

Bang Bang Bodies

Xenia Koghilaki



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Trailer : <https://vimeo.com/820792041/4d31cc9a13?share=copy>



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“Bang Bang Bodies” focuses on embodied “discharge” (or physical release) associated with various kinds of groups – from the metal and punk scenes to meditative rituals and instances of mass protests. The work resituates the practice of headbanging, placing it on stage as an endless chain of reciprocity and exchange – of time and affects, of sweat and breathing, of historical, cultural, and political particles between bodies – that is never static. On the contrary, it is ever in motion: a fluid and turbulent moving.

Two female performers invite audiences to a choreographic journey into the collective imaginary, investigating notions of collectivity and embodied memory. They explore the effects of exhaustion through repetition bringing to spotlight familiar and unexpected states as they appropriate a brutal masculine practice.

Taking into consideration the overestimated position of the head in relation to the rest of the body, Xenia Koghilaki proposes a reformulation of relationships and hierarchies. A natural consequence of the work is the sense of dizziness and disorientation. Things become fragile and vulnerable laying claim to those blurred spaces of absurdity that lie between bodies and the world.

Read more at <https://www.onassis.org/whats-on/onassis-dance-days/bang-bang-bodies-xenia-koghilaki>

Bio



Xenia Koghilaki was born in Athens. She is a graduate of the Greek National School of Dance, and of the Department of Architecture at the University of Patras. Since 2019, she has lived and worked in Berlin, where she completed her postgraduate studies – the MA Solo/Dance/Authorship (SODA) program at the Inter-University Center for Dance Berlin (HZT-Berlin, UDK). Her choreographic practice engages with issues re-examining esthetic, political, and social aspects of the moving body.

In January 2023, she officially premiered “Bang Bang Bodies” at the Tanztage Berlin festival, inside the Sophiensæle performance space – a work first presented as part of the MA SODA Final Works event in Berlin. Her work has also been presented at Studio ALTA in Prague (the collaborative piece “Nudes and Conspiracies”), the Onassis New Choreographers Festival – ONC8 (the collaborative piece “Besuch”), the Arc for Dance Festival 11 and K-Gold Temporary Gallery (“JunkDance”), and elsewhere. As a dancer, she has worked with Kat Válastur, André Uerba, the Chto Delat collective, the Porson’s Khashoggi company, and the Hellenic Dance Company.

Her research work has been supported by the Dachverband Tanz Deutschland DIS-TANZ-SOLO scholarship program, the Goethe-Institut Berlin, the Fonds Darstellende Künste (Performing Arts Fund) for residency funding in partnership with HAU Berlin, and the Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports. She was a danceWEB scholarship program participant at the ImPulsTanz Vienna International Dance Festival in 2021, and was awarded the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Artist Fellowship by ARTWORKS in 2022.

Website Link:

<https://xeniakoghilaki.com/Bang-Bang-Bodies>



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

“Bang Bang Bodies” by Xenia Koghilaki was first presented in Athens as part of the Onassis Dance Days Festival 2023

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:

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