

S'ALA and The Place present

KARRASEKARE

Igor x Moreno



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ABOUT THE PLACE

A man wearing a black beanie and a nose ring is looking into a white shopping bag. The bag has a red handle and the text "KARRASEKARE" and "Igor x Moreno" printed on it. The background is dark, and there are some clothes hanging on a rack in the background.

KARRASEKARE

Igor x Moreno

ABOUT

The internationally acclaimed artistic duo Igor x Moreno, creators of *BEAT*, *Idiot-Syncrasy* and *A Room For All Our Tomorrows*, return in their 10th triumphant year with their most ambitious project to date: **KARRASEKARE**.

KARRASEKARE, the Sardinian word for Carnival, is inspired by pagan carnival traditions from Sardinia and the Basque Country. Raw and surprising, sweaty yet elegant, it explores the catharsis of communal ritual and traditions.

Channeling the energy of these carnival traditions, **KARRASEKARE** will be filled with the excitement of being together. It will rub against our sense of decency and prudishness.

 [Watch the Online Sharing Video Here](#)

TIMELINE

- Autumn 2020-Autumn 2022: Research
- Spring-Summer 2023: Creation & Production
- Autumn 2023: Premiere
- Touring: Spring 2024-2025



'We have been fascinated by these carnivals for several years and have already had the opportunity to observe them and participate. This project is important to us because it involves reappropriating, giving visibility and incorporating in contemporary performance these ancient traditions, that belong to our backgrounds and cultural identities. We are fascinated by the theatricality and cathartic potential of these specific rituals and excited to bring them into the theatre space.

As part of this research, we will re-imagine these rituals according to contemporary artistic and ethical frameworks.

We are inspired by the collective nature of the traditional rituals, the commitment of entire towns in forming a community and dedicating their time and energy to a process of catharsis.

We would like to challenge the duality traditionally associated with these rituals: man-woman, day-night, human-beast, good-evil. We do not want to strengthen existing stereotypes but instead portray multiplicity, fluidity and permeability.

We see potential in using these traditions as a new and unexpected gate to think about queerness, both nowadays and in relationship to an ancient past. We're interested in the sexual and obscene nature of the imagery associated with these traditional carnivals, a quality that we have explored in the past.

The voice will also be central to the experience, particularly inspired by the laments one can hear in the carnival of Bosa (a cacophony of groans and screams poised between the desperate and the ironic), by cantu a tenore (a style of polyphonic folk singing characteristic of the island of Sardinia, proclaimed intangible cultural heritage by UNESCO in 2005), and by Basque singing tradition.'

Igor x Moreno







IGOR X MORENO

Igor x Moreno is the name under which the works created by choreographers **Igor Urzelai** and **Moreno Solinas** – in collaboration with an extended group of artists – are presented.

Igor x Moreno's works stem from a fascination for people and what makes us such special animals. They use choreography and mostly non-verbal languages to create experiences which can surprise, energise and unsettle. Their works – highly constructed whilst deeply concerned with liveness – visit and escape different genres and styles.

Igor x Moreno's creative processes favour questions over answers, action over narration, communication over expression, alterity over diversity, patience over productivity. They don't see entertainment as their duty, but as a useful communication tool. They work with rigour and playfulness. They value pointlessness.

The team – based across Europe – gathers in Sardinia and London, from where **Igor x Moreno's** works have toured extensively in Europe and also in North and South America, Africa and Asia. Awards and recognitions include the Rudolf Laban Award and National Dance Awards and Total Theatre Awards nominations; their works have been selected for Aerowaves (2011, 2013 and 2015), NID Platform, British Council Showcase and British Dance Edition.

Moreno Solinas and **Igor Urzelai** are affiliate artists of The Place (London). Their work is currently produced in Sardinia by S'ALA (www.s-ala.com).



