

Next Wave 2019

The
Great
Tamer

NOV 14—17

THE GREAT TAMER

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The Great Tamer

Conceived and directed by
Dimitris Papaioannou

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House
Nov 14—16 at 7:30pm; Nov 17 at 3pm

Running time: approx. one hour & 40 mins, no intermission

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Leadership support for BAM Access Programs provided by the Jerome L. Greene Foundation

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This presentation is made possible with support from the Joseph V. Melillo Fund for Artistic Innovation



With

Pavlina Andriopoulou

Costas Chrysafidis

Ektor Liatsos

Ioannis Michos

Evangelia Randou

Ioanna Paraskevopoulou

Drossos Skotis

Christos Strinopoulos

Yorgos Tsiantoulas

Alex Vangelis

Set design in collaboration with **Tina Tzoka**

Costume design in collaboration with **Aggelos Mendis**

Lighting design in collaboration with **Evina Vassilakopoulou**

Artistic collaborator, costumes **Aggelos Mendis**

Lighting designed in collaboration with **Evina Vassilakopoulou**

Artistic collaborator, sound **Giwrgos Poullos**

Sound design **Kostas Michopoulos**

Music **Johann Strauss II**, *An der schönen blauen Donau*, Op. 314

Music adaptation **Stephanos Droussiotis**

Sculpture design **Nectarios Dionysatos**

Costume/props painting **Maria Iliia**

Creative/executive producer and assistant director **Tina Papanikolaou**

Assistant director **Stephanos Droussiotis**

Assistant director and rehearsal director **Pavlina Andriopoulou**

Technical director **Manolis Vitsaxakis**

Stage manager **Tzela Christophoulou**

Stage technician **David Blouin**

Assistant sound engineer and operation **Nicholas Kazazis**

Assistant to set designer/Set painter **Mary Antonopoulou**

Assistants to sculptor **Maria Papaioannou & Konstantinos Kotsis**

Tour manager and International relations **Julian Mommert**

Executive production assistant **Kali Kavvatha**

Produced by Onassis Cultural Centre - Athens (Greece)

Co-produced by CULTURESCAPES Greece 2017 (Switzerland), Dansens Hus Sweden (Sweden), EdM Productions, Festival d'Avignon (France), Fondazione Campania dei Festival – Napoli Teatro Festival Italia (Italy), Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg (Luxembourg), National Performing Arts Center – National Theater & Concert Hall | NPAC-NTCH (Taiwan), Seoul Performing Arts Festival | SPAF (Korea), Théâtre de la Ville – Paris / La Villette – Paris (France)

Executive Producer 2WORKS

With the support of MEGARON – THE ATHENS CONCERT HALL







DIMITRIS PAPAIOANNOU, born in Athens in 1964, gained early recognition as a painter and comics artist before his focus shifted to the performing arts as director, choreographer, performer, and designer of sets, costumes, make-up, and lighting. He was a student of the iconic Greek painter Yannis Tsarouchis before studying at the Athens School of Fine Arts.

He formed Edafos Dance Theatre in 1986 as an initial vehicle for his original stage productions, hybrids of physical theater, experimental dance, and performance art.

Originating in the underground scene, the company challenged perceptions and gained an expanding number of dedicated followers. *Medea* (1993) marked the company's transition to big theaters and is considered its iconic work. The Edafos company spanned 17 years, to 2002, and set its indelible stamp on the arts scene in Greece.

Papaioannou became widely known in 2004 as the creator of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Athens 2004 Olympic Games.

Restarting in 2006 with his production *2*, he found himself in the odd position of creating avant-garde works in major theaters in Athens that enjoyed record-breaking long runs, with over 100,000 tickets sold.

In 2009, he began using this platform to create theatrical experiments on a large scale: *Nowhere* (2009) for the inauguration of the renovated Greek National Theatre and *Inside* (2011) for the Pallas Theater.

In 2012, stripping down his work to bare essentials, he created *Primal Matter* for the Athens Festival; he also returned to the stage after a 10-year absence.

On the same quest for simplicity, he created *Still Life* (2014), the first work that toured extensively in Europe, South America, Asia, and Australia.

In 2015, he created the Opening Ceremony for the Baku 2015 First European Games.

Papaioannou's 25 productions range from mass spectacles with thousands of performers to intimate pieces, and have appeared in a wide variety of venues, from his famous underground squat theater in Athens, to the ancient theater in Epidaurus, and from Olympic stadiums to Théâtre de la Ville – Paris, and Teatro Olimpico in Vicenza.

In 2017, he created *The Great Tamer*, his first international co-commissioned work with 10 co-producers, including the Festival d'Avignon. *The Great Tamer* is currently on an international tour, scheduled until 2019. *The Great Tamer* was bestowed with the special award Europe Theatre Prize in Rome in 2017, and Papaioannou was nominated in 2019 for the Olivier award for "outstanding achievement in dance."

In 2018, Papaioannou became the first artist to create a new, full-length work for Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch. *Since She* premiered in May 2018 in Germany.

The Great Tamer



PAVLINA
ANDRIOPOULOU



COSTAS CHRYSAFIDIS



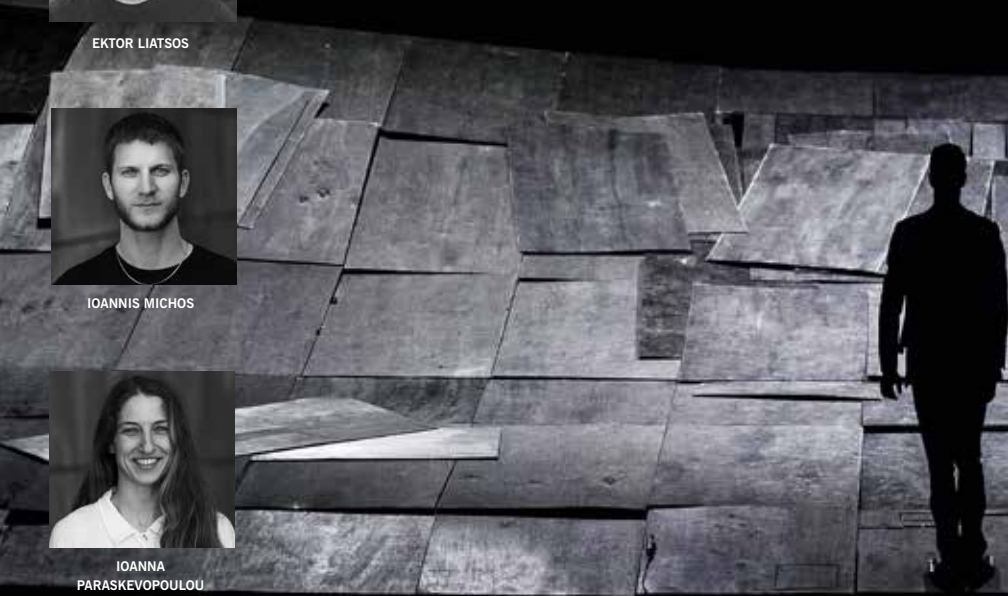
EKTOR LIATSOS



IOANNIS MICHOS



IOANNA
PARASKEVOPOULOU





EVANGELIA RANDOU



DROSSOS SKOTIS



CHRISTOS
STRINOPOULOS



YORGOS TSIANTOULAS



ALEX VANGELIS

