

ON THE BOARDS PRESENTS

# **Diana Szeinblum**

## *Alaska*

NOV 5 - 8 , 2009

running time 60 minutes

Idea and Direction by Diana Szeinblum

Choreographic creation.....	Diana Szeinblum Lucas Condró Noelia Leonzio Alejandra Ferreyra Ortíz Pablo Lugones
Interpreters.....	Lucas Condró Leticia Mazur Alejandra Ferreyra Ortíz Pablo Lugones
Original Music.....	Ulises Conti
Musical Interpretation.....	Ulises Conti (piano) Mariano Malamud (viola)
Lighting.....	Gonzalo Córdova
Wardrobe.....	Cecilia Alasia
General Production.....	Gustavo Kotik
Assistant Director.....	Jazmín Tesone
Photos.....	Jazmín Tesone
Graphic design.....	Javier Veraldi

## PROGRAM NOTES

*What if somewhere inside me there is a dark limbo where all the truly important memories are heaped and slowly turning into mud?*

- Haruki Murakami in *Norwegian Wood*

*Alaska* is what we call a supposed interior place, the existence of a last room. The body as tenant of spaces, as container of memories where everything that has not been said regarding a personal experience is kept. A place where experiences, sensations, emotions, memories are lodged in a chaotic way. The play will attempt to translate what physical shape had or did not have a real life situation at the moment of its experience.

Four characters desperately inhabit that space. Through an extreme physical language, they seek to arrive at that state of the past. Appealing to the memory of what was lived to find in the body the experience of what has not been revealed.

*Alaska*, a place we all know but nobody ever went to.

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# BIOS

## The Company

After returning from Europe Diana Szeinblum created her own company with the purpose of developing and investigating new choreographic languages. Her main objective was the communion of the different experiences of the interpreters; their search and personal work. It became necessary for each individual to participate in each creation. In its choreographic productions the company carries out an exhaustive process of investigation not concerned with external time limits but rather to service the time of the piece. Their approach to the dramaturgy is through the investigation of the body and its expressive potential. The company was founded to create a language of personal movement, to create a body that helps the imagination of the play.

Plays performed include:

*Secreto y Malibú*, premiered in 2004 at the Alley of the Desires Theater; Buenos Aires, Argentina.

*34 Metros*, premiered in 2004 at the Experimentation Center of the Colón Theater; Buenos Aires, Argentina.

*Sudden*, (choreographic video), premiered in 2006 at the Experimentation Center of the Colón Theater; Buenos Aires, Argentina.

*Alaska*, premiered in 2007 at the Konex Arts Center; Buenos Aires, Argentina.

**Diana Szeinblum** is a dancer and choreographer. She danced with the contemporary Ballet of the San Martin General Theater under the direction of Oscar Araiz. She also worked as an actress in the play *Recuerdos de una vieja leyenda*, directed by Augusto Fernández. She received a scholarship from the Goethe Institute to study in the Folkwang Tanz Schule (Germany). There she danced with the F. T. S. Company under the artistic direction of Pina Bausch, where she worked with choreographers such as Bausch, Susanne Linke and Urs Dietrich among others.

Diana interpreted and carried out the realization of the piece *Cielosiena*, then choreographed the play *Mediocielo* for Julio Bocca's Argentinian Ballet. She also created the play *Secreto y Malibú*, with which she toured through Europe, America and Asia. For this play she received 1st prize from the Festival of Theater 2001, 1st prize from the Metropolitan Contest of the City of Buenos Aires, the Theater of the World prize, granted by the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters; and a nomination for the Trinity Guevara Prizes in the category of Female Revelation. She choreographed *A la hora de oro* for the Ballet of the San Martin Theater, for which she received the Trinity Guevara prize for best choreography in the year 2003. She created the play *34 meters* and a choreographic video on Kagel's musical work for the Colón Theater's Experimentation Center.

She currently teaches composition and improvisation classes in Buenos Aires and the interior of the country.