PRESS



**‘COOL, INTELLIGENT,
THOUGHT-PROVOKING’**

Dance Tabs on *BEAT*



**‘WARM, FABULOUS
AND FUNNY SHOW’**

The Guardian on *Idiot-Syncrasy*



**‘A DECEPTIVELY
FINELY-CRAFTED
EMOTIONAL JOURNEY’**

The Reviews Hub on *A Room For All Our Tomorrows*



MARKETING

Key Selling Points

- **Igor x Moreno:** in their tenth year since the company's inception, **Igor x Moreno** have a strong reputation for engaging, playful and thought-provoking contemporary dance with acclaimed works such as *Idiot-Syncrasy* and *BEAT*.
- **Design:** Taking inspiration from the visually striking, unique costumes found in carnivals, design duo KasperSophie will create design elements. Masks and full-body transformations will give **KARRASEKARE** both a strong visual identity and performance art elements. Design references include photographer Charles Fréger (*Wilder Mann: The Image of the Savage*), blockbuster film *Midsommar* and fabric sculptor, dancer, and performance artist Nick Cave.
- **Experiential & Energetic:** Audiences will leave the theatre charged with the same cathartic, hedonistic and adrenaline-fuelled energy experienced first hand at these carnivals by transfiguring ancient traditions into a series of engaging and hypnotic sequences.
- **Mind-Opening:** Challenging the binary present in many of the rituals in their original form (man-woman, day-night, human-beast, good-evil) **KARRASEKARE** celebrates fluidity and permeability of identity, expression and sexuality. While **Igor x Moreno's** study of carnivals goes beyond an anthropological interest, **KARRASEKARE** will elevate the traditions and rituals in audiences' consciousness, challenging their notions of carnival and exposing them to new experiences.

 R&D Images

 Behind The Scenes Images

Photos by Fabio Sau

Age Recommendation: 14+

Contemporary Dance: best known for their dynamic, energetic and durational contemporary dance style, **Igor x Moreno** use seemingly simple imagery and movement to explore interesting and complex ideas.

Global Stories Interest: Created also for those with no prior knowledge of Sardinian and Basque carnival traditions in mind, **KARRASEKARE** reimagines ancient global rituals for a contemporary context. Focusing on the universal themes of community gatherings and shared moments of catharsis, audiences more familiar with carnivals such as Notting Hill, Rio, Venice or Mardi Gras will be intrigued to discover new but equally as emotive and invigorating traditions.

Large Scale Spectacle: a large scale piece for 7-9 performers, with complex physicality, exploring depth of emotions and themes will attract audiences beyond contemporary dance, from physical theatre, performance art, and contemporary performances genres, who have attended Mime Festival performances or enjoyed other large scale European work.

Electronic & Folk Music: With an original sound score from **Edoardo Elliot** that combines traditional vocal singing, including Sardinian cantu a tenòre and Basque Bertso, and a pulsating electronic sound score, **KARRASEKARE** will interest followers of electronic, folk and world music.



CREDITS

Production Credits

Moreno Solinas Choreographer & Performer

Igor Urzelai Hernando Choreographer & Performer

Margherita Elliot Performer & Rehearsal Director

Giulia Vacca Performer

Marcella Mancini Performer

Alessio Rundeddu Performer

Matteo Sedda Performer

Edoardo Elliot Sound Design & Production Manager

KasperSophie Set Designers

R&D Photography by **Fabio Sau**

Sharing Film

Lorenzo Sibiri Videographer

Grace Nicol Video Editing

Location filming courtesy of **Anna Destefanis & Tommaso Dolcetta**

Film Produced by **The Place**

KARRASEKARE is co-produced by S'ALA, The Place, Theatre de la Ville, Bora Bora, Fondazione Romaeuropa, Spaziodanza. In collaboration with Oriente Occidente, HKD – Croatian Cultural Centre, Toscana Terra Accogliente (with residencies at Anghiari Dance Hub and Armunia). Supported by MiC – Ministero della Cultura, Regione Sardegna, Fondazione Sardegna.

BORA
DANCE & VISUALS THEATRE

RE Romaeuropa
Festival

S'ALA



Théâtre
de la
Ville

THE PLACE

The Place, London's creative powerhouse for dance development, has been leading the way in dance training, creation and performance for 50 years. In a changing landscape, our vision for the future remains steadfast: We are powering imagination through dance, championing new ideas, embracing risks and creating a dance ecosystem unlike any other in the world, with optimal conditions for dance artists and enthusiasts to realise their full potential. The Place is home to London Contemporary Dance School, an extensive theatre and artist development programme, education projects, a range of classes and courses and a nationwide touring model. As a pioneering dance organisation, we are committed to creating no-barriers access to exciting dance experiences and opportunities for everybody, offering a diverse and dynamic theatre programme for audiences, empowering artists and dance makers and giving young people access to the highest quality opportunities to touch their lives with dance.

theplace.org.uk

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