

DOSSIER DE PRESSE

A L'APLOMB DU VIDE

DES DANSEURS DÉFIENT LA GRAVITÉ POUR VOUS FAIRE
(RE)DÉCOUVRIR LES HAUTS FOURNEAUX DE BELVAL



DANS LE CADRE DE



ESCH-SUR-ALZETTE
EUROPEAN CAPITAL
OF CULTURE

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LE CONTEXTE -PRÉSENTATION D'ESCH 2022

A **l'Aplomb du Vide** has been selected by the program of Esch2022, European Capital of Culture.

Indeed, in 2022, Esch-sur-Alzette (Luxembourg's second city), the 11 Pro-Sud municipalities, as well as the 8 French municipalities of the Pays Haut Val de l'Alzette (CCPHVA), will be **European Capital of Culture**. This territory has nearly 200,000 people and brings together around 200 nationalities.

This label is awarded each year to a different city or territory of the European Union.

The objective is to stimulate the development of the region and to create emulation.

Esch2022 creates a new perception of the territory as a cultural and tourist destination, develops new offers and attractions, strengthens regional identity and increases international popularity.

Esch2022 is intended to be an investment in the future to launch **initiatives that will continue well beyond 2022**.

STATEMENT OF INTENT

During my studies in “Arts et métiers de la danse” I had to leave my Lorraine region and particularly Audun-le-Tiche in order to allow me to develop and improve my dance skills.

It quickly became clear to me that there was a **lack of connection between amateur and professional environment**.

It is in that context that after obtaining my “Diplome d’Etat”, I returned to Audun-le-Tiche to create **Chor’A Corps** association.

My objective was of course to promote to **amateur artistic education** through dance lessons but also to create some bridges with professional world of dance. It is important to me to direct them towards the discovery of the **culture in general** and what could be better than to use the art that I have in my heart?

Over the years, we have created an **advanced section** for students wishing to become even more intensely involved in the dance world. We moved forward in this improvement by participating in choreographic championship organized by the FFD (**French Dance Federation**) where we can share our experience and creation with professional choreographers.

Our reputation then led us to participate in a multitude of cultural projects, including “Rodina” in 2018 which permits our dancers to discover a part of the tragic history of our territory during the Occupation period.

Over the years, I have built up a network of professional choreographers which give me the opportunity today to organize for our students one-off internships of advanced training with **professionals known around the world**.

Continuously looking for **new challenges** I would like my students to (re) discover dance with completely shaken up codes : dancing in **weightlessness**, and defy gravity laws. The “Hauts fourneaux de Belval” are a suitable location for this project which will allow beyond the artistic performance to bring awareness to them of the historical side of this building that they see daily without really knowing its story.

Carl Portal, choreographer of the musical comedy “Romeo and Juliet”, ex dancer in various musicals accepted to collaborate with me in order to explore this challenge together..

Aurélie GELMI

Professeur et chorégraphe de l'association Chor'A Corps

PROJECT DISPLAY

A l'Aplomb du vide is a project that takes place in three stages of creation:

The first was the visit to the "[Plancher des Coulées](#)" at the "Hauts-Fourneaux" de Belval in December 2020 and in February 2021.

The objective of this step was to soak up the place, to be able to visualize and imagine all the artistic conception and to define the points of attachment of the dancers who will evolve in the air.

The second step consists in the [creation of the choreographic piece](#). It will take place in the form of [artistic residencies](#) in different places of creation. It consists of several weeks of work with Carl Portal and his professional team. Amateur and professional artists will be put in a weightless situation from the first rehearsals.

In December 2021 and February 2022, we were welcomed at the [Rockhal](#) in Belval.

In April 2022, the [Arche](#) (Pôle Culturel de Micheville) will open its doors to us for our 3rd week of residency.

In May 2022, we will be welcomed at the Audun-le-Tiche gymnasium.

From June 16, 2022, our technical and artistic team will take over the [Plancher des Coulées](#) in the Hauts Fourneaux de Belval for a week of rehearsals.

[Public rehearsals with meetings with the artists](#) may be offered to our partners during our artistic residencies.

The third and final step will be the [public performances](#) of this creation, in the Hauts Fourneaux at Belval.

3 dates are already scheduled: Friday 24, Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 June 2022 at 9:00 p.m.

We may consider adding additional performances on Saturday and Sunday at 5:00 p.m.

