Käfig was in residence at Espace Albert Camus in Bron. The theatre became the venue of the Karavel festival, created in 2007 under the leadership of Mourad Merzouki. The festival invites some 20 different hip-hop companies and other initiatives to the city.

In 2009, **Pôle Pik**, a new place of creation and choreographic development dedicated to hip-pop dance opened its doors in Bron, in Lyon's eastern suburb. This new place, whose creation has been supported for almost ten years by Mourad Merzouki, who is now the director, allows to keep spreading hip-hop dance and to develop its promotion, opening it to other art languages.

The project is articulated around three axis: to support choreographic creation and spread; to pass down and train non-professionals and professionals where "Kampus" is the key project; to combine in a synergic way artistic teams and an area around the hip-hop culture.

In June 2009, Mourad Merzouki was appointed director of the **Centre Chorégraphique National de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne**. Here, he has developed a project called "Dance: a window on the world", with an accent on openness. Alongside this project, he continues to create and show his works, to provide training and raise awareness about hip-hop dance, and to organize unique encounters to promote access to the choreographic arts and to support independent dance groups.

In 2010, Mourad Merzouki creates **CORRERIA**, a second part presented jointly with **AGWA**, which takes the viewer into a thrilling, frantic race, like the one that paces our lives. The show tours the world : Japan, Korea, Canada, Unites-States, Europe, Australia...

The same year, the choreographer presents **BOXE BOXE**, a creation that gives him the opportunity to reconnect with martial arts, his initial training. This piece is also the opportunity to explore new areas of research by surrounding himself with the Debussy String Quartet. Presented at Lyon's 14th Biennale de la Danse in September 2010, this new show receives a warm welcome from the audience and the professionals.

In March 2011, under the prestigious "Friday evening events" at the Louvre museum, the Centre Chorégraphique de Créteil et du Val-de-Marne / Compagnie Käfig is involved in this artistic event under the thematic: the "Fight" evenings. On that occasion, Mourad Merzouki imagines choreographic works based on **BOXE BOXE** and that echo the sculptures of the museum.

In 2012, two new works are added to the repertory:

**YO GEE TI**, a Franco-Taiwanese work developed in collaboration with the National Chiang Kai-Shek Cultural Center, is presented in March 2012 in Taipei and has its European premiere in June 2012 at the Montpellier Festival of Dance, where Mourad Merzouki has been appointed associate artist.



**KÄFIG BRASIL:** this work premieres at the Montpellier Festival of Dance and marks the return of Brazilian dancers from **CORRERIA AGWA**. For this creation, Mourad Merzouki invites several French and Brazilian choreographers to collaborate in an atmosphere of shared artistic friendship.

On June 1st, 2012, he will take on the works of the Lyon Museum of Fine Arts, in a new experience.

In September 2012, Mourad Merzouki, alongside Dominique Hervieu, will be co-artistic director of the Biennale de la Danse's Parade in Lyon.

2013 brought the first edition of the **KALYPSO Festival** in Ile-de-France, which is an authentic showcase of contemporary choreographic creations. The Festival hosts about twenty companies in several places of the Ile-de-France region and attracts a broad audience around many encounters, workshops, master-classes, battles, etc.

In 2014, Mourad Merzouki finds his way back to creation through the **PIXEL** project. For this show, the choreographer liaises with Adrien Mondot and Claire Bardainne from the AMCB Company and focuses on digital arts. Using light projections that accompany dancers' motion, the purpose is to strike a subtle balance between the real and the virtual world, between energy and poetry, fiction and technical achievement to create a show at the crossroads of arts.

The Centre Chorégraphique National de Créteil acts as an active member of the **7Steps** street dance European network, which encourages a common reflection on new stakes for hip-hop. A choreographic creation bringing together ten dancers from participating countries is expected in October 2014 under the artistic direction of Mourad Merzouki.

2014 will also bring a renewed success for the piece **RECITAL** :

- While he is in residence in New Delhi, Mourad Merzouki passes down the piece to Indian dancers;
- 150 young people from Créteil takes over the piece all long the year to present their work in June 2014 during the Créteil participative event named "Jour de Fête";
- The artwork, which was once again put on for 40 dancers during the 2012 Lyon Dance Biennial, is on tour in several French cities, as part of the "Kampus" project implemented by Pôle Pik;
- A notation system project using Labanotation is engaged on the piece: RECITAL is the first hip-hop artwork being the subject of a notation.

