

liquidMaps

*liquidMaps*<sup>®</sup>

Myriam Allard

---

Descripción

## **Chorégraphie et danse**

Sensibilisée à la musique et à la danse dans son enfance, la découverte du flamenco provoque chez Myriam Allard un bouleversement. Elle quitte le Québec à l'âge de 21 ans pour s'installer en Espagne où elle réside durant 6 ans. Formée à Séville et à Madrid auprès des maîtres Manolo Marin et Ciro, puis se perfectionnant notamment avec Andrés Marin, Rafaela Carrasco et Israel Galvan qui lui ouvrent de nouvelles perspectives, elle fait ses débuts professionnels sur les planches de tablaos flamencos en Espagne, au Japon, en France et en Allemagne. Ces premières expériences culminent avec son intégration dans la compagnie d'Israel Galvan pour la pièce Galvanicas en 2002. Forte de ces rencontres européennes et d'un solide bagage professionnel, elle rentre au Québec pour y fonder avec Hedi Graja La Otra Orilla fin 2005. La création de cette compagnie répond à une volonté d'indépendance pour poursuivre un travail de recherche et de personnalisation de la forme. S'appuyant sur une grande maîtrise des codes de cet art, la danse de Myriam Allard se libère des cadres esthétiques canoniques et développe un langage à l'intérieur duquel l'instinctif, le jaillissant, côtoient à tout moment le sensible, le raffiné; et dans les profondeurs une force latente, une tension sourde retentissent.

«... ébahis devant Myriam Allard, magnifique interprète de flamenco, énergique, magnétique, à la fois respectueuse d'un purisme formel et totalement libre de revisiter la tradition...» La Presse, 2010.

Información: [info@laotrilla.net](mailto:info@laotrilla.net)

## **NEWS**

### **Vancouver International Flamenco Festival stars push form**

MYRIAM ALLARD AND Hedi Graja may be marinated in the culture of southern Spain but the company they created in Montreal isn't known for its traditional approach to the flamenco arts. Since its foundation six years ago, La Otra Orilla has forged a signature style that's multidisciplinary and sharply contemporary, based on Allard's charismatic dance and Graja's singing.

"I'm from Quebec and Hedi is from Paris," says Allard, reached at her Montreal home, and speaking in French. "We met and became friends in 1998 in Seville where we'd both gone because we felt a strong need to understand flamenco from the source itself. We had this concern for a kind of perfection. Since then we've moved away from that a bit. Starting from the knowledge we went to Andalusia to gain, we've chosen to work with who we are, to avoid imitating, or doing things according to codes. We decided to do what we felt like, trusting that our training and studies are solid, and well-anchored, so now we can take things a bit further

‘out there’.”

La Otra Orilla, which performs at this year’s Vancouver International Flamenco Festival (which runs to Sunday [September 23]), began life with shows that had a more conventional tablao character. But by the oddly titled *MuEs* in 2007, the small company was already headed in a new direction. “We started to look for a more ‘exploded’ form,” says Allard. “With [the production] *El12* two years ago, I feel we succeeded in creating something really different and transdisciplinary that integrates video with important scenographic work—the musicians are in movement. Since then we’ve explored ways of maintaining movement on the stage—because the dances are mainly solos. So the musicians become physical actors in the piece, and participate in the physicality. Video frames it all. It’s a work of integration, and quite poetic.”

The three pieces La Otra Orilla presents at the flamenco fest reveal its stylistic range. *Cercania 1* is taken from the 2008 show *Denominación de Origen Descontrolado* and has a more traditional flamenco feel. The two other pieces are major extracts from *Homoblablatus*, a multifaceted work-in-progress that pushes the envelope in several respects. The festival audience gets a sneak preview and may influence the form it will assume for its much-anticipated premiere in Montreal in January.