A page is dedicated to this project on our website www.choracorps.com; a facebook page has also been created.

In this choreographic piece, 11 amateur students from the association will share the stage with their 2 teachers, 2 outside students and 3 professional dancers, 2 of whom specialize in aerial dance.

Through this project, it is our values that we wish to transmit to our dancers.

Tolerance and **respect** are two complementary and inseparable values that we strive to transmit to all of our dancers, whatever their age. Indeed, our young dancers learn respect for each other when they work together during workshops, respect for the strengths but above all the weaknesses of their stage partners in order to be effective together. Tolerance will teach them to control their emotions and to respect others in all circumstances.

Sincerity is a source of self-confidence. This value that dancers acquire as soon as they join our school will follow them throughout their sporting, artistic and professional career. Indeed, in order to best convey emotions to the spectators, artists must be sincere. Thus, the young dancers who will enter professional life will be able to apply the sincerity acquired through their stage experience.

In our opinion, our young dancers must learn to adapt quickly to the environment available to them (different performance venues), to the different interpretations they will have to immerse themselves in, but also to dance with different stage partners or even different costumes and lighting. It is a very interesting bridge for their future, because in any society and even more so in the 21st century, the ability most in demand of this new generation is rapid adaptation to all changes (organizational and functional).

Adaptability and **determination** go hand in hand because without determination, adaptation is more difficult. With determination, we can go further, faster.

PUBLIC

A l'Aplomb du Vide is a show dedicated to all those who love Art, dance and Culture. Children, adults and families, this project is suitable for **all audiences**.

People with **reduced mobility** can also enjoy the show.

We are still studying the possibility of welcoming the visually impaired or mentally deficient through new technologies.

The casting floor will have approximately **210 seats**.

We plan from **3 to 5 performances** spread from Friday to Sunday which will allow us to receive from **500 to 1095 spectators**.

If it turns out that the 5 performances were not enough to satisfy all those interested, we can discuss the establishment of additional performances.

CHOR'A CORPS

Chor'A Corps is a non-profit **artistic and worship teaching association** located in Audun-le-Tiche (France).

Our dance studio is located at the Laboratoire, on the Micheville site, a few steps from the Arche.

Aurélie GELMI, initiator of this project, is the reference choreographer and dance teacher of our association. She teamed up with **Carl Portal**, artistic director of the project, and **Aurélien Quiévreux**, technical director to create A l'Aplomb du Vide.

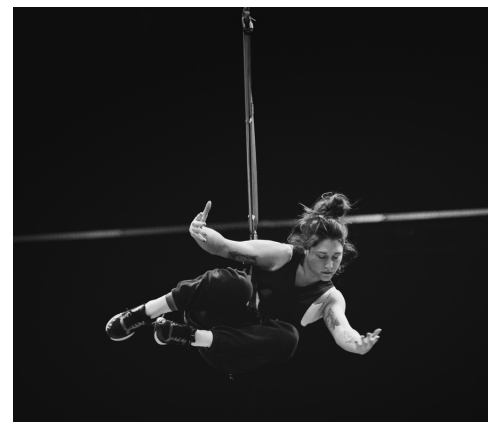
Our association leads a very active life within the French Dance Federation. In addition to the various end-of-season shows performed at the **Esch/Alzette theatre**, our dancers regularly present the work of our choreographer at various competitions.

Several Gold, Silver and Bronze medals have been won at the national choreographic meetings of the FFD.

The latest is a **Gold Medal** obtained in July 2021 by a group of young dancers aged 14 to 20 on a choreography entitled "**Le Naufrage**" and inspired by the famous painting of the "**Le Radeau de la Méduse**".

Chor'A Corps is proud to count **2 French Jazz Dance Champions** among its students, including Mélissa Gautherin who obtained the title of French Jazz Dance Champion in 2020 and 2021.

At a time when youth is a 2.0 youth, constantly connected, it seems important to us to return to **simple values** and recall the importance of the time when the steel industry supported hundreds or even thousands of families in our beautiful region.



