# Do Robots have emotions?

# Manolis Saridakis



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Trailer: https://vimeo.com/731688663/23ec28085e?share=copy



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#### **Running Time**

15-17 minutes

#### **Touring Company**

8 People in total

- 3 x Performers
- 1 x Choreographer performer
- 1 x surtitles operator dramaturg mentor
- 2 x Assistants caregivers
- 1 x Production manager

### **Touring Freight**

All set items can be found locally



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By means of his disarmingly incisive concept, Manolis Saridakis touches upon the exceptionally timely topic of robots, weaving critical issues concerning control, as well as both artificial and emotional intelligence, into his own endeavors with regard to autonomy and freedom of expression. The choreographer himself appears on stage, programing each "robot" to perform – both individually and all together a dance of their own. He then transports them into a virtual bar/club setting where he gives a new command: "feelings on demand"! On the dance floor, Screwdriver cocktails in hand, each robot will tackle the emotion it has been assigned, upending their interrelationships in the process, and leading us into the climactic scene of this sci-fi adventure by the programmer and choreographer Manolis Saridakis. The piece by Manolis Saridakis was selected for Onassis New Choreographers Festival 2022 – ONC9. The professional development of artists with learning disabilities has been supported in various ways by Europe Beyond Access, but this is the first time such a commission and presentation are being undertaken in Greece.

The dance piece "Do Robots have emotions?" by Manolis Saridakis was created as part of the Europe Beyond Access program, and within the framework of Onassis Stegi's ongoing commitment to issues of accessibility when it comes to the arts in general, and dance in particular. The fact that persons with disabilities still do not have access to professional dance training in Greece renders the support this program provides artists particularly important. Medie Megas, Dancer, choreographer, and dance/choreography history teacher mentoring Manolis Saridakis during the creation of this work during the Europe Beyond Access program.

**Read more at** https://www.onassis.org/whats-on/onassis-new-choreographers-festival-9-onc-9/do-robots-have-emotions-manolis-saridakis

## Bio



Manolis Saridakis lives in Athens, is 35 years old, and works in dance, theater, and music. He received his training as a contemporary dancer and choreographer as part of Onassis Stegi's iDance, Europe Beyond Access, and Unlimited Access programs, held both in Greece and beyond, alongside contemporary and African dance workshops given by the Liminal arts organization. Manolis has appeared in Onassis Stegi productions ("Sweet Abyss", "Deep Fusion Butterfly Band", and more) and in a large number of theatrical performances staged by ARTOGETHER (Art of People With and Without Disabilities). He starred in the documentary film "I Am a Dancer" directed by Stavros Petropoulos, and produced by Onassis Stegi. He is studying découpage at the Theotokos Foundation, music at the National Conservatory of Athens, and qigong at the "Spring of the Young Forest" School for Martial Arts.



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**CONCEPT**MANOLIS SARIDAKIS

CHOREOGRAPHY
MANOLIS SARIDAKIS, IN
COLLABORATION WITH THE DANCERS

#### **DANCERS**

OLYMPIA ANTONENA, EIRINI KOUROUVANI, CHRISTOS CHRISTAKOPOULOS, MANOLIS SARIDAKIS

**DRAMATURGY – MENTORING**MEDIE MEGAS

COSTUMES
MARILENA KALAITZANTONAKI

**LIGHTING DESIGN**KONSTANTINOS BETHANIS

**MAKE-UP**ALEXANDRA RENTZOU

ORIGINAL MUSIC
CHRISTOS CHRISTAKOPOULOS

ADDITIONAL MUSIC
"TECHNO ESKALATION!!!" BY
MAX MINIMAL ALSO FEATURES IN THE
PERFORMANCE

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
CHRISTOS PAPAMICHAEL – LIMINAL

PRODUCTION MANAGER,
COORDINATOR OF ARTISTIC ACTIVITIES
FOR EUROPE BEYOND ACCESS
CHRISTINA LIATA – ONASSIS STEGI

**EUROPEAN PROGRAMS COORDINATOR**DORA VOUGIOUKA – ONASSIS STEGI

TOUR TECHNICAL MANAGER (ONASSIS STEGI)
STAVROS KARIOTOGLOU

TOUR COORDINATOR (ONASSIS STEGI)
CHRISTINA LIATA

**SPECIAL THANKS TO** 

NIKI SARIDAKI, FOTINI GIOTI, GIANNIS MAKRIS, MANOLIS ANDRIOTAKIS, RODIA VOMVOLOU

THE TOUR IS SUPPORTED BY
ONASSIS STEGI'S "OUTWARD TURN"
CULTURAL EXPORT PROGRAM

DO ROBOTS HAVE EMOTIONS IS
REALIZED WITH THE SUPPORT OF
"EUROPE BEYOND ACCESS" PROGRAM

**CO-FUNDED BY** 

"CREATIVE EUROPE" PROGRAM OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

"Do Robots have emotions?" by Manolis Saridakis was first presented in Athens as part of the Onassis New Choreographers Festival 9

# Onassis Stegi's Outward Turn Program

# **Touring Support and Outreach Our Mission**

Fostering and supporting artists on a constant and long-term basis lie at the core of the existence of Onassis Stegi. Our mission through the "Outward Turn" program is to strengthen the presence and status of artists in every corner of the world and throughout Greece, and at the same time forge innovative networks tightly intertwined with the nexus of the international scene, with and for the artists.

Onassis Stegi boosts the prominence and visibility of contemporary Greek works of dance, theater, music, and visual arts on an international level, helping artists unleash their full potential. In practice, this is achieved with the coordination of international and national tours for the Onassis Stegi productions; the realization of co-productions in collaboration with cultural institutions across the world; the participation of artists in international networks; the support in furthering the artists' capacities and learning pathways as they expand their audiences; and the enhancement at large of their interpersonal contacts with international programmers.

With the support of the "Outward Turn" program, Greek artists turn their gaze outwards. In the last decade, more than 80 Onassis Stegi productions have been celebrated across hundreds of performances hosted by cultural venues all over the world.

The program is tailored to each production and offers its support to works of artists and groups who live and create in Greece primarily and on the condition that they have been included in the programming of the Onassis Stegi.

For more information about the touring grant offered by the Onassis Stegi's "Outward Turn" Cultural Export Program please contact:

Christina Liata Onassis Stegi "Outward Turn" Touring Program Officer c.liata@onassis.org
Office +30 213 017 8116 | Mobile +30 694 687 1899

**Xenia Sotirchou** Onassis Stegi "Outward Turn" Touring Program Administrator psotirchou@onassis.org
Office +30 213 017 8122 | Mobile +30 698 487 0423

**Read more** about the program at: https://www.onassis.org/onassis-stegi/onassis-cultural-export-program