*Homoblablatus* blends flamenco-inspired music and dance with elements of theatre, and is concerned with language and communication. “It poses questions about living in a world with an overabundance of words, to the point where they don’t seem to mean anything anymore,” Allard explains. “There’s a surfeit of images, sounds—everything’s in excess, and we’re constantly being solicited. We ask ourselves ‘What’s left to say? What traces can we leave behind?’ Language, dialogues, the weight of words, and—when none are left—silence. What remains when you strip the artifice away? Those are the themes.

“We’re still working in tableau form—in that way we still keep some of the essence of flamenco, which is always structured as a series of discrete presentations. Though the piece is quite theatrical it remains dance and flamenco. There’s also much work on the letras, the texts that Hedi chooses to bring out the theme. It’s touched by the absurd, as the title suggests. It’s satirical, almost clown-esque—there’s a ‘little devil’ aspect. We want to provoke, to try to find where the public’s discomfort lies. For sure it’s an uncomfortable zone for me. It’s so much easier to come on-stage and dance an *alegría* or *soleá*. But that’s not what we’re approaching with *Homoblablatus*.”

Allard calls the performance of the two extracts—the piece’s beginning and end—a “pre-preview”. “It’s still unfinished but is completely presentable. I’m very excited to show it because we’ll get some feedback, and I think it will help the work to evolve. *Cercania* is much more comfortable as I’ve done it so many times, but the extracts from *Homoblablatus* will have a certain nervous energy and excitement. For me, as a performer at any rate, they’re going to be a big contrast—and present quite a challenge.”

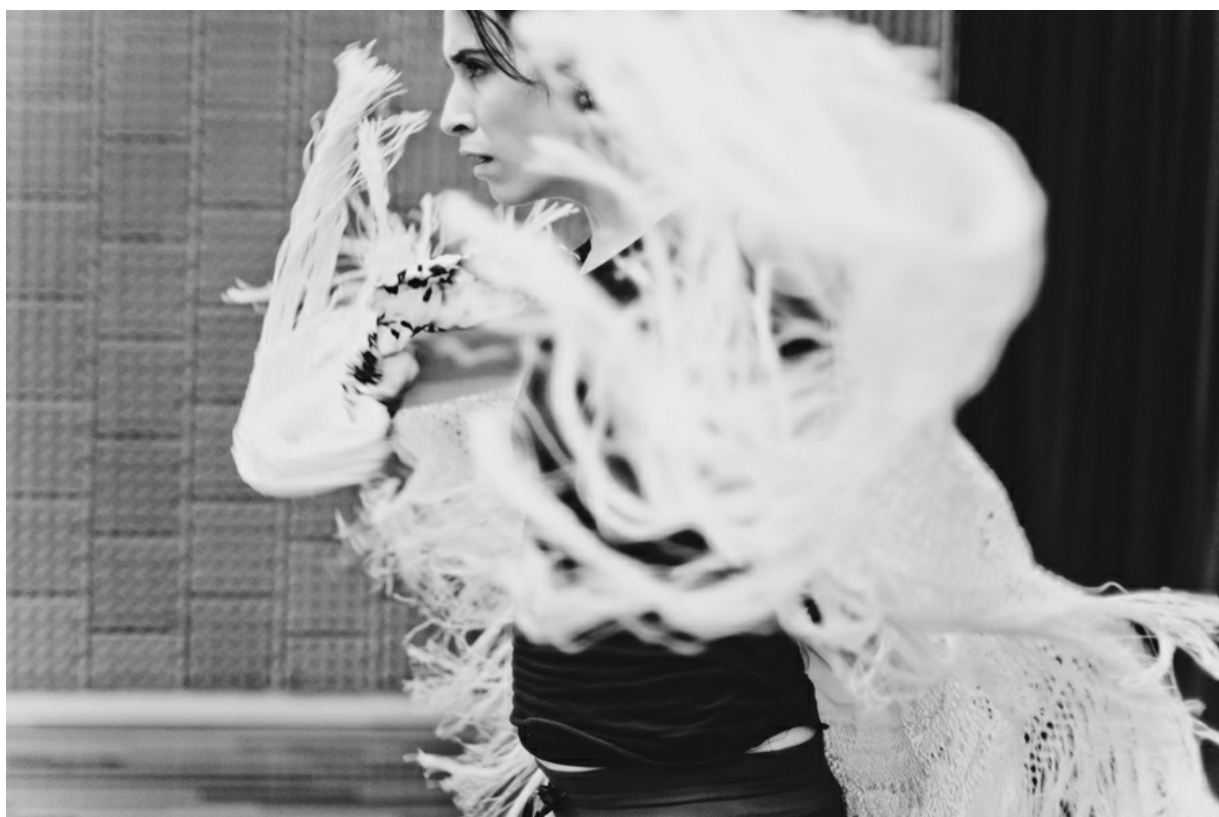
La Otra Orilla performs at the Waterfront Theatre this Friday (September 21), as part of the Vancouver International Flamenco Festival.