Aurélie GELMI, porteuse du projet, en travail de recherche sur la Résidence 1 à la Rockhal (Belval - Luxembourg) en décembre 2021



"Le Naufrage" - Chorégraphie Auréli GELMI
Médaille d'Or aux Regards Chorégraphiques Nationaux

CHOR'A CORPS EN RÉSUMÉ

12 ANNÉES D'EXPÉRIENCE
 5 SPECTACLES DE FIN D'ANNÉE
 250 ÉLÈVES EN MOYENNE PAR ANNÉE
 1 CRÉATION CHORÉGRAPHIQUE PARTAGÉE
 1 200 VISITEURS PAR SPECTACLE
 2 CHAMPIONS DE FRANCE DE DANSE JAZZ
 6 MÉDAILLES À LA FFD DONT 2 EN OR

CARL PORTAL - DIRECTION ARTISTIQUE ET CHORÉGRAPHE

Native from the south of France, **Carl Portal** started his career very young at the regional conservatory of Montpellier.

At 17 he joined the professional courses of the Rick Odums center in Paris where he obtained his "**Diplome d'Etat**" as a dance teacher. Since then he is solicited to deliver courses in different school dance for several years in France but also around the world (South Korea, Algeria, Sweden, Italy, Poland, etc)

He dances in companies in France and abroad with renowned choreographers such as Geraldine Armstrong, Thierry Verger, Bruce Taylor, Rick Odums, Bruno Collinet, Sylvie Lequeré, Anne-Marie Porras, the band Linga Dance Project, Kamel Ouali, Bruno Agati but also as soloist for the Marie Claude Pietragalla band.

Thanks to his various experiences acquired in the different musical comedies like "**Notre Dame de Paris**", "Roméo & Juliette", "Autant en emporte le vent", "Un air de Paris" with Patrick Dupond and the comic opera "Mistinguette" by Jerome Savary who will end up developing his talents as a young choreographer in his own school dance Carl Portal.

He participated in many festivals and TV shows such as **Star Academy** and also in different entertainment programs.

Carl also evolves in other domains such as fashion week with Yohji Yamamoto and Jean Paul Gauthier.

In 2011, he participated in the **AMICI program**, a program broadcast on the Italian TV where Carl was choreographer and jury member at all prime time.

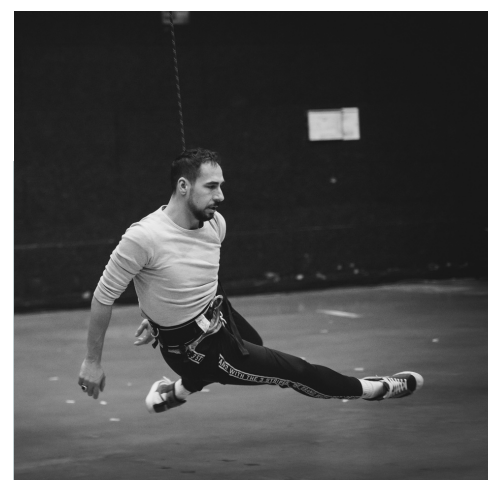
In 2012, he was the choreographer in contemporary category of the program "**You can dance**", the Star Academy program broadcast on NTI.

In 2018, he was the choreographer and Artistic Director of the new show of Gerard Presgurvic "Paris sur Seine".

Since 2017, he is the **Artistic Director** of the summer internship MDC83 created in 2018 where was created the Young companies competition "For everyone their place".



Since 2010 Carl Portal has choreographed and created the new version of Romeo & Juliet from Gérard Presgurvic at Palais des Congrès in Paris. Show is currently on tour in Japan, China, Russia and South Korea



Carl Portal sur la 1ère résidence artistique de "A L'aplomb du vide" en décembre 2021 à la Rockhal (Belval - Luxembourg)

FANFY GARCIA - ASSISTANTE CHORÉGRAPHE

FanFy Garcia is the artistic director of Cie Volt Experience and is a member of the International Dance Council (UNESCO).

Inspired by new magic, FanFy Garcia develops original **vertical choreographies** in scenographies imprinted with digital and new technologies.

Trained at the **National Center for Circus Arts (Chalon En Champagne)**, at the Archaos circus (Marseille), at Retouramont (Paris) as well as with European references Wanda Moretti (Venice), Lindsey Butcher (UK), Magalie Lanriot (Lisbon) for aerobic and vertical dance, and at IRCAM and interfaceZ (Paris) and CECN (Belgium) for the digital part, FanFy Garcia brings these practices into dialogue with remarkable **singularity and virtuosity**.

In his career, FanFy works with Sasha Walts in motion capture, at the black pavilion of the Cie Preljocaj in interactivity, with Christian Ziegler, videographer of William Forsythe within the framework of the DANCE device and collaborates in projects with 1024 Architecture and the founders of Modul8 vjing software and Madmapper mapping.