## ARTISTIC COLLABORATIONS

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Alongside his creations, Mourad Merzouki is invited to collaborate with other artists in France and abroad, thus contributing to the international reputation of the Käfig Company.

In 1997, he works with Josette Baiz and the company "Place Blanche" on the piece **RENDEZ-VOUS**, a choreography with four modern dancers.

In 1998 he directs the work of eight actors and four dancers in **LE CABARET URBAIN**.

Claudia Stavisky, the artistic director of Lyon's Théâtre des Célestins invites him in 2004 to direct **LA CUISINE** by Arnold Wesker and, in 2005, **L'ÂGE D'OR** (The Golden Age) by Georges Feydeau.

On the film side, in 2004, he collaborates to Marc Jolivet's first feature film, **CONCOURS DE DANSE A PIRIAC**, working on all the dance scenes, choreographing actors of all ages such as Ginette Garcin.

In 2007, he also works on **LES QUATRE SAISONS**, directing the skating duo Nathalie Pechalat and Fabian Bourzat.

In 2009, he adapted **RÉCITAL** for the Beijing Modern Dance Company's dancers.

The same year, Mourad Merzouki co-directs with Jeannot Painchaud the piece **iD.**, the Cirque Eloize's latest production, whose world premiere was given at Incheon in Korea.

Meanwhile, he creates **DES CHAUSSÉES** for the dancers of the Junior Contemporary Ballet of the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et Danse in Paris.

In January 2012, at the invitation of Olivier Meyer, he created a work to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Suresnes Cités Dance Festival: with Kader Attou, Sébastien Lefrançois and José Montalvo, he participated in creating a choral work, inspired by the energy of **BOXE BOXE**.

At the end of 2013, Mourad Merzouki liaises with the Norma Claire company during the 9th "Rencontres de danses métisses" Festival in French Guiana, to set up creation and transmission workshops to young traditional Native American dancers from the Awala-Yalimapo village.

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### THE SHOWS ON VIDEO

Video excerpts of the pieces as well as documentaries on Mourad Merzouki's work are available on CCN's collection on Numeridanse (international online dance video library) website:

<http://www.numeridanse.tv/en/collections/53>



# THE DEBUSSY STRING QUARTET

Christophe Collette, 1<sup>st</sup> violin | Marc Vieillefon, 2<sup>nd</sup> violin | Vincent Depreca, viola | Fabrice Bihan, cello

## TWENTY YEARS OF EXISTENCE: A QUARTET OF INTERNATIONAL RENOWN

Winners of the Grand Prix in the international competition for string quartets at Evian in 1993, and judged best chamber music ensemble at the Victoires de la musique in 1996, the Quatuor Debussy has won international acclaim through its many recordings and live performances. Since its creation, its members have enlivened the chamber music world with their stylish and stimulating performances. Founded in 1990 in France, based in Lyon, the quartet performs almost 80 concerts a year in Europe, Asia, and North America, in some of the most prestigious venues for music. Its regular international tours make it a familiar name on every continent.

Among the venues they have graced are Cité de la Musique in Paris, Musée d'Orsay, Festival of l'Épau, Opéras of Lyon, Avignon, Rennes... Concertgebouw of Amsterdam, Opéra in Genève, Konzerthaus in Berlin, Philharmonie in Madrid, Wigmore Hall in London...



## AN INSATIABLE THIRST FOR ARTISTIC ENCOUNTERS

For long devoted to the transmission of musical learning, every year the quartet organises workshops and training sessions for children. It also proposes post-show talks and demonstrations for audiences of all ages in order to share its love for classical and contemporary music. As part of its 20th anniversary celebrations, Quatuor Debussy organised educational programmes for underprivileged sections of society who do not have access to cultural programmes, from the Roma community to those in retirement homes.

## DISCOGRAPHY

The quartet's impressive recording schedule includes the release of 20 CDs in 20 year from French Music (Ravel/Fauré, Bonnal, Witkowski) to Webern or Chostakovitch with the complete string quartets recorded by Arion. The Requiem of Mozart is the first collaboration with Universal Music.

The Quatuor Debussy is funded by the French Ministry of Culture (DRAC Rhône- Alpes), the Rhône-Alpes province and the city of Lyon. It is supported by SPEDIDAM, ADAMI, and association Musique nouvelle en liberté as well as the Banque Rhône-Alpes.