Fuente: <http://www.straight.com/arts/vancouver-international-flamenco-festival-stars-push-form>

<http://www.facebook.com/DanseDanseMontreal>

<http://twitter.com/#!/Dansedanseserie/>

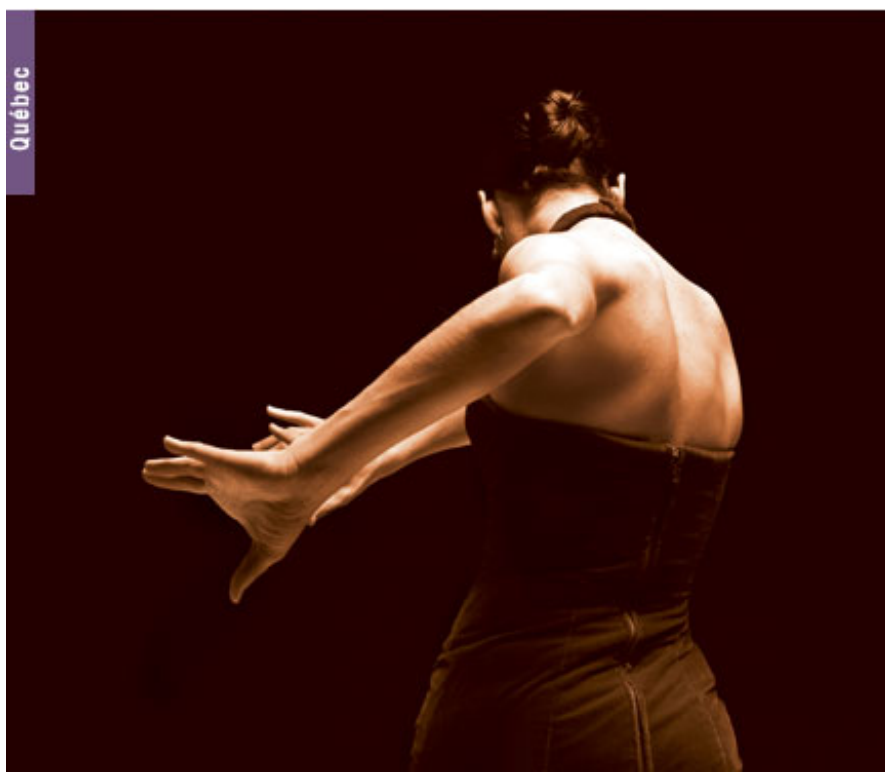
<https://vimeo.com/channels/dansedanseen>



Festival La Otra Orilla



Myriam Allard



Festival La Otra Orilla



Festival La Otra Orilla



Myriam Allard



Myriam Allard



LANDED2 The  
Suspension Of  
Wait, Part One:  
Leaving



La Otra Orilla  
(Quebec)  
Homoblablatus  
Myriam Allard,  
Hedi Graja

*liquidMaps*<sup>®</sup>

liquidMaps

<http://www.liquidmaps.org>

---