

IS THIS THE END?

A theatrical, musical and choreographic show

From a poem by Sri Aurobindo

A CREATION OF SURYA PERFORMANCE LAB

Under the aegis of Auroville Art Service; in co-production with the

Alliance Française de Pondicherry

AUROVILLE, INDIA



Artistic Proposal

Coming soon

Story

Two young people, a man and a woman in love, face a world in crisis and in deep transition. They carry on their shoulders and in their bodies, the memory of a world which seems to be extinct and especially the memory of a suffering Nature.

In this stifling, dying world, where everything seems small, cramped, confined, they are, like the planet, in the urgency of a new deep breath. "Is this the end of all that they did or dreamed?"

Is this the end or a new beginning?

Will they finally find their right places in Nature, as a part of it?

Will they hear their inner call for change?

Beyond any restriction, will they finally find their rightful place within Nature whose call they feel?

Finally free, vast and loving?



Artistic note

Theatrical, choreographic and musical show, few texts (in English, French, Tamil).
The show is accessible to everyone, whatever their age and culture.
Four artists on stage: dancers, musicians, actors.

Approximate duration of the show: 1 hour.

With “Is this the End? “ we explore the bodily dimension of sound and the sonic dimension of the body. We seek to bring out a body that is not confined by the body of the dancer or defined by the skin, but a larger body in connection with Nature. We build a multi-sensory environment on stage, so that the spectator can be immersed.

1) Work on sound, sound immersion. New technologies.

The show offers a sound immersion, with contemporary, electronic music, in fusion with natural sounds.

Helped by binaural techniques, and some softwares, frequencies created live, sounds and music, offer an intimate, organic experience, a journey.

The sound and the music are there to accompany the transformation of the characters, in their matter. The sounds call to different states of consciousness putting us in connection with life, the living and the Nature.

The text is also present and experienced here as a sound material which will animate the bodies.



2) Universal body language, theater and contemporary dance.

Immersed in a scenographic device of lights, sounds, the four actors, dancers, musicians explore vital energy in a world in full transition. They seek each other, desire each other and try to find a balance in connection with Nature.

The artists' bodies are pushed to their limits by this question: "Is this the end?".

They express this physical, organic urgency of a new breath, of a new link to oneself, urgency of the link to the other. The artist's body on stage, between dance and theater, becomes the very place of the performance.

3) Work on the mask

Our characters wear protective masks on stage due to the global health crisis which is also a crisis of meaning, a crisis of identity.

These masks lead the actor to another relationship with him or herself, to her or his breathing and ultimately to others and to the world.

Far from hiding him/her, these masks will help him/her reveal his multiple identities. On stage He becomes animal, plant woman, man. His whole body becomes a mask, an expression of his desire, of his fears, of his urgency.

4) Between drama and humor

The characters pushed to their limits, close to suffocation, in the urgent desire for the other, for freedom and a new bond with nature, also develop a form of humor; as if laughter sometimes was the only way out, allowing a distancing, an escape. Such dramatic situations sometimes become funny.



Distribution and team:

- Stage direction and choreography: Philippe Pelen Baldini
- Assistant director and dramaturgy: Thierry Moucazambo
- Musical composition and soundscape: Zan David
- Performers: Thierry Moucazambo, Gopal Dalami, Huong Pham, Zan David
- Light creation: Ashwin Ezhumalai
- Costumes: In progress
- Communication, Website & Social Media: Giri Thirumal
- Videography: Piero Cefaloni
- Photography: Sagar, Piero Cefaloni
- Co-production: Alliance française Pondichéry

Planning

- Research on sound material: April, May, June
- Rehearsals and research on stage: June, July, August, September
- Creation on stage: October 2021



Partners

- Surya performance lab under the aegis of Auroville art service
- Alliance française de Pondichéry
- SAIER
- Bharat Nivas, Sri Aurobindo Auditorium, Cripa, Ritam

Expected tours, distribution:

2021/2022

- Sri Aurobindo Auditorium-Auroville
- Alliance Française Pondichéry,
- Festival Francophonies Pondichéry
- Alliances Françaises en Inde
- Festival Tantrostav
- Bharat Rang Mahotsav(National school of Drama)
- Festival Orissa
- Pondicherry University
- Auro University /Surat
- Baroda University

Abroad

France, South Africa, Mozambique, USA and others



CV

Philippe Pelen Baldini

Born in France. Artistic director, director, choreographer, founder of the international company Talipot and Porteurs d'Eau based in Reunion Island, France. He has created and performed 35 shows, featuring dancers, actors, musicians and video creators from the Indian Ocean, Africa, India and Europe. These shows have been presented in 82 countries, at well known venues like the Paris Opera, at the Théâtre de La Ville de Paris and festivals around the world. His shows have received numerous awards in Poland, Scotland, France, Italy, South Africa, etc.