## TOUR DATES

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### 2014-2015 SEASON

August 31	Espace René Cassin - Bitch
September 26 - 27	Espace 1789 - Saint-Ouen
September 30	Théâtre de la Rotonde - Thon les Vosges
October 17	Espace Lino Ventura -Garges-lès-Gonesse
January 15 - 16	Maison des Arts - Thonon les Bains
February 17 - 18	Le Channel - Calais
February 20 - 21	Grand Théâtre de Provence - Aix-en-Provence
February 24	L'Athantor, scène nationale d'Albi
March 5 - 6	La Cigalière - Sérignan
March 10	L'Estive - Foix
April 2	Théâtre Edwige Feuillère - Vesoul
April 6	Belgrade Dance Festival - Serbie
April 29	Centre culturel Charlie Chaplin - Vaulx-en-Velin
May 19	Théâtre des Jacobins - Dinan
May 23	Le Cosec - Les Mureaux

### 2013-2014 SEASON

September 15	Classique au Vert Festival - Paris
October 10	Théâtre municipal - Roanne
October 12	Centre culturel régional L'Eden - Charleroi - Belgium
October 15	Théâtre - Narbonne
November 21st	Théâtre Roger Barat - Herblay
November 28 - 30	Les Gémeaux / Scène nationale - Sceaux
January 26 - 27	Equilibre – Nuithonie - Villars-sur-Glâne - Switzerland
February 4 - 5	Théâtre - Villefranche-sur-Saône
March 4	Espace culturel Boris Vian - Les Ulis
March 19 - 21	Radiant-Bellevue - Caluire

### *Dance Consortium United Kingdom Tour :*

March 25 - 26	Milton Keynes Theatre
March 29	Theatre Royal - Newcastle
April 1st - 2nd	Edinburgh Festival Theatre
April 4 - 5	Theatre Royal - Plymouth
April 8	The Lowry - Salford
April 10	Curve Theatre - Leicester
April 14 - 15	Mayflower Theatre - Southampton
April 17 - 18	Dome - Brighton

May 10 - 11	Domaine d'O - Saperlipopette Festival - Montpellier
May 15	Opéra national, Casino Barrière - Bordeaux
May 27	Bayer Kulturhaus, Erholungshaus - Leverkusen - Germany
June 13 - 14	People's Place with Sadler's Wells, Spitafields Music Summer Festival - London - United Kingdom



# TOUR DATES

## 2012-2013 SEASON

Oct. 16	Théâtre Anne de Bretagne – Vannes
Nov. 8-10	Théâtre d'Angoulême
Nov. 20	Salle Ravel – Levallois
Nov. 23	Grande Salle Kabardock, Le Port – Ile-de-la-Réunion
Jan. 20	Centre Culturel – Bergerac
Jan. 22	L'Odyssée – Périgueux
Jan. 26	Espace Jean-Lurçat – Juvisy-sur-Orge
Jan 31 – Feb. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Le Carré – scène nationale de Château-Gontier
Feb. 7	Théâtre Saint-Louis – Cholet
March 15	Centre Athanor – Montluçon
March 30-31	Théâtre des Haras – Bonlieu Scène Nationale – Annecy
April 4	Scène Nationale d'Evreux-Louviers
April 7	Théâtre Claude Debussy – Maisons-Alfort
April 9	Théâtre André Malraux – Rueil-Malmaison
April 11	Espace Carpeaux – Courbevoie
April 13	Centre d'Art et de Culture de Meudon
May 23	Théâtre d'Onet le Château
May 25	Croisée des Arts – St Maximin
June 8	Macao Cultural Centre - Macao - China