Océane PRESUTTI, professeure de l'association Chor'A Corps (à droite) en formation danse verticale avec FanFy (à gauche) pendant la résidence 1 à la Rockhal (Belval - Luxembourg) en décembre 2021

CIE VOLT EXPÉRIENCE

Volt Experience is at the crossroads of the worlds of dance and circus arts. Vertical dance and aerobic dance, aerial practices where bodies perform in suspension, are at the heart of her creations.

The company develops artistic projects in **intimate connection with the environments** in which they take place. Both urban and natural environments benefit from a listening, a unique consideration that are at the heart of the work. Whether the dancers evolve on the facade, on the cliff, in contact with heritage monuments or trees, they show an unprecedented **spatial poetics**. In a modified temporality and gravity, they invite a change of perspective, a reversal of gazes; spaces are opened, interstices are revealed; the bodies draw and weave singular and universal stories. In digital projects combining video mapping and vertical dance, the meeting of digital, bodies and architecture reinvents in real time the place of the human being and questions it.



Hartmut REICHEL danseur de la Cie Volt Experience en travail de recherche en duo sol/aérien avec Laurence RAGNI (élève de Chor'A Corps) pendant la résidence 1 à la Rockhal (Belval - Luxembourg) en décembre 2021

FRÉDÉRIC DURANTE - ARTISTE MUSICIEN

A self-taught musician, Fred began his collaboration with the Chor'A Corps association in 2014 where he created a series of music for the show "Alice" which will be presented at the Esch/Alzette theater in May of the following year.

Then, it will be a new partnership with Chor'A Corps for the show "Dorothy and the Wizard of Oz" presented in 2017.

That same year, he created the artistic collective **Projet67** with which he developed the musical novel "**Voyage au bout de l'affaire**" which will be published in 2018.

Fred then embarks on personal musical creation and will release in June 2019, under the name of Solitaire, a 6-track Ep entitled: **La Distance**.

In April 2020, during confinement, he published a new song, "1er jour" for which he received encouragement from **Benjamin Biolay**.

At the same time, Fred is continuing his collaboration with Chor'A Corps and is working on the music for the association's new show entitled "Savages".

In September 2021, he decided to professionalize his passion for music and joined the **Artist Creator Entrepreneur formation** at the famous Music Academy International (MAI) in Nancy.



A gauche sur la photo, Frédéric Durante au travail sur la création musicale du projet "A l'Aplomb du Vide" lors de la Résidence 1 à la Rockhal en décembre 2021.

PRÉSENTATION DE L'ÉQUIPE TECHNIQUE

Aurélien QUIEVREUX is the Technical Director of the “A l'Aplomb du Vide” project.

After a few years spent in stock with one of the largest French technical service providers, Aurélien began his professional career by preparing, repairing and organizing the departures and returns of services. This is how he was able to rub shoulders with a good number of freelancers from the entertainment industry who allowed him to continue to train and learn the tricks of the trade.

He had the chance to work on festivals and concerts, notably with Ricard Live Music, Solidays, Dours festival, Rock en seine, everybody sings, Nordik Impact and many others.

He has had the pleasure of working with artists such as Mary J Blidge, Patrick Bruel, Charlie Winston, Trust, Parabelum, and Indochine.

With these many live experiences, Aurélien wanted to mix all the trades and then became interested in circus arts.

This is how he was able to join technical teams on projects with Cirque Phenix, Cirque du Soleil and the circus schools of La Seyne-sur-Mer.

The technical combination of circus and live arts quickly led him to the field of musical comedy which, according to him, brings together all artistic professions in a single project.

He therefore joined the technical teams of major productions such as Dirty Dancing, Soy de Cuba, Ballet Revoluccion and les ballets Béjart as technical director.

He chose to join **Adrien BERTRAND** on this project, rigger technician.

Adrien is responsible in particular for all the servo motors for the choreographic creation.



Aurélien est actuellement directeur technique sur un projet de show équestre dans un parc au Kazakhstan.

Ses postes de directeur technique lui ont permis de voyager à travers le monde, notamment dans les pays asiatiques avec Carl Portal sur Roméo et Juliette



Aurélien QUIEVREUX et Adrien BERTRAND pendant la Résidence 1 à la Rockhal (Belval - Luxembourg) en décembre 2021.

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