Thierry Moucazambo

Born in Reunion, France. Assistant director and performer. He has multiple origins: Indian, Chinese and African. Multi-talented performer: Actor-storyteller, dancer, singer. Student of Philippe Pelen Baldini, he founded with him the Talipot Theater then the company Porteurs d'eau in Reunion Island France, then Surya performance Lab in India. Since 1986, it has been involved as a recognized performer in all of Philippe Pelen Baldini 's creations. He has toured all over the world.

Gopal Dalami

Born in Delhi, India, of Nepalese descent. He began his dance training at Voxpop Dancers India in 2010. He is trained in classical ballet, Jazz, contemporary, acrobatics (aerial fabric) and hip-hop. Since 2015, he has performed in various dance productions with Vikram mohan, Mandeep Raikhy, Anish Popli, Nikolina Nikoleski, Diniz Sancheza and many other national and international choreographers. He has toured in India and abroad. Since 2018, he has been a dancer at Surya Performance lab.

Huong PHAM

Born in 1988 in Vietnam, is a qualified architect. Her inner questions about the human being and the meaning of life lead her on the artistic path. Her practice encompasses contemporary dance, performance, multimedia interaction and the application of art to human development. As a freelancer artist, in Vietnam, she worked with Kinergie Studio, Nha San Collective, with Vietnamese and international artists. In 2021 she moved to Pondicherry, India. She collaborates with Surya Performance Lab in Auroville, PAL and other artists.

ZAN David

Zan David was born in Pondicherry India in 1998. As a sound engineer he worked with Sound Garden Company as well as famous musicians like D Imman, Youngr and Sid Sriram. Above all, David is a very talented musician and composer, he is a multi-instrumentalist, and his favorite instrument is the synthesizer. He can play with several groups of different styles, pop, blues, funk, jazz, but his main practice and his passion are electronic and contemporary music.

With Surya Performance Lab, he is now dedicated to research on immersive sound, frequencies, the relationship of sound to the dancer's body. He creates original music for the show, "Is this the end?" which he will perform on stage live. He also explores the voice and theatrical performance.



SURYA PERFORMANCE LAB. Auroville

After having founded and directed the Talipot Theater in France (Reunion Island) and toured and worked in 82 countries on prestigious stages such as the Paris Opera, the Théâtre de la Ville de Paris, the Grande Halle de la Villette or even festivals in Hong Kong, Macao, Singapore, the Grahamstown festival in South Africa, or the Festival do Africa in Brazil and many others, Philippe Pelen Baldini and Thierry Moucazambo created in Auroville, in India, near Pondicherry: Surya Performance Lab. Assisted by Gopal Dalami and Zan David, two creative young Indians, Surya Performance Lab is a professional dance-theater-music company that collaborates with many versatile artists.

These artists, through a multidisciplinary approach, are entirely dedicated to the contemporary research of new dramaturgies and new spectacular forms where the body, the memories of the body have a central place.

Surya Performance Lab offers research workshops, internships, creates shows, tours in India and abroad.

In India the company collaborates with different structures within Auroville, Cripa, Sri Aurobindo Auditorium, New Creation Dance Studio, Saiier, Ritam.

The company also offers training at the University of Pondicherry, Auro University in Surat, National School of Drama in Delhi, at the University of Baroda.

The company has performed in Auroville and also at the Bharat Rang Mahotsav International Festival in Delhi, the National Festival in Odissa, the University of Baroda, Auro University of Surat, Tantrota Festival in Tamil Nadu and in the Alliances Françaises of Pondicherry, Chennai, Bangalore, Mumbai, Delhi, Trivandrum.

The company also tours abroad: Nepal, France (Lorient Festival), South Africa (State Theatre, Kucheza Afrika Festival). Other projects are underway.

Surya Performance Lab works under the aegis of Auroville Art Service. The Alliance Française de Pondichéry is a partner of the company and co-produces "Is this the end?"

Other projects are underway.



This show project was dreamed, imagined and conceived before the Covid-19 crisis

Contacts:

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Instagram - @vast_dance_theatre_performance

Video teaser: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cujRPgF09IY>



Proposed by: Philippe Pelen Baldini and Thierry Moucazambo
Photo credit: Sagar