## 2011-2012 SEASON

Aug.27	Septembre Musical – Alençon
Sept. 9 to 18	Maison de la Danse – Biennale de la Danse de Lyon
Oct. 4	Opéra Théâtre – St Etienne
Oct. 8	Le Carré – Ste Maxime
Oct. 12	Le Dôme théâtre – Albertville
Oct. 15	Théâtre de l'Olivier – Istres
Oct. 18	Maison de la Culture – Nevers
Oct. 29	Toonelhuis – Anvers   Belgium
Nov. 4	TPE - Bezons
Nov. 8	L'Espale – Le Mans
Nov. 10	La Coursive – La Rochelle
Nov. 15	L'Hippodrome – Douai
Nov. 17 to 19	Maison de la Musique - Nanterre
Nov. 22	Théâtre de St Quentin
Nov. 27	Teatro Comunale, Ferrara   Italy –France Danse Festival
Nov. 29	Teatro Comunale, Vicenza   Italy – France Danse Festival
Dec. 8-9	Le Cratère - Alès
Dec. 13-14	L'Archipel – Perpignan
Dec. 16	Théâtre du Beausobre – Morges   Switzerland
Jan. 7-11	Espace Albert Camus – Bron
Jan. 14	Espace Marcel Carné – St Michel sur Orge
Jan. 17	Espace Montgolfier - Davézieux
Jan. 18-20	La Rampe – Echirolles
Jan. 24-25	La Passerelle – Gap
Jan. 28	Pôle Culturel – Alfortville
Jan. 31	Le Sémaphore – Cébazat
Feb. 3	Centre des Bords de Marne – Le Perreux
Feb. 5	Théâtre Gérard Philippe – Champigny
Feb. 7	Théâtre Olympia - Arcachon
Feb. 10	L'Embarcadère – Montceau les Mines

# TOUR DATES

Feb. 14  
Feb. 20-21  
March 1<sup>st</sup>  
March 6  
March 8-9  
March 10  
March 16  
March 19  
March 22-23  
March 28-29  
April 6  
April 10  
April 13  
April 18  
April 24  
April 27  
May 14  
May 15  
May 22  
May 24  
May 31 – June 1<sup>st</sup>  
July 1<sup>st</sup>  
July 4

Espace Jean Legendre – Compiègne  
Maison de la Culture – Bourges  
Théâtre de Cusset  
Théâtre des Bergeries – Noisy-le-Sec  
Théâtre de Privas  
Espace Michel Simon – Noisy le Grand  
Centre Culturel – Chevilly Larue  
Institut Français de Meknès - Morocco  
Institut Français de Casablanca - Morocco  
Théâtre de Grasse  
Le Granit – Belfort  
Le Colisée – Roubaix  
Théâtre de Pontault-Combault  
Le Volcan – Le Havre  
Quartier Libre – Ancenis  
Quai des Arts – Pornichet  
Maison de la Culture d'Amiens  
La Comédie de Valence  
Théâtre des Treize Arches – Brive  
Opéra Théâtre – Limoges  
Opéra de Haute Normandie – Rouen  
Extravadanses Festival – Castres  
Opéra Comédie - Festival Montpellier Danse

## 2010-2011 SEASON

Sept. 25 to Oct. 9  
Oct. 12 to 16.  
Oct. 29 to Nov. 6  
Nov. 16  
Jan. 11  
Feb. 2-3  
Feb. 15  
May 12-14  
May 24  
July 19

Maison de la Danse – Biennale de la Danse de Lyon  
Maison des Arts – Créteil  
Théâtre National de Chaillot – Paris  
Le Carreau, Scène Nationale – Forbach  
La Piscine – Châtenay Malabry  
Teatrul National de Opereta « Ion Dacian », Bucarest – Roumania  
Le Bateau Feu, Scène Nationale – Dunkerque  
Hong-Kong | China  
Jakarta | Indonesia  
Festival Danse en Places | Montauban

**Since the creation, BOXE BOXE was played 192 times in 119 cities and 10 countries.**



# PRESS

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## *Les Echos*

Le Quotidien de l'Économie

«Also starring at this year's Lyon Biennale de la Danse, Mourad Merzouki drew on personal memories for Box Box, a new work that sent the applause meter through the roof. Revelling in boxing mythology, the art of the feint, and movements not all that far removed from dance, Merzouki has a mini-ring ball with the gloves as he parodies the antics of a human Weeble referee. Box Box is pure fun, Merzoukistyle hip-hop a sheer wonder and dancer Teddy Verardo an absolute knockout.»

Les Échos, September 30th, 2010



«Mourad Merzouki has opted for a romp in this return to the boxing and martial arts of his childhood and teen years. His Box Box is finely crafted and effective, with boxing as such kept at bay by a wrought-iron set and the absence of an actual ring. Just the context for a hip-hop vocabulary that allows neat hijacking of the kung-fu stuff. Live on stage, the Debussy Quartet renders a series of classics while mingling perfectly with the choreography and scenography – no mean feat, given that music and dance don't always make ideal bedfellows.»