**Lucas Condró** began his studies in Argentina in the year 1997. In 1999 he was invited by the teacher and choreographer David Zambrano to take a seminar in the S. N. D.O (School for New Dance Development) in Amsterdam, where he carried out his studies for three years and received the degree of "Dance Maker". In Amsterdam, he worked with the choreographers Red Peace, Hooman Sharifi, Nicole Butler and David Zambrano. During 2004 he improved his skills in the Montpellier Choreographic Center in Montpellier, France, under the direction of Mathilde Monnier.

He was one of the interpreters for the choreographer Diana Szeinblum in her play *34 metros*, presented in 2004 in the CETC of the Colón Theater and in the year 2006 in the project *Homage to Kagel*.

He is currently developing an investigation work with the choreographers Lucia Russo and Natalia Tencer. He teaches improvisation and technical courses in Argentina as well as other Latin American countries.

**Pablo Lugones** is a folkloric, tango and contemporary dancer. In 2000 he traveled to Spain to represent Buenos Aires and in 2003 won the main festival of Cosquín in the area of combined malambo. He has also won important prizes throughout his career in different festivals in Argentina.

He studied contemporary dance and took courses and workshops with different teachers in Argentina. In 2004, the Antorchas Foundation granted him a scholarship of improvement in the area of contemporary dance in Argentina. In 2005 the National Institute of Theater granted him a scholarship allowing him to carry out his studies in the Surdespierto Foundation. In 2005, he worked for the choreographer Roxana Grinstein in the plays *El escote* and *Y, te encontró ahí*, which premiered in the President Alvear Theater. In 2006 he worked next to Diana Szeinblum in the Experimentation Center of the Colón Theater and realized the interpretation of *Sudden*, a choreographic video with music by Kagel. He is currently participating in the next production of *El Teatro* at the Faena Hotel.

## **Alejandra Ferreyra Ortiz**

began her ballet studies in 1987. In 1995 she traveled to New York to perfect her studies with David Howard and Steps. In the year 1997 she danced for Iñiqui Urlezaga in the Coliseo Podestá Theater of La Plata, then began her contemporary dance studies with different teachers of Argentina. She studied Audiovisual Communication (movies) at the University of La Plata, Faculty Of Fine Arts. She created the play *Harto Tránsito* along with Nidia Martínez Barbieri and Eduardo Field in a collective creation of joint direction. She participated as an interpreter of the dance *Sudden*, directed by Diana Szeinblum, for the Experimentation Center of the Colón Theater. She directed her first short film *Extimidad* and the videoclip *Cachorros*. In 2005 she realized her first feature film *Proceso*, which was selected for the section “Showcase Argentina” in the 21st Mar del Plata

Film Festival, where it won the correspondent award. She was also invited to the Tandil and Córdoba Film Festivals.

**Leticia Mazur** is a dancer and contemporary dance teacher. She studied at the Armar Danza Teatro School, Dance Space and Movement Research in New York, and in an intensive program at the Performing Arts Research and Training Studios (P.A.R.T.S., directed by Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker, Rosas) in Brussels. Some of her international teachers were Lance Gries, Luise Burns, David Zambrano, A.T. De Keersmaeker, Rebecca Hilton, Mia Lawrence, Ian Ritsema, Chrysa Parkinson and Thomas Hauert. She was co-creator and performer in *Secreto y Malibu*, directed by Diana Szeinblum and *Guaranía Mia*, directed by Carlos Casella. She co-directed *Watt*, together with Inés Rampoldi and directed *Ilusion*.

She has participated in different international festivals in America, Europe and Asia. She worked with De la Guarda in the production *Villa Villa* and with El Descueve performing in *Patito Feo*. She created Terspichore Studio in Brussels Beursschouwbourg next to Alice Chauchat and Anne Jeuren. She has worked as choreographer for many theater directors. She has performed in such films as *La Antena*, *El Pasado* and *Condon Express*. She began teaching in 1995. She worked as audition consultant for *Peter Pan*, directed by Tim Supple and produced by The Roundhouse and Dash Arts, UK. She received several First Prizes: the Teatro del Mundo Award, also of the Fiesta Nacional del Teatro, Certamen Metropolitano de Teatro and the MacStation Paradigma Digital.