



Poetry Event

Carolyn Carlson



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Performance

Carolyn Carlson + 1 or 2 dancers/guests

Poems

Carolyn Carlson

Live music

To be defined

Production

Carolyn Carlson Company



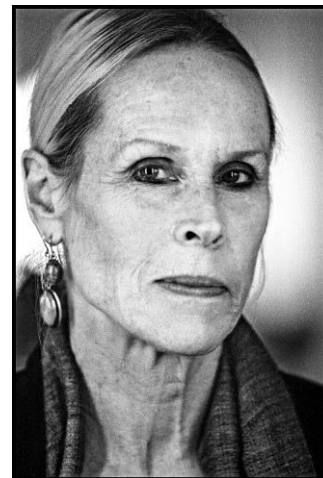
Carolyn Carlson prefers to use the term “visual poetry” to “choreography”, while describing her work. She uses dance, writing and calligraphy as means of expressing poetry. She has been publishing poetry books for many years, *Le Soi et le rien* (Actes Sud 2002), *Solo poèmes et encres* (Alternatives 2003), *Inanna* (2007), *Brins d’herbe* (Actes Sud 2011), *Dialogue avec Rothko* (Invenit 2011), *Traces d’encre* (Actes Sud, 2013) and most recently ***Writings on water***, from the name of the eponymous exhibition of her drawings and inks in Roubaix in the summer 2017 (Actes Sud, 2017).

Carolyn Carlson developed a peculiar form over the past years, at the crossroads of these experiments, *Poetry Events*. Within a framework of improvisation, dance, poetic readings and music intertwine to give birth to improvisations. Each *Poetry event* is thought for a peculiar place and for some specific dancers; it is a unique event, a privileged moment inspired by a poetic expression of infinite freedom.

Carolyn Carlson

California-born Carolyn Carlson defines herself first and foremost as a nomad. From San Francisco Bay to the University of Utah, from the Alwin Nikolaï's company in New York to Anne Béranger's in France, from Paris Opera Ballet to Teatrodanza La Fenice in Venice, from the Théâtre de la Ville de Paris to Helsinki, from Ballet Cullberg to La Cartoucherie in Paris, from the Venice Biennale to Roubaix, Carlson is a tireless traveller, always seeking to develop and share her poetic universe.

She arrived in France in 1971 the beneficiary of Alwin Nikolaï's ideas about movement, composition and teaching. The following year, with *Rituel pour un rêve mort*, she wrote a poetic manifesto that defined an approach to her work that she has adhered to ever since: dance that is strongly oriented towards philosophy and spirituality. Carlson prefers the term 'visual poetry' to 'choreography' to describe her work.



For four decades, Carlson has had significant influence and success in many European countries. She played a key role in the birth of French and Italian contemporary dance through the GRTOP (theatre research group) at Paris Opera Ballet and Teatrodanza at La Fenice.

She has created over 100 pieces, a large number of which are landmarks in the history of dance, including *Density 21.5*, *The Year of the Horse*, *Blue Lady*, *Steppe*, *Maa*, *Signes*, *Writings on Water* and *Inanna*. In 2006, her work was rewarded with the first ever Golden Lion given to a choreographer by the Venice Biennale.

Founder of the Atelier de Paris-Carolyn Carlson at the Cartoucherie in 1999, she was associated artist to Théâtre National de Chaillot with the Carolyn Carlson Company from 2014 to 2016. In 2017, besides touring her repertoire, the choreographer explores new forms of creations: an exhibition for museums, a full-length dance movie for cinema... In 2019 she became a French citizen.

Career highlights

- 1965-1971** Soloist in the Alwin Nikolaï's Company
- 1974-1980** Etoile-Chorégraphe ('Star Choreographer') at Paris Opera Ballet (GRTOP)
- 1980-1984** Artistic director of Teatrodanza La Fenice, Venice
- 1985-1991** Residence at the Théâtre de la Ville, Paris
- 1991-1992** Residence at the Finnish National Ballet and Helsinki City Theatre
- 1994-1995** Artistic director of Ballet Cullberg, Stockholm
- 1999-2002** Artistic director of the dance section at the Venice Biennale
- Since 1999** Founder and honorary President of the Atelier de Paris-Carolyn Carlson
- 2004-2013** Director of the National Choreographic Centre Roubaix Nord-Pas de Calais
- Since 2014** Director of the Carolyn Carlson Company
2014-2016: residency at the Théâtre National de Chaillot, Paris

Carolyn Carlson Company

“The Carolyn Carlson Company is a hive of activity, an area of creativity and freedom in which intertwine gesture and poetic thought...”

January 2014: after nine years as director of the CCN de Roubaix Nord-Pas de Calais, Carolyn Carlson returns to Paris and funds her company, the Carolyn Carlson Company (CCCy), in residency at the Théâtre National de Chaillot from 2014 to 2016.

With a unique repertory and accompanied by dancers true to her poetical gesture, Carolyn pursues her creative process: each year, the Carolyn Carlson Company carries out at least two large scale projects, a creation and the transmission of repertoire pieces to the most prestigious international ballets, while continuing touring the choreographers' creations worldwide.

Contacts

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Crédits photos : Yoshi Omori, Frédéric Iovino, Jean-Louis Fernandez