Libération website - October 4th, 2010 – Confidanses: Marie-Christine Vernay's blog

## *Le Monde*

«Unsurprisingly Box Box is all about the noble art – for one, two, three and more. And about all the sport's pageantry as well, which makes the piece visually dazzling – bright red gloves, punching balls that explode like balloons, a black and white checkerboard set. Once again Mourad Merzouki sets his props dancing, in sequences that regularly yet always unexpectedly veer into burlesque. This collective performance thrusts up out of the shadows like a clip from an old movie, a spirited jumble of hip-hop and fisticuffs.

Franz Schubert, Maurice Ravel, Felix Mendelssohn and Glenn Miller: the choice and meticulous timing of the music inject a touch of both romanticism and melancholy into scenes hovering like bubbles, light years away from the clichés of the bloody arena.»

Le Monde, September 30th 2010

## *la Croix*

« With Box Box choreographer Mourad Merzouki waxes joyfully poetic. Eight dancers in total symbiosis with the wondrous Debussy String Quartet, a set made of movable segments of wrought iron, red boxing gloves that morph into puppets, and straight rights and kicks to underscore the lightness of the dance. The Chaplin of City Lights springs constantly to mind. The poetry is played up by a delightful merging of sinuous hip-hop and music that leaps from Schubert to Gorecki to Philip Glass. Add in the humour and physical prowess of the dancers and you've got subtle, genial entertainment for all the family.»

La Croix, September 30th 2010

PRESS

# EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

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Other than its main goal, which is to create, the Creteil and Val-de-Marne CNN / the Käfig Company ensure that each performance is accompanied by a promotional project to perpetuate and encourage hip-hop, through training, for example. Above all, this initiative is a way of sharing and involving the host city. That is why the CNN is envisaging workshops and meetings in partnership with theater and local dancers, whether amateur or professional, dance students or members of a company.

## CHOREOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS AND MASTER CLASSES

The nature of what the CNN does enables it to address and adapt various different styles and techniques of hip-hop dance according to its audiences. The practical workshops are open to all, from beginners to experienced dancers, as long as the groups are of the same level (between 4-6 hours for a group of 20 people per tutor maximum).

The master classes address a particular hip-hop style or technique. They are open to artists, dancers, experienced amateurs, semi-professionals and professionals (2 to 4 hours per day, for a maximum of 15 people per tutor).

## DANCE MARATHON MEETINGS

The Dance Marathon is offered to academic establishments and is a great opportunity to exchange and share knowledge. Dancers come into schools to tell students about being a dancer, to explain the creative process involved in putting a performance together, going on tour etc. They also perform a short demonstration of hip-hop dance and get the students dancing. These meetings last approximately 30 minutes before the dancer moves onto another class. The students prepare questions before the dancer's visit. No other preparation is necessary.

## PUBLIC REHEARSAL

Some rehearsals are open to the public. Public rehearsals represent a privileged moment between the audience and the dancers as well as offering a unique way to discover the piece. These open rehearsals generally take place on the day of the performance in the afternoon.

## STAGE SIDE MEETINGS

The performances may be followed by an exchange between the public and the dancers, who are happy to answer questions and discuss their work. Topics of discussion include: the creative process, the relationship between various artistic forms, the dancers' career paths, and the production and tours.

## FILM PROJECTIONS

Several documentaries have been made about Compagnie Käfig and Mourad Merzouki and may be offered in addition to the performance. Film projections may also be followed by a meeting with the choreographer or the dancers:

- Pa Gen Problem / film by Pierre-Olivier Pradinaud: 2009, 50 min
- Dans les temps, défilé de la Biennale de Lyon / by the Maison de quartier des Genêts: 2008, 40 min
- Rio, Gravité Zéro / film by Cathie Levy: 2008, 42 min
- Les lumières de la ville, défilé de la Biennale de Lyon / by Association Yobo: 2006, 40 min
- Faux Bond / film de Agnès Guillaume : 2003, 52 min
- La Danse aux poings / film by Mohamed Athamna: 2011, 52 min
- Faux Bond / film by Agnès Guillaume: 2003, 52 min
- La Danse aux poings / film by Mohamed Athamna: 2011, 52 min

## CONTACT

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# CENTRE CHORÉGRAPHIQUE NATIONAL DE CRÉTEIL ET DU VAL-DE-MARNE / COMPAGNIE KÄFIG

Director : Mourad MERZOUKI

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